

# CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 9, 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 March 9, 2016 in San Bernardino, California by Committee Chairman Nick Hill.

## **CPDPC Members Present:**

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

## **CPDPC Members Absent:**

Franco Bernardi	Scott Mabs	Kevin Olsen
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## **CDFR Staff:**

Stephen Brown	Jason Leathers*	Aliza Santos
Jason Chan	Magally Luque-Williams	Debby Tanouye
Tina Galindo	Paul Martinez	Scosha Wright
Adrian Gonzales	David Morgan	Bob Wynn
Victoria Hornbaker	Colleen Murphy	
Evonne Kluska	Mike Pitcairn	
Luci Kumagai*	Grace Radabaugh	

## **Guests:**

Bob Atkins	John Kabashima*	Brian Taylor*
Jill Barnier*	Brett Kirkpatrick	Richard Tiffer*
John Blasius	John Konda	Georgios Vidalakis
Chris Boisseranc	Leslie Leavens*	Alan Washburn
Scott Cornett*	Tom Lyles*	Keith Watkins
Aaron Dillon	Valerie Mellano	Kim Wilenius*
Dan Dreyer	Joseph Morse	Roberta Willhite*
Rick Dunn*	Bill Oesterlein*	Jack Williams
Enrico Ferro	Curtis Pate*	Priscilla Yeane*
Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Gary Schulz	Judy Zaninovich*
Matt Gray*	Martin Settevendemie*	Bob Zuckerman*
Subhas Hajeri*	James Sherwood	Sandra Zwaal*
Nancy Holland*	Cressida Silvers*	
Alyssa Houtby	Chris Stambach	

\* 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 January 13, 2016.

**Motion:** Approval of the minutes from the January 13, 2016 Committee meeting as presented.

First: Gus Gunderson

Second: Bob Felts, Jr.

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 \$14,396,416 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$119,584. The assessment budget for fiscal year 2014/2015 is \$17,069,857. Through January 2016 there has been \$14,702,461 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$2,367,395. There has been \$3,982,690 spent for urban treatment and \$3,076,811 has been spent for central valley treatment and survey. These two sub-budgets have the highest expenditures to date. Central Valley treatment and San Luis Obispo treatment is over budget due to the multiple ACP finds in those areas however these overages have been covered by the sub-budgets that were underspent. The CHRP budget amount is \$10,884,701. So far, \$9,864,051 has been spent which has exceed the budget by \$239,192. 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.

**b. Variance Analysis Review**

Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is -13.87 percent. There have been 86.13 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2014/2015 so far.

**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 44 percent has been spent as of January 31, 2016 leaving the remaining balance at \$8,716,885. 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. The Finance Subcommittee believes that 50 percent of the budget will be spent by May of 2016.

James reviewed the 2015/2016 budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. To date \$5,787,043 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$21,041,658. The assessment budget for fiscal year 2015/2016 is \$18,440,999. Through January 31, 2016 there has been \$3,823,264 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$14,617,735. The urban treatment sub-budget was increased by \$432,000 bringing the remaining budget balance to \$1,007,425. The central valley survey and treatment sub-budget was increased as well, by \$65,000, bringing the remaining budget balance to \$1,588,846. 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 San Mateo survey and treatment in the amount of \$116,918 with a remaining balance of \$50,098. There was a comment made regarding increasing ACP finds throughout the state which were not expected therefore were not included in the budget. Victoria will present a projection based on the revised ACP finds at the next Finance Subcommittee meeting and the next CPDPC meeting for further discussion. The CHRP budget amount is \$10,884,701 with \$1,502,458 expended so far leaving a remaining balance available of \$9,342,243.

#### **d. Variance Analysis Review**

Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is -7.95 percent. There have been 20.73 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2015/2016 so far.

#### **e. Alternate Funding Methods**

James gave an update on some alternate methods of funding if carton assessments should not meet the necessary revenue needed for the Committee. The possibility of nursery assessments of new tree sales has been discussed and the challenge with this is that not all new nursery trees are sold at retail; some are put back into production or sold to wholesale nurseries. The other form of revenue discussed was a “per acre” charge. The issue with assessing a fee per acre is the low amount of accuracy in determining how many acres a citrus grower owns and how many acres are in each county. It was mentioned to look into possibly accessing acreage data through the counties themselves.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION**

#### **a. Review Committee Attendance**

Chairman Nick Hill presented a spreadsheet of Committee member attendance and urged members who do not have time to participate in the meetings to step down from the board so that their position can be filled with a member who is willing to participate.

#### **b. 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. Grower participation has been over 75 percent. Imperial County participation has been well over 90 percent. The San Bernardino County Agricultural Commissioner had good response to letters they sent to the owners of apparently abandoned groves. A large block of county owned property in San Bernardino was. Redland city ordinance requires that citrus be planted on new residential developments. The County and the San Bernardino grower liaison have been working with the Home Owner Associations in these areas

to make sure they are managing the citrus for ACP. San Diego County is now preparing letters to be sent out for neglected and abandoned orchards.

### **c. Review Areawide Psyllid Management**

Imperial, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and Santa Barbara are actively engaged in areawide management. Victoria presented a justification for treating large areas around an ACP find in an area with a history of ACP detections for the Committee to review. Although grower participation has been good there have been a large amount of refusals in Santa Barbra from residential properties. Once areawide treatment is complete on CDFA's behalf, CDFA's primary state entomologist will review the number of refusal properties to determine whether or not industry is getting a benefit from the cost that the Committee and CDFA has spent on completing treatments. This will be further discussed in a few months for redetermination for the buffer treatments in Santa Barbara.

### **d. Transition to Regional Quarantine**

The Committee had recommended a regional quarantine concept to the Secretary at the January 13, 2016 meeting and the proposal included a map that breaks the state into regions and a requirement to mitigate ACP movement between regions. The Secretary has approved the concept however there is additional work that must be completed prior to implementation. Bob Wynn thanked the Committee members on behalf of the Secretary for the dedication, time and effort they have put into this program. A meeting was held on February 9, 2016 to discuss nursery stock movement under a regional quarantine system and Victoria gave an extensive overview of what was discussed at that meeting. The nursery representatives felt that fruit movement and nursery stock movement should be decoupled and analyzed independently with a focus on the risk of moving ACP/HLB from one region to another. It was decided that production nurseries are a lower risk than retail nurseries due to the existing mitigations. It was agreed that outdoor grown nursery stock carries a level of risk, noting that if HLB is found within 5 miles of outdoor grown nursery stock then it is subject to hold and voluntary destruction. There was discussion regarding New Option 2 statewide quarantine map and movement to and from the regions. Victoria presented the HLB Risk maps of the Central and Costal areas and the southern area that includes Dr. Bartel's cluster data and Dr. Gottwald's risk data. Victoria recommended simplifying the protocol that includes a caveat stating movement can be facilitated with permits that allows more flexibility. Chairman Hill suggested that the Committee members revise this protocol and it will revisit at the next meeting.

Victoria reviewed the bulk citrus regional quarantine concept and the mitigations for the movement of bulk citrus between regions. Stephen Brown stated that when this program started, the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) did not exist and everything was based upon emergency. The Committee now has to follow the PEIR guidelines when making changes to the program and that is where California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) comes in where it was not applicable before. Joe Morse stated that it is critical that the strains of *CLAs* are not mixed with one another because that potentially means evolution toward a more variant stain that does better attacking citrus and can overcome host plant resistance. The SAP recommended that wet washing was the appropriate course of action to reduce the movement of ACP as much as possible and it should be implemented. All ACP activities are covered by the PEIR however an HLB find is considered an emergency.

Based on discussion involving growers, nurseries and county staff, Victoria asked if the Committee would like to entertain amending the map to remove Santa Cruz and Monterey since there have been no ACP finds in those counties and to align San Luis Obispo with the Central Valley, but the Committee did not support her recommendation.

**Motion:** To move forward with the nursery proposal and map for mitigating ACP movement between regional quarantine areas if the department moves forward with regulatory changes.

First: Brian Specht

Second: James McFarlane

Motion Passes: All in favor

There was discussion regarding the current protocol and what would suffice for moving bulk citrus between regional quarantine areas. There was also discussion regarding mandated treatments. Victoria stated that the treatments in Imperial and Ventura are not mandated by the state of California. Those treatments are mandated though the task force and pest control districts. It was asked how grower participation in areawide treatment areas can be mandated in the performance standard. Victoria stated that if areawide 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. Areawide management is working in some areas but there are other areas in southern California where not even 75 percent of acreage is being treated due to lack of participation. Bob Wynn added that CDFA does not have the type of authority to mandate the program.

**Motion:** That a wet wash would include a dunk tank or brushes with water being sprayed across the fruit. This process will be used to mitigate ACP movement between regional quarantine areas if the department moves forward with regulatory changes.

The motion was moved by Richard Bennett passed with 11 yays; Craig Armstrong, Richard Bennett, Bob Felts, Jr., John Gless, Jim Gorden, Gus Gunderson, Link Leavens, Mark McBroom, George McEwen, James McFarlane and Brian Specht and three nays, Nick Hill, Dr. Etienne Rabe and Kevin Severns.

## **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION**

### **a. HLB Survey Updates**

#### Hacienda Heights

There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in Hacienda Heights. In December there were 85 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 635 ACP collected. In January there were 65 traps with ACP samples and an estimated total of 215 ACP collected. In February there were 58 traps with ACP samples and a total estimated amount of 258 collected. Tempo treatment began on January 19, 2016 and ended on February 10, 2016. Survey cycle 1 began on January 12, 2016 and was completed on February 22, 2016. There were 508 sites visited with 429 ACP samples collected, 232 plant samples collected and 39 sites negative for ACP. Survey cycle 2 is pending and should begin in early March.

#### San Gabriel

There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in San Gabriel. In December there were 89 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 900 ACP collected. In January there were 79 traps

with ACP samples and an estimated 550 ACP collected. In February there were 69 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 177 ACP collected. Tempo treatment began on January 11, 2016 and was completed on January 29, 2016. There are three, four month 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 784 sites visited with 387 ACP samples collected, 614 plant samples collected and 13 sites negative for ACP thus far. The 800 meter core survey has expanded and 100 percent of the host plant material is being sampled. So far 2,262 properties have been surveyed, 985 plant samples have been collected, 355 ACP samples have been collected and 557 properties have had no hosts. The HLB positive kumquat tree was removed on February 12, 2016.

### La Puente

The 800 meter visual survey in La Puente is 100 percent complete and 100 percent of host material has been sampled. A total of 1,837 properties were surveyed with a total of 1,072 plant samples tested, 1,030 ACP sampled tested and 642 properties with no hosts. There were 126 no contact properties for survey. The treatments are due to begin on March 14, 2016.

### Risk Survey

Cycle 2 is complete in all 21 counties and there were a total of 68,134 sites surveyed. Dr. Gottwald is currently developing the new survey cycle for 2016. Magally presented a map of the risk survey re-district. The map is broken down by 10 districts and includes the number of surveyors per district and the average sites per day that are surveyed.

## **b. Treatment Updates**

### Southern California

Tina gave an update in regards to treatment in Southern California. For winter treatment in Ventura there are a total of 49 psyllid management areas (PMA) and treatment is 30 percent complete. For winter treatment in Santa Barbara there are a total of 13 PMA zones and treatment is 80 percent complete however there are approximately 750 refusals. San Bernardino is undergoing its first coordinated areawide treatment with 29 PMA zones and treatments will begin there April 15, 2016 through May 27, 2016. In Los Angeles, treatment begins on March 14, 2016 in La Puente and on March 8, 2016 in San Gabriel for the expansion. In Riverside, Coachella treatment began on February 8, 2016 and is 95 percent complete. Hemet treatment began on February 8, 2016 as well and is 70 percent complete. The UCR areawide treatment began on February 29, 2016 and is 10 percent complete. In San Diego, Pauma is pending determination on the 75 percent participation rate however San Pasqual is 100 percent complete. Along the border, Tecate is pending environmental consultation. Imperial County winter treatment is 100 percent complete and along the border, Calexico is pending environmental consultation.

### Central Valley Update

Art Gilbert gave several updates pertaining to new ACP finds in the Central Valley. In February there were four new ACP detections in Bakersfield and treatment will start in all four of those areas on March 10, 2016. There were two new finds in Wasco and treatment will begin there when treatment is completed in Bakersfield. There was a new find in Porterville and treatment will begin there after a public meeting is held. There was another find in Strathmore in February and treatment is complete there.

### Santa Clara County Update

Evonne Kluska gave an update on ACP finds in Santa Clara County. The first ACP find in Santa Clara was in San Jose in fall of 2014. The second find was in San Jose as well in winter of 2014. There were a few additional finds north of the initial finds in summer of 2015. In February of 2016 there were more finds in San Jose found in the delimitation traps. A 100 meter visual survey and 100 meter treatments are being conducted around each find and treatment should be complete by March 14, 2016.

### Southern California Commercial Grove Trapping/Collection

As of March 3, 2016 there have been 7,708 collection sites with 66,100 adult ACP collected and 15,568 nymphs collected. 9,444 sites have tested negative for HLB.

### **c. Biocontrol Program Update**

Grace Radabaugh is in charge of the biocontrol rearing operations at for CDFA and gave an update on mass production for Tamarixia and Diaphorencyrtus. In 2015 over 2 million parasitoids were released. In 2016 alone, 143,740 wasps have been released thus far. Grace went over some new and improved methods for 2016 which include plant selection, cycle length, passive collection, Tamarixia quality, collection methods, and so on. The program thanked Grace and her team for their efforts and hard work.

Valerie Mellano with Cal Poly Pomona gave a brief update on the greenhouse production. The greenhouse has been designed and delivered to the facility and meets all of the seismic requirements for a commercial greenhouse in California however the Cal Poly facilities program has required 48 additional changes. All of these changes besides one have been completed. The Dean of Cal Poly had a meeting with the Vice President of Facilities and stated that he will move ahead with action. At this time, there is no exact date that the greenhouse will be up and running.

The Biocontrol task force is working on an amended biocontrol release strategy and should be completed by April for a report to be given at the Operations Subcommittee next month.

### **d. Lab Update**

Luci Kumagai gave an update on the CDFA lab in Sacramento. There was one additional HLB positive tree found in the San Gabriel HLB quarantine zone. The infected tree has been removed. There have been 5,291 plant samples tested and 8,388 ACP samples tested in January. In February there were 8,778 plant samples tested and 11,184 ACP samples tested. Most of these samples are from La Puente and San Gabriel areas. The lab has many interviews set up in hopes to find new staff for the large workload of samples coming in. The lab also needs more equipment due to more staff being hired. The lab is also looking to open another lab unit because the CDFA lab is running out of space.

CDFA has reached out to other labs in the western region that are NPPLAP accredited to see if another lab can take on some of CDFA's sample overflow. The University of Arizona is graciously willing to test CDFA samples and there is a grant proposal in place in which CDFA can send them 3,000 ACP samples every six weeks. The cost per sample is approximately 17 dollars which is around the same cost of CDFA lab samples. The total cost for this grant would be \$455,674. The grant is for one year however if CDFA is not satisfied with the results, they

can terminate the grant. CDFA will follow up with high Ct or inconclusive samples from the University of Arizona as they would with ACP samples from the CDFA lab. When the CRB lab is recertified, CDFA can terminate the grant with Arizona and send samples to CRB again.

**Motion:** To grant the University of Arizona's National Plant Protection Laboratory Accreditation Program accredited laboratory \$455,674.08 for conducting *Liberibacter asiaticus* detection in ACP samples.

First: Etienne Rabe

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

## | SCIENCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Bob Atkins gave an update on the second early detection technology (EDT) study. All samples have been taken and are currently in the hands of the researchers. The results should be complete the first week of April. The statistical analysis should be complete by the beginning of May. Samples were taken of "unknowns" and testing was done before the samples were taken to see what the results were and if the EDT's came up with the same results as the PCR tests.

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.

## | OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Katie with NST gave several updates. Katie reported that the CPDPC had a booth at the World Ag Expo and the Citrus Showcase and those were both well attended events. NST was also present at several different landscaping and nursery events. Elected official outreach has been focused on Los Angeles and Santa Barbara counties. There was a press release sent out reminding residents to remove leaves and stems and obey the quarantines when harvesting their backyard fruit which led to significant media placements including the Los Angeles News Group and a full page in the Home and Garden section which was dedicated to HLB awareness. Bakersfield and San Diego issued articles in some newspapers there as well. Advertising is continuing in the Central Valley and coastal areas and advertising is now being done on social media in addition to the newspapers and radio advertisements. A new homeowner website is in the works and NST is hoping to debut the site to the Outreach Committee in April for a preview. There was discussion about targeted outreach in Santa Barbara due to the significant amount of refusals there. Victoria stated that the people refusing are very adamant against any type of pesticides on their properties. It was asked what the Committee can do with the \$150,000 of emergency outreach funds. A resource to up to \$250,000 in emergency funds was built into the existing contract with NST incase an emergency were to arise. NST and CCM have put together a scope of work for the emergency funding as well.



**Motion:** To amend the existing Outreach contract with Nuffer, Smith, Tucker to add \$150,000 in emergency funds to increase outreach activities due to the HLB finds in San Gabriel.

First: Jim Gorden

Second: James McFarlane

Motion Passes: All in favor

## | **REPORT FROM CHRP COUNCIL**

Joel Nelsen reported that the CHRP budget has been increased to \$48 million for the upcoming year which will be split between Florida, Texas and California. \$2 million dollars will be added to the programs budget. Citrus producing states are working on increasing the \$48 million to \$64 million. CDFA is looking to allocate the \$2 million toward additional trapping activities in the state.

## | **CRB REPORT**

Gary Schulz, CRB president gave a few updates. CRB lab is undergoing a reassessment with CDFA and USDA to regain accreditation. The post-harvest conference will be held in Oxnard in April 12 - 13, 2016. The California Citrus Conference is being held on October 19, 2016 at the Exeter Memorial Building.

**Motion:** That the Committee hold a strategic planning meeting within 45-days to discuss industry goals.

First: Craig Armstrong

Second: Mark McBroom

Motion Passes: All in favor

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held in Ventura, California on May 11, 2016 at 10:00am.