

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 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 January 13, 2016 in Visalia, California by Committee Chairman Nick Hill.

CPDPC Members Present:

Richard Bennett	Jim Gorden	George McEwen
Franco Bernardi	Gus Gunderson	James McFarlane
Bob Felts, Jr.	Nick Hill	Kevin Olsen
John Gless*	Link Leavens	Brian Specht*

CPDPC Members Absent:

Craig Armstrong	Mark McBroom	Kevin Severns
Scott Mabs	Etienne Rabe	

CDFA Staff:

Stephen Brown*	Magally Luque-Williams	Aliza Santos
Jason Chan*	Paul Martinez*	Debby Tanouye
Tina Galindo	David Morgan*	Scosha Wright
Victoria Hornbaker	Colleen Murphy	
Luci Kumagai*	Mike Pitcairn	

Guests:

Ruben Arroyo	Alyssa Houtby	Cressida Silvers
Bob Atkins	Shirley Kirkpatrick	Jeff Slover
Lanette Bankston*	Evonne Kluska*	Chris Stambach
Erin Betts	Ellen Kragh*	Brian Taylor*
Vic Corkins	John Krist*	Alan Washburn*
Aaron Dillon*	Luci Kumagai*	Kim Wilenius*
Greg Douhan*	Leslie Leavens*	Helene Wright
Dan Dreyer	Leonard Massey	Les Wright
Enrico Ferro*	Blake Mauritson	Elena Yates
Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Curtis Pate*	Judy Zaninovich*
Subhas Hajeri	Sylvie Robillard	Bob Zuckerman*
Nancy Holland*	Jim Sebesta	Sandra Zwaal*

*** 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 November 18, 2015.

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the November 18, 2015 Committee meeting as presented with one correction: to add Bob Atkins as in attendance.

First: Gus Gunderson

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. 2014/2015 Budget and Assessments

James reviewed the 2014/2015 budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. To date \$14,393,247 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$122,753. The assessment budget for fiscal year 2014/2015 is \$17,154,195. Through November 2015 there has been \$14,420,395 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$2,733,800. There has been \$3,909,501 spent for urban treatment and \$3,046,981 has been spent for central valley treatment and survey. These two sub-budgets have the highest expenditures to date. Central Valley treatment is \$513,224 over budget due to the multiple ACP finds in that area. The CHRP budget amount is \$10,884,701. So far, \$9,550,579 has been spent, with a balance remaining of \$74,280. The TASC grant has a total budget of \$475,000 and has no remaining balance to be spent. The Citrus Commodity budget has been overspent by \$96,911 and the general fund will cover that deficient. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grant has a balance of \$84,194 with nothing spent so far leaving the total balance available. The final 2014/2015 close out will be presented at the March CPDPC meeting.

b. Variance Analysis Review

Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is -15.18 percent. There have been 84.06 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2014/2015.

c. 2015/2016 Budget

The budget that was adopted at the September 2015 CPDPC meeting was above the Committee's spending authority therefore James presented a spending authority tracking spreadsheet. The 2015/2016 authority is \$15,624,418 and 25 percent has been spent as of November 30, 2015 leaving the remaining balance at \$11,756,729. When the Committee spends 50 percent of the budget the Finance Subcommittee will prepare a revised spending plan to keep the program within the spending authority. At 75 percent spent, the Committee will need to take action to enact the revised spending plan.

James reviewed the 2015/2016 budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. To date \$619,178 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$15,364,822. The assessment budget for fiscal year 2015/2016 is \$17,641,657. Through November 30, 2015 there has been \$1,017,842 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$16,623,815.

There has been a new line item added to the 2015/2016 budget for Cal Poly Outreach in the amount of \$24,460. It was asked if the budget balance was increased for urban treatment and central valley treatment since these were the two sub-budgets that had the highest expenditures for 2014/2015. Victoria stated that there should be small reductions in these two line items based on the revised protocol. The CHRP budget amount is \$10,884,701 with \$247,829 expended so far leaving a budget balance of \$10,596,872. Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is -30.54 percent. There have been 5.77 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2015/2016 so far.

New sub-budgets were presented for treatment activities in San Mateo County, Stanislaus County, and for area wide activities in Santa Barbara County. The budget amounts presented were; \$432,613 for Santa Barbara, \$165,472 for Stanislaus and \$116,918 for San Mateo. These were not included in the initial budget proposal because there were no ACP finds in these counties until recently. It was asked what the grower participation rate is in Santa Barbara County in regards to treatment. Cressida Silvers, grower liaison for Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties stated that Santa Barbara is in the first of three weeks of grower treatment so there is no data yet regarding participation rates however the feedback she has received has been mostly positive.

Motion: To approve the new sub-budgets for San Mateo County treatment, Stanislaus County treatment, and area-wide treatment for Santa Barbara.

First: Jim Gorden

Second: James McFarlane

Motion Passes: All in favor

It was suggested that new sub-budgets should be vet through the Operations Subcommittee to be discussed more extensively in the future.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. Regional ACP Management

Bob Atkins, Statewide Grower Liaison Coordinator gave several updates. All of the grower liaisons are working with commercial orchards to make sure that they are being treated, in both a timely fashion and in high percentages. In the psyllid management areas the goal is to achieve treatment on 75 percent of the commercial acreage.

For abandoned groves, Bob is working with the grower liaisons and Agricultural Commissioners to develop a way of tracking abandoned groves by county. There was an ACP find in Madera County in a 500 acre block of abandoned citrus. The abandon grove is currently under

development. Sylvie is working with the Madera County Agricultural Commissioner to track activity on this block, either treatment or removal. The San Bernardino County Agricultural Commissioner had good response to letters they sent to the owners of apparently abandoned groves. Most of them have plans to remove their trees and understand the issue.

Unfortunately a lot has changed in Kern County within the last few months with a significant amount of ACP finds in various locations in Bakersfield and South County. Judy Zaninovich, Kern County grower liaison has been working closely with the growers that have been affected and there has been good grower participation. Treatments are also complete in those areas.

Ruben Arroyo, Kern County Agricultural Commissioner stated that there are currently three 25 plus tree properties in Kern County that cannot afford to treat their properties. Ruben is working extensively with the Kern County Pest Control District and the properties, seeking all available options to get the treatments arranged. Tree removal is not an option for these properties because the trees have sentimental value to the owners. There was discussion about this being a consistent issue with homeowners and growers. Ruben stated that he is diligently working and focused on getting as many trees treated as possible in Kern County right now. If these 25 plus tree properties remain untreated there will be no authoritative action taken and the properties will remain available as a host for ACP. The Committee does not want to set a precedent but has agreed to fund one cycle and reevaluate after that.

Motion: To recommend a contingency to treat 24 trees on 3 Kern County 25 plus properties, if the Kern County Pest Control District (PCD) treats all of the other trees on the properties. This contingency will only be conducted if the PCD is not able to treat all of the trees on each property. The motion was moved by Jim Gorden and passed with 9 yays; Richard Bennett, John Gless, Nick Hill, Jim Gorden, Gus Gunderson, George McEwen, James McFarlane, Kevin Olsen and Brian Specht and two nays, Link Leavens and Bob Felts, Jr.

The Texas trials are underway and all samples have been taken for the early detection technologies (EDT). Subsampling for the six labs that will receive this material began on January 11, 2016. Analysis time has been estimated to be 10 weeks for some labs. A separate grant was approved by the CRB to conduct the research needed to develop the procedures and validate the sampling of flush for HLB detection. This research will also explore the relationship of ACP nymphs to the identification of HLB. The report should be released around the first week of April 2016.

b. Executive Committee Elections

Victoria presented the revised CPDPC By-Laws to the Committee for adoption. It was recommended to hold the same Executive Committee members in office for 2 years.

Motion: To hold the same Executive Committee members in office for 2 years.
First: Kevin Olsen
Second: Link Leavens
Motion Passes: All in favor

Chairman Hill stated that a list of Committee member attendance is going to be sent out to the Committee and members should decide if they would like to continue participating on the Committee.

c. Appointment of Subcommittee Members

Franco Bernardi has stepped down from being the chairman of the Outreach Subcommittee and Gus Gunderson has decided to take over the vacancy. There is an additional vacancy on the Outreach Subcommittee that needs to be filled. There is a vacancy on the Finance Subcommittee that needs to be filled as well.

d. Transition to Regional Quarantine

Victoria presented a revised draft of the Statewide Quarantine Working Group (SWQG) proposal to the Committee. There were a few concerns by CDFA's executive staff that were found in the previous draft which required some recommendations and guidance from the CPDPC Executive Committee. One concern is that there were areas to be included under regulation that have not had any psyllid finds therefore there were a few maps that were redeveloped. There was also concern about moving from a performance standard to a prescriptive standard when moving bulk citrus and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements that may be associated with going from a performance standard to a prescriptive standard. Victoria went over CEQA requirements with the Committee. Currently, CDFA operates on a performance standard which means that bulk citrus movement is based on the grower certifying that they are moving a product that is free from ACP. The growers have many options of disinfecting citrus from ACP before the fruit is shipped. When operating on a prescriptive standard disinfecting a certain way is mandatory and requires CDFA to do an analysis under CEQA. The recommendation from the last Committee meeting was to require a wet wash to move between regions and this recommendation requires analysis which may take up to three months to get a contact in place and conduct the analysis. Another concern is that there may not be a capacity with wet wash in all areas.

The Executive Committee came up with some recommendations for mitigating the movement of ACP between regions which include the following:

- Maintain current response to ACP finds (5-mile radius response). The current quarantine in Kern is associated with the southern most commercial and does not connect to the Los Angeles or Ventura quarantine areas with additional enforcement resources. CDFA could provide additional oversight on movement on fruit from Southern California into the Central Valley. This would address the issue of controlling the movement of bulk citrus into Ventura.
- Require the wet wash for movement between regions (Prescriptive Standard) as presented at the November 18, 2015 CPDPC meeting with the understanding that the wet wash process would need to be evaluated for environmental issues per state guidelines. Additionally, this might require additional infrastructure for the wet wash process.
- Maintain the performance standard that currently exists for movement between the regions.
- Amend the current Performance Standard to add wet wash to the list of approved options.

- Amend the current Performance Standard to add wet wash and remove the pre-harvest spray so the only options would be field clean or wet wash.

There was discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of wet wash and moving to a prescriptive standard. The main concern was that there was not capacity for the wet wash in some areas. There was a comment made that if the Committee moves away from the spray and move option, there would be nothing that requires treatment. It was asked how grower participation in area wide treatment areas can be mandated in the performance standard. Victoria stated that if area wide treatment was mandatory, all pesticides that growers may use would have to be analyzed under CEQA. Stephen Brown added that mandating treatment would create a complication under the PEIR. Nick Hill suggested the area wide discussion be an agenda item at the next Committee meeting so that the Committee can come up with a plan moving forward.

Motion: To require wet wash to move fruit in between regions.

The motion was moved by Richard Bennett passed with 10 yays; Richard Bennett, Franco Bernardi, Bob Felts, Jr., Link Leavens, Jim Gorden, Gus Gunderson, George McEwen, James McFarlane, Kevin Olsen, and Brian Specht and two nays, John Gless and Nick Hill.

There was a question asked about how long it will take to go through the CEQA process. Victoria stated that CDFA will need a contactor to do the environmental assessment. There is currently a contract being put in place in place and this may potentially be something that the current contactor can look into. Otherwise, CDFA will have to go out to bid to get a contractor to do the analysis. The process should take approximately 3 months because the contractor will need to look at the packing house and a field cleaning/field wash set up.

Victoria presented the revised maps to the Committee and went over the changes that were made. Map option one includes more area with the Central Valley and separates out much unregulated area of Northern California. Map option two keeps the central valley smaller, creates an east bay area region and separates out more unregulated area. If a find occurred in an unregulated area the county of occurrence would be added to the quarantine. The second version was preferred by the Executive Committee and by CDFA. There may be an option to approach this as an emergency route to enact the changes.

Motion: To use map option number 2 for the regional quarantine.

First: Richard Bennett

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

i. Proposal Development

Kevin Olsen presented some citrus nursery talking points related to the regional quarantine proposal to the Committee. A few nurseries have discussed having each region have a level of risk from high to low. The talking points include:

- Not require all stock from production nurseries to originate from enclosed facilities statewide, instead, each region would be categorized as to its ACP exposure/risk. Those

regions with ACP infestation would need to follow protocols established with the use of enclosed facilities and movement therefrom as if in a quarantine zone. Those regions with no ACP activity would operate as per current regulation in a non-quarantine zone.

Regions would transition to an ACP infested region upon detection of sufficient ACP.

- Movement of nurse stock within the same region, if designated an ACP infestation region, would be subject to requirements such as originating within a screened facility. Other details of this scenario would need to be worked out.
- Nurse stock at retailers would follow protocols as outlined by Aaron Dillon. Retailer requirements would be configured depending upon whether they were in an ACP infested region or not. If in an infested region, compliance would be voluntary but if HLB is found, those retailers not in compliance would have stock destroyed. There are remaining details to be worked out.
- Questions posed by nurseries include whether regional quarantines will change trapping and detection efforts since these are critical for several reasons including but not limited to what nursery procedures are required in a particular region especially if a specific region is not currently ACP infested.
- A definite protocol will need to be established for transitioning from a region with no ACP infestation to a region with ACP infestation for production and retail nurse sites in a particular region. Suggest an outreach program conduct a strong effort to advise all production nurseries and all retailers of regional quarantine program so that they are not caught unaware and are fully informed.

Some people may have the opinion that enforcement at the retailer may entail the CPDPC to fund the enforcement efforts however this process is self-enforcing. If the retailer has stock that has expired or has not treated on time and HLB was found, the retailer would immediately be inspected and if not in compliance their stock would be destroyed and their compliance agreement would not be renewed. Kevin stated that there is more work to do with this information and the language used. Chairman Hill suggested having CDFA staff vet this information through the executive office and legal staff as well as have the nursery industry involved for some edits and recommendations and to fine tune the protocol for nurse stock so that at the next CPDPC meeting the Committee can get this process streamlined.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. HLB Survey Updates

Hacienda Heights

There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in Hacienda Heights. In October there were 97 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 2,359 ACP collected. In November there were 97 traps with ACP samples and an estimated total of 4,237 ACP collected. In December there were 85 traps with ACP samples and a total estimated amount of 635 collected. Tempo treatment begins on January 19, 2016. Survey cycle 6 began on November 9, 2015 and was completed on December 29, 2015. There were 603 sites visited with 540 ACP samples collected, 311 plant samples collected and 36 sites negative for ACP. Survey cycle 1 began on January 12, 2016 and there is nothing to report yet for the new cycle.

San Gabriel

There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in San Gabriel. In October there were 86 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 1,179 ACP collected. In November there were 93 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 4,091 ACP collected. In December there were 89 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 900 ACP collected. Tempo treatment began on January 11, 2016.

There are 3, 4 moth cycles being completed per year in San Gabriel one from January to April, one from May to August and one from September to December. Cycle 1 began on January 7, 2016 and there have been 159 sites visited with 41 ACP samples collected, 157 plant samples collected and 1 site negative for ACP thus far.

Risk Survey

Cycle 0 and 1 is complete in all counties. Cycle 2 is complete in Amador, Calaveras, Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Orange, San Joaquin, Santa Barbara, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Tulare and Ventura Counties. Staff hopes to have cycle 2 complete by the end of January and staff from other areas are assisting with Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

b. Treatment Updates

Tina gave an update in regards to treatment in Southern California. For fall treatment in Ventura there are a total of 36 psyllid management areas (PMA) and treatment is 100 percent complete. There are 49 PMA zones in Ventura for winter treatment which is pending a public meeting. A public meeting is pending in Santa Barbara and treatment begins on January 25, 2016. In Los Angeles, treatment begins on January 19, 2016 in Hacienda Heights and on January 11, 2016 in San Gabriel. In Riverside, Coachella is pending determination on 75 percent participation and Hemet is pending environmental consultation. In San Diego, Pauma and San Pasqual is also pending determination on the 75 percent participation rate. Along the border, Tecate is pending environmental consultation. Treatment will start in Imperial County in mid-February and Calexico is pending environmental consultation.

Central Valley Update

Treatment in Ivanhoe is complete. There was an ACP find in Stockton and the 100 meter survey was implemented there. Treatment in Stockton will begin on January 21, 2016. There were 3 finds in San Luis Obispo. Survey and treatment in San Luis Obispo is complete and there have been no finds since. There was also a find in Oakdale in Stanislaus County and there were only 9 properties within the 100 meter survey that had citrus trees which have been treated and traps are now in place with no additional finds. There was a find in Madera County in an abandoned orchard with no citrus within the 800 meter treatment boundary with approximately 54 traps out in the 9 square miles of the find. There was a find in Fresno with visual survey completed and traps deployed with a public meeting pending.

Bakersfield Update

Since September 2015, ACP has been detected at about 100 sites in Kern County. The majority of the detections were in Bakersfield. For each site, there are 100 traps in the core and 50 traps in the first buffer. There are approximately 4,500 delimitation traps in Kern County and 3,500 in Bakersfield alone. Traps have been serviced either daily or every other day and there are 15 trappers working in the area. For each site CDFA staff survey 800 meters. Since December, staff

has surveyed 20,136 sites and there have been 8,826 properties treated. Currently there are approximately 6,000 traps deployed.

In Southern California commercial trapping and ACP collection for 2015, there have been 6,524 collection sites and 54,387 ACP adults collected and 15,553 nymphs. 7,493 sites have come back negative for HLB.

Art Gilbert also presented the revised version of the Northern California Protocol. Currently CDFA has been servicing core traps daily and buffer traps every other day which is very time consuming and requires a lot of man power. Art proposed to reduce trap servicing and switch to weekly servicing for the next two months. CDFA is currently doing visual survey for 200 meters in areas where more than one psyllid is found within 1.5 miles of citrus trapping. Art would like the visual survey to match treatment CDFA has requested from growers (400 meters).

Motion: To accept the revised Northern California Protocol which includes reducing trap servicing from daily to weekly in all areas for 2 months and then monthly and increasing visual survey areas to match the treatment areas.

First: Richard Bennett

Second: James McFarlane

Motion Passes: All in favor

c. Biocontrol Program Update

Mike Pitcairn gave an update on the Biocontrol Program. In 2015 1,786,357 *Tamarixia* and 125,223 *Diaphorencyrtus* have been released. In addition to the releases, program staff has been monitoring to see how well the wasps are establishing. Staff has also teamed up with the County Agricultural Commissioner in Imperial County and released some wasps there. CRB, USDA and UCR have been sending the biocontrol agents to Arizona for release. There are 29 sites that are monitored once a month and in all environments (desert, coast and inland) the parasitoid rate is 60 percent on average and up to 80 percent toward the end of the year. The biocontrol release protocol states that agents are released when there are treatment refusals in buffer treatment areas and the Committee does not want this to send the message that biocontrol is an excuse to opt out of treatment. The biocontrol task force meeting is being held on January 28 – 29, 2016 and more information should come from that meeting.

d. Lab Update

Luci Kumagai gave an update on the CDFA lab in Sacramento. Ongoing surveys of high risk and HLB quarantined areas have resulted in unprecedented volumes of both ACP and plant samples the year, up 173 percent in ACP and 97 percent in plant samples compared to last year's total. Since 2008, CDFA has sampled 95,136 plant samples and 109,804 ACP samples. Through December 2015, CDFA has sampled 26,897 plant samples and 80,105 ACP samples. The second follow up visit to sites that gave inconclusive or high Fam Ct values (<39) in 2013 and 2014 and 2015 is underway. Plant tissue and ACP will be retested from these follow up sites.

SCIENCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Bob Atkins gave an update on the second EDT study during his Regional ACP Management report. Etienne Rabe was not in attendance to give any updates.

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Victoria reported that outreach updates from NST are in the Committee binders for review.

REPORT FROM CHRP COUNCIL

Alyssa Houtby with CCM gave an update on behalf of Joel Nelsen. The CHRP budget has been increased to \$48 million for the upcoming year which will be split between Florida, Texas and California. The MAC budget was increased this fiscal year to approximately \$7 million however the funds will not be allocated until the industry reexamines their priorities and project potentials. An HLB research session will be held in Riverside in February and the MAC effort will be reviewed. The USDA/APHIS budget was cut which has impacted their ability to monitor trade, both imports and exports. CCM has been working with Wonderful Citrus to solicit funding from the industry for a containment facility at UCR. CCM has received language back from legislative council and the bill should be introduced in the next few weeks. There is an urgency clause in the bill which will go into effect immediately after signed. In addition to the assessment increase, language was also included that would request \$5 million in general funds. The goal is to work through the budget process and not through legislation but the language is included in the legislation for talking point purposes. The Citrus Showcase is being held on March 3, 2016.

CRB REPORT

Gary Schulz, CRB president gave a few updates. CCM and CRB cosponsored the HLB EDT conference and there were approximately 250 people in attendance. CRB will hold its next board meeting in Riverside on January 28, 2016. CRB lab is undergoing a reassessment with CDFA and USDA to regain accreditation.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held in San Bernardino, California on March 9, 2016 at 10:00am.