

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on July 6, 2016 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

Richard Bennett	Link Leavens*	Kevin Olsen
Jim Gorden		

Committee Members Absent:

John Gless	Scott Mabs	Kevin Severns
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CRB Staff:

Rick Dunn

Interested Parties:

Bob Atkins	Victoria Hornbaker	Sylvie Robillard
Scott Bucy*	Melinda Klein*	Cressida Silvers*
Erin Betts	Magally Luque-Williams*	Carla Thomas*
Dan Dreyer	Neil McRoberts	Bob Wynn*
Enrico Ferro*	Colleen Murphy-Vierra*	Judy Zaninovich*
Art Gilbert	Curtis Pate*	Sandra Zwaal*

*** Participated via telephone/WebEx**

Opening Comments

Jim Gorden welcomed the Subcommittee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online. It was noted that there was not a quorum for the meeting however Link Leavens and Kevin Olsen joined the meeting late which resulted in a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Jim Gorden reviewed the minutes from the Operations Subcommittee meeting that took place on June 8, 2016.

Motion: To accept the June 8, 2016 Operations Subcommittee minutes with one minor correction.

First: Richard Bennett

Second: Kevin Olsen

Motion Passes: All in favor

Review Abandoned Grove Protocol

At the April 19, 2016 strategic planning meeting it was discussed that a protocol needed to be developed that would be supportive of the county agricultural commissioner's process for removing neglected and abandoned groves. Victoria presented a draft document with information on guidelines regarding neglected and abandoned groves. There was discussion about abatement proceedings if the property owner of the abandoned grove is not cooperative. The county has the authority to have a vendor initiate the abatement process and the owner of the abandoned property is liable for the costs. Victoria stated that some cities have their own abatement authority as well. There was a question regarding properties that may seem neglected but are not and perhaps are organic and not treating. Bob responded that the guidelines presented are specifically for orchards that aren't being harvested, have no pest control and are dying. The Subcommittee supported the draft document.

Private Lab Non-Regulatory Diagnostics

CDFA is currently working on a protocol for private labs to become permitted to conduct non-regulatory diagnostics so that growers can pull samples from their own trees and contact a lab to have surveyors come out and sample their trees through PCR analysis. CDFA hopes to have the draft complete by the next Operations Subcommittee meeting. The next step would be to have a protocol put in place for insect samples at private labs and EDT labs if necessary. It was asked if there are private labs lined up to work with already and Victoria stated that there have been several labs that have inquired including the Central California Tristeza Eradication Agency. Carla Thomas introduced herself to the Subcommittee. Carla is the Associate Director of the Western Region National Plant Diagnostic Network and Carla also works at the University of California, Davis and is currently working with Neil McRoberts on his citrus projects. Carla has agreed to reach out to her network of laboratories to see if any labs would be interested in this option.

Review Biocontrol Release Strategy

The biocontrol release strategy that was developed by the biocontrol task force was presented to the Committee at the May CPDPC meeting however the motion to adopt the strategy did not pass. Jim stated that 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. There was discussion regarding releases in Kern County and Victoria stated that Dr. Hoddle has chosen a few locations that *Tamarixia* can be released and monitored. CDFA staff is actively treating in Kern County therefore Dr. Hoddle is looking into locations that are not near treatment areas.

Motion: To approve the proposed adjustments and send the Biocontrol Release Strategy forward to the full Committee.

First: Richard Bennett

Second: Kevin Olsen

Motion Passes: All in favor

Revised Grove Trapping Proposal

Art Gilbert and Neil McRoberts presented a revised ACP trapping and sampling protocol for Southern California. 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. There was discussion regarding the proposed options. Victoria suggested reducing the amount of times the trap sites are serviced to perhaps four times a year versus monthly to correlate with the area-wide treatments done by CDFA.

Motion: To move forward with option number one as presented and to send the revised ACP trapping and sampling protocols for Southern California to the full Committee.

First: Kevin Olsen

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

Neil McRoberts asked if the information that is collected goes to Dr. Gottwald to update the risk model. It was stated that all of the data goes to the CDFA lab in Sacramento and ultimately is provided to Dr. Gottwald for the risk based survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on August 10, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in Visalia, California.