

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 13, 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 July 13, 2016 in Tulare, California by Committee Chairman Nick Hill.

CPDPC Members Present:

Craig Armstrong*	Nick Hill	Kevin Olsen
Richard Bennett	Link Leavens*	Etienne Rabe
Bob Felts, Jr.	Mark McBroom*	Kevin Severns
Jim Gorden	George McEwen	
Gus Gunderson*	James McFarlane	

CPDPC Members Absent:

Franco Bernardi	John Gless	Scott Mabs
Brian Specht		

CDFA Staff:

Jason Chan*	Lucita Kumagai*	Keith Okasaki
Victoria Hornbaker	Jason Leathers*	Courtney Owens
Amber Hoyt	Magally Luque-Williams	Debby Tanouye
Evonne Kluska*	Paul Martinez*	Scosha Wright*
Margarete Krick	Colleen Murphy	

Guests:

Jill Barnier	John Krist*	Helena Roberts*
Scott Bucy*	Joel Leonard	Cressida Silvers*
Bob Butler	Cynthia LeVesque*	Greg Simmons*
Dan Dreyer	Brianna Lewis	Brian Taylor*
Thomas Ebner	Rudy Martel*	Debbie Trupe*
Enrico Ferro*	Alistair McKay*	Tom Tucker
Linda Haque*	Neil McRoberts	Keith Watkins
David Hendusa	Pat Nolan*	Helene Wright*
Alyssa Houtby	John Ojala	Judy Zaninovich
Shirley Kirkpatrick	Curtis Pate	Sandra Zwaal*
Melinda Klein	Jennifer Reed*	
Ellen Kragh*	Joshua Reger	

*** Participated via Webinar**

Opening Comments:

Chairman Nick Hill 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:

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS & UPDATES

Nick Hill reviewed the minutes from the Committee meeting that took place on May 11, 2016.

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

First: Nick Hill

Second: Bob Felts, Jr.

Motion Passes: All in favor

STRATEGIC PLANNING

CDFA would like the Committee to form a working group to work on developing a 5 year plan to ensure that the Committee and CDFA have adequate resources to achieve the Committee's goals. Nick Hill appointed Kevin Olsen to be the Chairman of the working group. Kevin stated that the Committee is looking to hire an Operations Manager to work with Victoria and relieve some of her workload.

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. 2015/2016 Budget

James reviewed the 2015/2016 budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. To date \$13,248,158 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$4,157,842. The total projected assessment revenue for fiscal year 2015/2016 is \$17,406,000. Through May 31, 2016 there has been \$10,568,847 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$8,736,857.

It was asked if central valley survey and treatment would exceed the budget due to more ACP finds. Debby stated that there have been some changes in the survey to reduce funding however the treatments are increasing due to new ACP finds so there is a possibility that the budget will be exceeded. It was asked if the trees that came back as suspect positive using the early detection technologies (EDT) are being monitored in Hacienda Heights. Victoria stated that for approximately a year, Hacienda Heights has been monitored by a modified risk survey and CDFA staff has not been going back to any specific location.

The CHRP budget amount is \$10,884,701 with \$5,700,322 expended so far leaving a remaining balance available of \$5,144,379.

James presented the spending authority tracking spreadsheet. The 2015/2016 authority is \$15,624,418 and 75 percent has been spent as of May 31, 2016 leaving the remaining balance at \$3,884,628. James announced that there is a slim chance that the balance would be exceeded for the state fiscal year.

b. Variance Analysis Review

Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is 4.14 percent. There have been 54.74 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2015/2016 so far.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. Regional ACP Management

Bob Atkins, Statewide Grower Liaison Coordinator gave several updates. The Ventura and San Bernardino County grower liaisons that exhausted their contracts are back and working. Most areas are finished with the area-wide treatments and staff is evaluating their non-coordinated treatments. There has been a high level of participation so far. All areas are scheduling treatments for the fall. A grower meeting will be held in San Diego on July 14, 2016 to begin treatment in August. Imperial, San Bernardino and Riverside counties will begin treatment in August as well. All of the neglected and abandoned groves in San Bernardino County have been addressed and have all been removed with the exception of one orchard which is still being worked on.

b. CPDPC Abandoned Grove Policy

At the April 19, 2016 strategic planning meeting the Committee had expressed a desire to put forward a document that would be supportive of the County Agricultural Commissioner’s efforts in abandoned grove removal. Victoria presented a draft document of abandoned or neglected commercial citrus orchard guidelines to the Committee for adoption.

Motion: To adopt the Abandoned or Neglected Commercial Citrus Orchard Guidelines as presented.

First: Jim Gorden

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

c. Update on the Transition to Regional Quarantine

Keith Okasaki gave an update on where CDFA is at in the process of transitioning to a regional quarantine. CDFA has held four public scoping meetings and will be receiving feedback through June 30, 2016. CDFA will review the comments made and organize a response. CDFA will then update the citrus regulations and begin the rulemaking process. It was asked if the comments will be made public. Victoria stated that there will be an interim Committee meeting held in mid-August once all of the comments have been reviewed and organized to present to the Committee. Victoria was also tasked with issuing a “not before date” which was suggested to be January 1, 2017 to ensure that there will be nothing implemented before that date. There was discussion between the Committee regarding the “not before date”.

Motion: To approve a “not before date” of March 31, 2017 for the proposed regional quarantine regulatory protocol.

First: Etienne Rabe

Second: George McEwen

Motion Passes: All in favor

d. Permit Overview

Courtney Owens gave an overview of standard conditions for safeguarding and mitigation. Only a USDA sanctioned Contained Research Facility, Biosafety level 3 laboratories are authorized to receive viable ACP or HLB material. Biosafety level 2 labs are only authorized to receive nonviable material such as cultured HLB, lyophilized plant material and ACP that are in 95 percent ethanol. Courtney reviewed the types of permits that involve citrus research as well as permits that involve citrus importation and explained the purpose of these permits to the Committee.

e. Permit Overview

CDFA's permits and regulations staff have been working to get a permit in place for regulatory diagnostics which will allow private laboratories to apply for a non-regulatory diagnostic permit to process plant samples as grower's service samples. This will help by having more labs available to process grower samples for HLB. CDFA will also be following up in developing a protocol for insect sampling and it was asked how long that protocol will take. The insect sampling protocol should move along rather quickly because the plant protocols have already been developed. They now need to be transitioned into insect protocols. It was also asked why root samples are not considered to be tissue matter. Victoria stated that there is currently not an approved work instruction for root samples. Root samples can be very difficult due to the bacteria and other pathogens that occur in the soil. Titers can be much higher in root samples as well which can cause issues with the sample size. CDFA lab staff will work with USDA to see if there can be something put into place. It was asked how many labs are interested in becoming certified within California. Victoria stated that there are four labs that are interested including the Central California Tristeza Eradication Agency.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Operations Subcommittee Chairman Jim Gorden announced that the Operations Subcommittee meetings have transitioned to monthly meetings instead of meeting every other month. One month, the Operations meeting will consist of reports and presentations. The following meeting will consist of a workshop to discuss issues and action items and to make recommendations to the full Committee.

a. Revised Southern California Commercial Trapping/ACP Collection

Jim gave a brief overview of the revised Southern California Commercial Trapping protocol. There are currently 858 grove trap sites serviced bi-weekly, 255 area-wide trap sites serviced monthly and 7,981 ACP samples collected twice per year. There were two options presented, option one includes 238 grove traps in Ventura with Ventura conducting their own trapping and pre and post area-wide treatment with 255 area-wide traps serviced monthly and 11,000 ACP collected twice per year. Option two would have 238 grove trap sites in Ventura as well with Ventura conducting their own trapping and pre/post area-wide treatment however would have 1,177 area-wide traps serviced monthly and 5,500 to 6,000 ACP samples collected twice per year. The subcommittee moved to adopt option number one as presented.

Motion: To implement revising the commercial grove trapping in Eastern Riverside and Imperial Counties following the protocol in Option 1 ACP Grove Trapping and Sampling as presented.

First: Jim Gorden
Second: Kevin Olsen
Motion Passes: All in favor

b. HLB Survey Updates

Risk Survey

Magally Luque-Williams gave an update on the HLB risk-based survey. Cycle 1 is 100 percent complete in Imperial County. There were 242 sites surveyed, 159 sites with ACP samples, 44 sites with plant samples and 58 sites negative for ACP and plant samples. Cycle 1 has begun in Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties and all three counties are below 33 percent complete. To date there have been 2,975 sites surveyed, 1,444 ACP samples tested and 621 plant samples tested. It was asked when cycle 1 would be completed. Initially it was agreed upon to have 3 cycles done per year which will likely not happen for 2016. Magally stated that CDFA received the risk-based data from Dr. Gottwald in May therefore staff got off to a late start. Cycle 1 should be completed in November 2016. It was also mentioned that there also needs to be more staff on board.

Hacienda Heights

There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in Hacienda Heights. In April there were 96 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 11,050 ACP collected. In May there were 84 traps with ACP samples and an estimated total of 540 ACP collected. In June there were 76 traps with ACP samples and a total estimated amount of 378 collected. Tempo treatment began on January 19, 2016 and will be used through February 10, 2016. The next treatment of imidacloprid is scheduled for September 2016. Cycles 1 through 3 are complete. Cycle 4 is currently in progress and began on July 5, 2016. There have been 45 sites visited so far with 5 plant samples collected and 45 ACP samples collected.

San Gabriel

There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in San Gabriel. In April there were 98 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 11,851 ACP collected. In May there were 73 traps with ACP samples and an estimated total of 340 ACP collected. In June there were 58 traps with ACP samples and an estimated total of 85 ACP collected. Imidacloprid and Tempo treatments will begin July 25, 2016. Both cycles 1 and 2 are currently in progress. Tina stated that there is not enough staff to keep up with the large amount of sites that need to be visited in the area. Cycle 1 began on January 7, 2016. To date 5,657 sites have been visited with 1,921 plant samples collected, 5,070 ACP samples collected and 112 sites negative for ACP. Cycle 2 began on May 2, 2016 and 2,478 sites have been visited, 779 plant sample shave been collected, 2,368 ACP samples have been collected and 55 sites were negative for ACP. The 800 meter core and expansion was completed on April 21, 2016 and 100 percent of the host material was sampled. There were 4,102 properties surveyed in the core area, 2,735 plant samples and 620 ACP samples collected. There were 1,426 properties that were negative for ACP.

Treatment Updates

Tina gave an update regarding treatment in Southern California. In Ventura there are a total of 49 psyllid management areas (PMA) and treatment is 100 percent complete as of this week. Imidacloprid is scheduled to begin on August 1, 2016 however a few zones may drop due to less than 75 percent of treatment participation. In San Bernardino there are a total of 29 PMA's and treatment began on April 21, 2016. All areas are complete except Redlands. Imidacloprid is scheduled to begin on August 15, 2016 however zones will drop due to less than 75 percent participation. A public meeting is scheduled in San Gabriel for July 20, 2016 and treatment will begin on July 25, 2016. In San Diego, Tecate treatment is 100 percent complete and San Ysidro is pending environmental consultation. Treatment began on June 13, 2016 in Imperial. There was discussion following the presentation regarding treatment efficacy and what staff can do to get growers to participate in treatments to reach the 75 percent participation rate.

c. Laboratory Updates

Luci Kumagai gave an update on behalf of the CDFA lab. For the month of June 2016 CDFA received 5,771 ACP samples and 2,048 plant samples with no new positive HLB samples. In addition to the regular HLB survey samples, CDFA has also received 62 samples from the dog team survey sites and one of those samples has come back positive for HLB. That sample came from a property in San Gabriel that had a previous detection in August of 2015. The dog team samples were sent to USDA to be re-tested and USDA's lab came up with the same results as CDFA. In 2016 there have been a total of 12 positive trees detected, all in the core area of San Gabriel and all have been removed. It was asked if the CDFA lab is caught up on samples and Luci stated that CDFA is caught up and the lab is averaging around 7,000 samples a month. In 2016 alone there have been 24,351 plant samples tested and 37,516 ACP samples.

Victoria gave a brief update on the lab at the University of Arizona. They have received everything they need to conduct ACP samples and are now waiting to start receiving samples.

Cynthia LeVesque gave an update on behalf of CRB. She announced that CRB has hired a contractor to do the remodeling that is required by USDA for the CRB recertification and they have also evaluated quality management programs which is also requirement for recertification. CRB has continued to test the samples from the second EDT study in the UC Davis containment facility. Staffing levels have remained the same.

d. Biocontrol Release Protocol

Operations Chairman Jim Gorden gave a brief overview of what was discussed at the Operations meeting regarding the revised Biocontrol Release Protocol. The biocontrol task force met in June and discussed the need to release into new areas as well as to consider targeting releases to the highest risk areas. Some high risk area releases that were discussed were within five miles of the Mexico border, five miles of the northern delimitation of the established ACP range, five miles of buffer treatment areas, five miles of buffer HLB areas and along major highways that act as significant trade routes. Jim presented the proposal and announced that the Operations Subcommittee has recommended that the full Committee approve the proposed adjustments.

Motion: To approve the Biocontrol Release Protocol.

First: Jim Gorden
Second: Richard Bennett
Motion Passes: All in favor

SCIENCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Etienne Rabe reviewed the Texas II EDT study results with the Committee. There were 30 trees selected that were tested PCR positive and symptomatic. The results show that methods that target a whole-tree response show less inter-sample variation than the group of PCR-based approaches. Another clear result is the consistency of the effect among the PCR methods. There were also known negative samples tested and there was no divergence in the results between samples done with PCR. Etienne also reviewed the results from 30 “unknown” trees and qualitatively the pattern is the same in all four EDT samples. The two best indirect methods indicate that nearly all trees are positive however the PCR methods indicate nearly all trees negative. It was asked if root samples would be taken from Hacienda Heights and Victoria stated that root samples will be taken from trees that made the detector dogs alert.

In early June, MAC funded the detector dogs to come to California to sniff out trees in Southern California and in the Central Valley. In Los Angeles the dogs visited all residential locations and in Kern County the dogs visited all residential and one commercial location. In San Bernardino the dogs visited one commercial and one residential location due to that day being cut short. The dogs did alert at locations in all three areas at 29 sites total. CDFA staff collected plant samples from each of the 29 locations that the dogs alerted to and CDFA lab staff ran the samples. All samples came back negative for HLB except one sample that was taken from San Gabriel on a property that had a previous HLB find. The tree was removed two days after the confirmation was made. CDFA staff is continuing to follow up on the trees that were alerted by the dogs in the Central Valley, the trees have been tinted and staff is working with USDA to conduct additional sampling and root samples have been taken as well. CDFA staff is going to sample all of the trees for phytophthora to see if that is what the dogs were picking up on.

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Outreach Chairman Gus Gunderson gave a brief overview of what outreach activities are ongoing with NST. Gus reviewed San Gabriel advertising recommendations with the Committee. There have been several billboard advertisements put up in the San Gabriel area. NST is also going to have some representation at an Asian street fair in San Gabriel to inform attendees the threat that HLB holds to the citrus industry. CCM and CDFA are continuing to move forward with a voluntary tree removal program in the San Gabriel area however the issue is currently funding. Treatments in San Gabriel will begin soon and a door hanging outreach piece will be placed on homeowner’s doors and funding issues will be dealt with as they come.

CCM REPORT

Alyssa Houtby gave a few updates on behalf of California Citrus Mutual. The bill to increase the assessment authority from \$0.09 to \$0.12 has passed out of the senate and the assembly Ag. and will next to go the assembly Committee on appropriations before going to the floor. This is expected to happen in August 2016. CCM is also working with Cal Poly Pomona to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony event for the new greenhouse on July 25, 2016. There is a grower

meeting series being hosted in Ventura, Riverside and Coachella on September 7th and 8th of 2016.

CRB REPORT

Gary Schulz, CRB president gave a few updates. CRB is currently evaluating all of the research proposals that have been solicited. Last year CRB budgeted over \$7 million on research spending. There are currently 54 different projects that CRB is funding and out of the 54, 30 are eligible to continue. Those 30 projects will be reviewed and evaluated and a decision will be made within the next few weeks on which will continue to be funded. On August 23, 2016 there will be a board meeting held followed by some of the continuing research presentations. On September 7 – 9, 2016 another board meeting will be held in Davis where the HLB external review panel will meet. Following that meeting will be the HLB summit being held on October 4 - 5, 2016 at the University of Riverside. The California Citrus Conference is being held on October 19, 2016 at the Exeter Memorial Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held in Riverside, California on September 14, 2016 at 10:00am.