

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM  
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 8, 2016

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on June 8, 2016 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

**Committee Members Present:**

Richard Bennett	Jim Gorden	Scott Mabs
John Gless*	Link Leavens*	Kevin Olsen

**Committee Members Absent:**

Kevin Severns

**CRB Staff:**

Rick Dunn	Cynthia LeVesque*	Brian Taylor*
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**Interested Parties:**

Bob Atkins	Victoria Hornbaker	Cressida Silvers*
Dan Dreyer*	Leslie Leavens*	Dan Willey*
Enrico Ferro*	Mark McBroom*	Helene Wright
Tina Galindo*	Neil McRoberts	Bob Wynn*
Art Gilbert	Colleen Murphy-Vierra*	Judy Zaninovich
Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Curtis Pate*	Sandra Zwaal*
Linda Haque*	Sylvie Robillard	

**\* Participated via telephone/WebEx**

**Opening Comments**

Subcommittee Chairman Jim Gorden welcomed staff and the members of the public participating in person and online. There was a quorum for the meeting.

Jim stated that he would like to extend the meeting time for the Operations Subcommittee from 10:00 - 12:30 to 9:00 - 12:30 and he would like the Subcommittee to meet monthly. He is concerned that meeting every other month does not provide ample time for the Subcommittee to adequately consider issues at hand or to formulate plans.

Bob Atkins noted that it might be more beneficial to have staff present a trend analysis rather than the monthly numbers; he felt that this might shorten the presentations and allow more time for discussion.

Jim stated that the Subcommittee should evaluate what each report should look like. He also noted that the information should alternate each month, the months with a CPDPC meeting will not include the operations updates, but will focus on issue discussion and formulating responses.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Jim Gorden reviewed the minutes from the Operations Subcommittee meeting that took place on April 13, 2016.

**Motion:** To accept the April 13, 2016 Operations Subcommittee minutes with one minor correction.

First: Richard Bennett

Second: Kevin Olsen

Motion Passes: All in favor

### **Regional ACP Update**

It was noted that Sandra Zwaal from Ventura and John Blasius from San Bernardino are out of hours and will not be working until July 1, 2016 when their second year begins. Bob explained the large amount of time that they had to spend to gather grove ownership data and that this should not be the same this year

Bob met with the CAC's in Mammoth and discussed neglected and abandoned groves. There was clarification that this means a grove not being cared for, not just refusing to participate in the areawide treatments. He noted that the CAC's are doing a good job getting things prepared in the event that they may need to use their abatement authority. Bob wants the Grower Liaisons and the County staff to work together to determine if a grove is neglected or abandoned. Bob and Victoria are asking the Grower Liaisons to pass locations of suspected neglected and abandoned groves to them as well as the CAC for monitoring and follow up. Bob discussed the process that the County may use in seeking to abate a property.

### **Hacienda Heights and San Gabriel Risk-Based Survey**

#### **Hacienda Heights**

There have been 100 traps serviced in February, March and April. There were 58 traps with ACP in February, 97 traps with ACP in March and 96 traps with ACP in April. In February there were 258 ACP collected in February, over 12,450 ACP collected were collected in March and over 11,050 ACP were collected in April. CDFA staff finished cycle 2 of the HLB cluster survey in Hacienda Heights, visiting 599 sites, and collecting plant samples from 185 sites and ACP from 563 sites. There were 3 sites negative for ACP and plant samples. In May, staff started cycle 3, visiting 412 sites with 118 sites with plant samples and 397 sites with ACP samples. Cycle 3 is ongoing.

#### **San Gabriel**

There have been 100 traps were serviced in February, March and April. There were 69 traps with ACP in February, 98 traps with ACP in March and 98 traps with ACP in April. In February there were an estimated 177 ACP collected in March there were over 4,200 collected ACP collected and over 11,851 in April. CDFA staff continues with cycle 1 and 2 in San Gabriel, having visited

5,657 sites in cycle 1 and 1,605 sites in the cycle 2 area. There have been 1,921 sites with plant samples in cycle 1 and 590 sites with plant sampled in cycle 2. The program has collected 5,070 ACP samples in Cycle 1 and 1,536 ACP samples in cycle 1. There have been 11 confirmed HLB positive trees in San Gabriel in 2016, all have been removed. In the San Gabriel core area, the program has surveyed 4,102 properties and taken 2,728 plant samples and 619 ACP samples. There are 1,425 no hot properties in the survey area.

### **Southern California Treatments**

Tina Galindo gave an update on the southern California urban treatments. In Ventura County, the areawide winter treatment (Tempo only) began February 1, 2016 and is 80 percent complete. The San Bernardino areawide is began on April 21, 2016 and is 30 percent complete. The treatments along the border with San Diego County and Mexico are pending completion of the environmental consultation. The treatments along the border with Imperial County and Mexico are due to begin mid-June.

### **Sacramento Laboratory Activities**

Victoria reported that eleven trees in the San Gabriel HLB quarantined zone tested positive for HLB this year. All the infected trees have been removed. During the month of May, the lab received a total of 6,490 ACP and 2,667 plant samples, for a grand total of 9,157 samples. The 2016 total samples through May are 22,303 plant and 31,754 ACP samples. Yearly HLB sample totals from 2008 to 2016 show a cumulative total of **337,177** samples over the course of nine years (2008-2016) in which 35% of the total are plant and 65% are ACP.

### **CRB Laboratory Updates**

Cynthia LeVesque reported on the plans to seek recertification for the CRB lab and to increase throughput. They are seeking proposals to do some construction to install benches and hoods, to add a wall in a room to provide separation of processes and to add a door between two rooms to allow for better work flow. Several of the rooms will be used for lab and office space, including the current trap reader room and the biocontrol offices, so those programs will need to move out of the lab. There will also be some increased staffing and equipment needs.

She also reported that the CRB lab is testing samples from the UC Davis containment facility and working on developing high throughput for small RNA (an early detection technology). She noted that the digital drop PCR equipment was transferred to Dr. Yokomi's lab at Parlier.

### **Biocontrol Update**

In 2016, the program released 340,952 *Tamarixia* and 78,793 *Diaphorocyrtus* in residential areas of southern California. Production is trending to be higher than last year and once the Cal Poly greenhouse is completed the production will increase, which is hopefully by mid-July. The program is currently only conducting releases in residential areas where treatments are not currently being done. The program received a MAC grant to conduct renovations at the Arvin facility.

### **Biocontrol Release Strategy**

Biocontrol taskforce will meet next week. Jim felt that the taskforce will work on a strategy for 2017, not revisions to the 2016 plan. An outcome of the process there was a lot of movement toward opening up the field for commercialization of biocontrol.

Victoria agreed and stated that once the technology transfer is complete, insectaries can look into applying for permits to conduct biocontrol. It was noted that private insectaries would not be subsidized but CDFA or USDA.

Victoria noted that the program will partner with Dr. Mark Hoddle to conduct some experimental biocontrol releases in Kern County. This will include releases in areas not actively treating and monitoring will be conducted at the release locations.

### **Texas II EDT Study**

The results are in and several of the EDT's did really well. Neil McRoberts did an analysis and will do some additional work to include the unknowns in the analysis. There are several ideas to move ahead with and will be reviewed at the EDT taskforce next week.

### **Proposal to Convert Grove Traps to Collection Sites**

Art Gilbert made a revised proposal to convert the grove trap sites in Imperial and Riverside counties to collection sites. Right now there are 858 traps in groves (Riverside and Imperial) 255 areawide trap sites and 7981 ACP collections sites throughout commercial groves in Southern California. Art presented 2 options; option 1 would reduce the grove traps to 238 (In Ventura), maintain 255 areawide traps and increase the collections sites to 11,000 serviced 2 times per year. Option 2 would reduce the grove traps to 238 (In Ventura), maintain 1177 areawide traps (monitoring pre and post application would require hiring at least one permanent staff) decreasing the ACP collections sites to 5,500-6,000 serviced 2 times per year.

Jim wanted to see if there was a way to determine if there were a number of traps that need to be placed. Beth noted that the data needs to be evaluated to see if the appropriate number of traps is being used to collect data that can help inform the Grower Liaisons.

Jim wants to have a group to review this and then present this in depth on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Data Management**

Rick continues to assist the with Statewide Citrus Layer maintenance and maintaining public access ACP detection / PMA / Biocontrol activity web map. The CRB Data Department Director is supporting Psyllid Management Area group activities and regional ACP / HLB Task Force groups in various counties with mapping support services. He is also managing the confidential ArcGIS Online interactive web apps have been brought online for Grower Liaisons and CDFA staff use. Rick continues to work on the PMA Triage Concept was presented to the CPDPC full committee in May 2016. They requested Dr. Neil McRoberts and GIS staff produce a single county prototype for further review and possible supplementary funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on July 6, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in Visalia, California.