

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Opening:

The regular meeting of the California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on May 11, 2016 in Ventura, California by acting Committee Chairman Kevin Severns.

CPDPC Members Present:

Craig Armstrong*	Gus Gunderson	George McEwen
Franco Bernardi	Nick Hill	James McFarlane
Bob Felts, Jr.	Link Leavens	Kevin Olsen
John Gless	Scott Mabs	Kevin Severns
Jim Gorden	Mark McBroom*	Brian Specht

CPDPC Members Absent:

Richard Bennett	Etienne Rabe
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CDFA Staff:

Stephen Brown*	Paul Martinez*	Debby Tanouye
Jason Chan*	David Morgan*	Scosha Wright
Tina Galindo*	Alex Muniz*	Bob Wynn
Victoria Hornbaker	Colleen Murphy	
Magally Luque-Williams*	Aliza Santos	

Guests:

Bob Atkins	Brett Kirkpatrick	Teresa Siles
Lanette Bankston*	Melinda Klein	Cressida Silvers*
Jill Barnier*	Evonne Kluska*	Chris Stambach
Marjie Bartels	Cynthia LeVesque*	Beth Stone-Smith*
Vic Corkins	Fritz Light	Brian Taylor*
Rick Dunn	Dave Machlitt	Keith Watkins
Enrico Ferro*	Neil McRoberts	Joseph Wolf*
Cathy Fisher	Curtis Pate*	Judy Zaninovich*
Linda Haque	Sylvie Robillard*	Erika Zapien
Doug Holmsey	Gary Schulz	Sandra Zwaal*

*** Participated via Webinar**

Opening Comments:

Acting Chairman Kevin Severns welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online and stated there is a quorum for the meeting.

Public Comment:

Marjie Bartels certified organic grower from Bardsdale, California gave a public comment regarding treatments being conducted by CDFA and the County Agricultural Commissioners. A notice to treat yard trees was left on Marjie’s front door however she did not want the treatment done and was under the impression that CDFA was going to treat her property without her consent. Marjie does not have yard trees, only commercial groves and this was also concerning to her.

Debby reported that Ventura County is under the areawide treatment program and all of the commercial citrus in that area has been identified. When the Ventura County grower liaison confirms that the areawide treatment has been completed, CDFA then treats the surrounding urban areas. If there is no contact made with the homeowner the property will go untreated until contact is made and consent is given to CDFA. It could have been apparent that the property was a commercial orchard with 25 plus trees however some homeowners do not claim all 25 trees as their commercial orchard and some trees are claimed as personal “yard trees.”

Doug Holmsey made a public comment regarding treatment stating that CDFA has always coordinated well with him to treat the few trees on his property and CDFA has never treated without his permission. Doug is concerned with the areawide management and the enforcement capability to ensure areawide treatment is being completed. Doug is concerned with the organic and abandoned groves around his property that are not being treated. He would like to see the state fund the removal of neglected and abandoned orchards. ACP needs to be controlled to stop the spread of HLB. ACP will continue to establish populations if organic and abandoned orchards continue to remain untreated.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS & UPDATES

Kevin Severns reviewed the minutes from the Committee meetings that took place on March 9, 2016 and April 19, 2016.

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the March 9, 2016 and April 19, 2016 Committee meetings as presented.
First: Craig Armstrong
Second: Gus Gunderson
Motion Passes: All in favor

ITEMS FROM THE STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Revised Trapping Protocol

Victoria reported that CDFA staff conducted a literate search for alternate ACP traps and staff has contacted Chandrika Ramadugu, Associate Project Scientist at UCR, who is currently working on testing 3-D smart traps. The traps do not collect as many ACP as the yellow-panel trap however the ACP collected can be analyzed for *CLas*. If the Committee is interested some

of the 3-D smart traps can be purchased to test them out in certain areas to see how well they work. Several companies have developed lures to be used in combination with the yellow-panel traps which have been reported to be effective and is an option for the Committee as well however any lures that are used need to be evaluated in the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). It was asked why the lures need to be evaluated by the PEIR and Victoria stated any chemical put into the environment needs to be evaluated for human health reasons. Jim suggested trying the 3-D traps in compromised areas like La Puente, Hacienda Heights and San Gabriel.

Revised Response Protocol for ACP Finds in Outlying Areas

Victoria presented a revised ACP response protocol in Art Gilbert's absence. In a response to a single ACP detection with no commercial citrus within 1.5 miles, Art has proposed to continue trapping at the density of 100 traps per square mile in a 1.5 mile radius to form a nine-square mile delimitation area. Traps will be serviced weekly for two months and if no additional psyllids are detected, the traps will be serviced monthly for two years. Visual survey for ACP and HLB will be conducted on the find site and adjacent properties only. There will be no treatment until a second ACP is found and a notice of treatment will be issued. In response to two or more ACP within 1.5 miles of each other within 6 months the trapping remains the same. In addition all properties within 400 meters will be treated and visual survey will be conducted within 200 meters of the find site. There was discussion following the presented protocol regarding treatment and increasing psyllid finds.

Motion: To adopt the Northern California ACP detection response protocol as presented. The motion passed with ten yays; Craig Armstrong, Franco Bernardi, Bob Felts, Jr., John Gless, Jim Gorden, Gus Gunderson, Mark McBroom, George McEwen, Kevin Olsen and Brian Specht and three nays; Scott Mabs, James McFarlane, and Kevin Severns.

Per Tree Cost Associated with HLB Core Areas

Debby stated that the cost per tree needs to be determined per the Pest Exclusion Branch and the Plant Diagnostic Center and that information will be available in a few days and will be emailed out to the Committee.

CPDPC Abandoned Grove Policy

A draft neglected and abandoned grove policy was developed as a guideline for commissioners to possibly use to gain support from their boards of supervisors. The policy was put together in collaboration with NST and has been sent to the County Agricultural Commissioners for review. Through the grower liaisons, CDFA is gathering information on where abandoned groves are and maintaining a spreadsheet by county. Staff is helping counties identify ownership of the abandoned properties and conducting outreach and education. (

Private Management Report

There are a few activities that CDFA does not have authority to do therefore it was suggested that a private company be tasked with some of these activities. There is more research being done on this issue and it will be revisited at a future meeting.

Review the Possibility of Using a Consent Agenda

It was suggested that the Committee use consent agendas for the future CPDPC meetings. A consent agenda allows the Committee to approve routine, procedural decisions, and decisions that are likely to be noncontroversial without discussion or individual motions.

Motion: To adopt the use of a consent agenda as presented.

First: Kevin Severns

Second: Gus Gunderson

Motion Passes: All in favor

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

2015/2016 Budget

James reviewed the 2015/2016 budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. To date \$8,525,884 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$7,458,115. The assessment budget for fiscal year 2015/2016 is \$19,248,662. Through March 31, 2016 there has been \$7,427,659 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$11,821,002. The urban treatment sub-budget has a remaining budget balance to \$5,056,095. The central valley survey and treatment sub-budget has a remaining budget balance of \$1,384,633. These two sub-budgets were increased at the January CPDPC meeting since they had the highest expenditures for 2014/2015. There has been a new line item added to the 2015/2016 budget for the University of Arizona ACP/HLB Diagnostics lab in the amount of \$455,674 with no funds spent so far. The CHRP budget amount is \$10,884,701 with \$3,476,287 expended so far leaving a remaining balance available of \$7,368,414.

Victoria provided a revised revenue projection based on the revised NASS Pacific Region Crop Report, the new revenue projection is \$17,406,000 based on 193,400,000 cartons at \$.09 per carton. This crop estimate would not affect the Committee's prorata because it is not based on revenue projections.

Motion: To adopt the revised Crop Estimate Report based on the NASS Pacific Region Crop Production Report dated February 3, 2016 as presented.

First: James McFarlane

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

As of March 31, 2016 the Central Valley Survey and Treatment sub-budget had a low balance remaining of \$88,862 which has likely been spent to date. James recommended transferring funds from the Urban Treatment sub-budget to the Central Valley sub-budget.

Motion: To transfer \$1,677,843 from the Urban Treatment sub-budget to Central Valley Treatment sub-budget.

First: James McFarlane

Second: Bob Felts

Motion Passes: All in favor

James presented a proposed budget for two seasonal employees to monitor juice plants and packers in Central California for nine months of employment. For nine months the total salary and benefits for two employees, including vehicle needs, would be approximately \$57,042.

Motion: To add \$57,042 into the ACP/HLB Regulatory sub-budget for ACP regulatory enforcement.

First: James McFarlane

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

James presented the spending authority tracking spreadsheet. The 2015/2016 authority is \$15,624,418 and 65 percent has been spent as of March 31, 2016 leaving the remaining balance at \$5,406,729. The finance subcommittee has been discussing the budget authority and will move allowable expenditures from the assessment funds to CHRP funds to keep the program from overspending the authority.

Variance Analysis Review

Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is 3.60 percent. There have been 38.59 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2015/2016 so far.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Regional ACP Management

Bob Atkins, Statewide Grower Liaison Coordinator gave several updates. The Ventura and San Bernardino County grower liaisons have exhausted their contracts and will both be off until July 1, 2016. The second grower liaison in Ventura however will continue work. There was a grower liaison meeting held on April 20, 2016 to discuss the new CRB ARC GIS mapping. The session was held in order to acquaint the grower liaisons with the capabilities and limitations of the new mapping. The San Bernardino County Agricultural Commissioner had good response to letters they sent to the owners of apparently abandoned groves beside one property that staff is working with. The (early detection technology) EDT task force is meeting on May 13, 2016. The results will not be identified by researcher until after the task force evaluates their results. After the evaluation the task force will review the outcome. This is keeping the goal to have the testing be as unbiased as possible.

Review Areawide Psyllid Management

Rick Dunn and Neil McRoberts presented a psyllid management area (PMA) triage concept to the Committee. The analysis focused on San Bernardino as a test County. Rick and Neil looked at several criterion, including the size of the individual PMA, the number of properties on average that might be in the buffer area and the proximity to HLB areas or other sensitive areas to name a few. They were looking at determining what a cost effective PMA response would be to allow the CPDPC make management decisions for the areawide buffers. Neil McRoberts stated that implementing a PMA triage would require repeated, at least annual, reassessment of the ACP/HLB situation as conditions change. Neil presented the DEXi program which is a software tool designed to simplify multi-attribute analysis and assist with decision making of this type. Chairman Nick suggested tabling this item until the next Committee meeting so that staff can present a solid plan and path forward.

Hacienda Heights Early Detection and CDFA PCR Results

Neil McRoberts presented the decision theory analysis of early detection transect results from trees in the Hacienda Heights HLB quarantine zone. The probability that an unknown tree is HLB positive depends on the background disease prevalence, other factors that might affect pre-test probability, diagnostic result, and known performance of diagnostic tests. The post-test probability is calculated from the prior and the appropriate likelihood ratio, depending on the diagnostic test outcome. A map was presented of hot spot analysis results in Hacienda Heights.

Update on the Transition to Regional Quarantine

Victoria reported that a regulatory scoping meeting was held on May 5 and 6, 2016. There were approximately 40 people in attendance at the first meeting and approximately 25 people at the second meeting. There will be an additional scoping meeting being held on May 13, 2016 and once that meeting is complete CDFA staff will compile all of the public comments made for review to refine the proposed regulation.

MOU between the CPDPC and CCTEA

Victoria presented the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the CPDPC and the Central California Tristeza Eradication Agency and asked if the Committee would like to continue with the MOU.

Motion: To continue the memorandum of understanding between the CPDPC and the Central California Tristeza Eradication Agency as presented.

First: George McEwen

Second: Gus Gunderson

Motion Passes: All in favor

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Operations Subcommittee Chairman Jim Gorden reviewed the Operations Summary from the meeting held on April 13, 2016.

Revised Southern California Commercial Trapping/ACP Collection

Rick Dunn presented an alternative ACP/HLB grove trapping and sampling schemes for Southern California. 850 grove traps are deployed in Southern California to date and these are serviced twice a month. An additional 255 area-wide traps are deployed in selected buffer grids and the area-wide traps are serviced monthly. 7,981 locations have been designated as grove sample sites. Staff returns to each sample site twice a year to collect live ACP and if suspicious symptoms are observed, tissue samples are also collected. Option one is to maintain the status quo. Option two is to convert all remaining grove trap sites to sample sites leaving the existing area-wide traps in place and option three is to convert all remaining grove trap sites to sample sites leaving the existing area-wide traps in place where appropriate, increase the total number of sample sites but visit each only once a year. Option four is to modify trapping to remove all grove traps and place one area-wide trap in every square mile grid with commercial citrus, service monthly and use remaining time to sample ACP for testing. Option 5 is to redistribute and add grove traps to have a minimum of one per square mile grid with commercial citrus. These traps will be serviced twice a month and all area-wide buffer traps will be removed.

Option 6 would be to discontinue all trapping and increase staff to conduct quantitative sampling and ACP collection at all sample sites. Rick also went over the pros and cons of the trapping methods of option 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Victoria stated that a certain level of traps needs to be maintained because the treatment responses are based on ACP trap finds. There was discussion that followed the presentation regarding these options. Jim Gorden stated that Operations Subcommittee moved and approved Option 4 as a recommendation to the full Committee. Chairman Hill suggested the Science Subcommittee look at these options and make a recommendation to the full Committee. The Committee would also like more time to look at each of the options before a decision is made.

Biocontrol Release Protocol

Jim Gorden presented a summary of recommendations that were made at the ACP Biocontrol Task Force meeting held in April of 2016, which states to focus all releases on urban residential properties outside of active treatment areas and potential abandoned groves. There will be no releases on organic or commercial groves. The Operations Subcommittee has approved the release protocol with one abstention.

Motion: To approve of the new biocontrol release strategy as presented.

The motion was seconded by Mark McBroom and failed with six yays; Franco Bernardi, John Gless, Jim Gorden, Gus Gunderson, Link Leavens and George McEwen, and nine nays; Craig Armstrong, Bob Felts, Jr., Nick Hill, Scott Mabs, Mark McBroom, Kevin Olsen, James McFarlane, Kevin Severns and Brian Specht.

Nick Hill asked the Biocontrol Task Force to edit the document for it to be presented at the next Committee meeting.

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Teresa Siles with NST gave several updates. Elected official outreach has been focused on Los Angeles and Santa Barbra counties and has been increased in the San Gabriel area. NST staff has conducted outreach meetings with 20 cities in the HLB quarantine area. NST is working with CCM and CRB on some voluntary tree removal outreach as well. NST has been engaged with several events in the Santa Barbara area and has visited several farmers markets. NST has worked with CDFA in establishing a “What to Expect” video. The idea is to inform residents what to expect when CDFA comes to their homes. A new homeowner website is in the works and NST is hoping to debut the site by the end of May.

CRB REPORT

Gary Schulz, CRB president gave a few updates. Gary introduced Dr. Melinda Klein who is the new chief research scientist of CRB. The grower seminars will be held in Temecula on July 11, 2016, in Santa Paula on July 12, 2016 and in Loomis and on July 14, 2016. CRB lab is undergoing a reassessment with CDFA and USDA to regain accreditation. The California Citrus Conference is being held on October 19, 2016 at the Exeter Memorial Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held in Visalia, California on July 13, 2016 at 10:00am.