

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

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 11, 2017 in Exeter, California by Committee Chairman Nick Hill.

CPDPC Members Present:

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

CPDPC Members Absent:

Etienne Rabe

CDFA Staff:

Stephen Brown*	Victoria Hornbaker	Keith Okasaki
Jason Chan*	Jason Leathers*	Mike Pitcairn
Sean Farnum	Magally Luque-Williams*	Courtney Pond*
Tina Galindo	Paul Martinez*	Dana Richmond
John Goergen	David Morgan*	Scosha Wright
Adrian Gonzales*	Colleen Murphy	

Guests:

Bob Atkins*	Beth Grafton-Cardwell	Andrew Peterson
Lanette Bankston*	Anna Gwaltney*	Sylvie Robillard
Jill Barnier	Linda Haque*	Margo Sanchez*
Erin Betts*	Alyssa Houtby	Gary Schulz
Tom Clift	Terry Johnson	Cressida Silvers*
Travis Coney	Shirley Kirkpatrick	David Stewart*
Vic Corkins	Ellen Kragh*	Carla Thomas*
Scott Daniel	John Krist*	Rayne Thompson*
Aaron Dillon*	Leslie Leavens*	David Thompson
Dan Dreyer	Cynthia LeVesque*	Dan Willey*
Rick Dunn	Joel Nelsen	Judy Zaninovich*
Enrico Ferro*	Katie Nieri*	Sandra Zwaal*
Art Gilbert	James O'Neil	
Fabiana Gimenes*	Curtis Pate*	

* Participated via Webinar

Opening Comments:

Nick Hill welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online and stated that there is a quorum for the meeting.

Public Comment:

Scott Daniel, President of Young’s Commercial Transfer gave a public comment regarding the new emergency tarping regulation. He stated that his company currently does not tarp when transporting juice loads. Scott’s main concern is safety. There is a driver shortage in the company therefore it creates an issue to tarp loads because the drivers that are available are older or disabled and not physically able to tarp the trucks. Workers compensation is an issue that Scott foresees as well as issues that workers could file with Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Scott is also concerned that the tarps may not be ready before the March 1, 2017 deadline because they can take several months to be made. Victoria stated that the tarping is a performance standard. The tarping permit should be completed by mid-January which should answer some of the questions that Scott has.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS & UPDATES

Nick Hill reviewed the consent agenda which contained the minutes from the Committee meeting that took place on November 9, 2016.

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

First: Gus Gunderson

Second: Kevin Severns

Motion Passes: All in favor

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. 2015/2016 Budget

James reviewed the 2015/2016 budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. To date \$18,375,914 in assessment revenue has been received. The total projected assessment revenue for fiscal year 2015/2016 is \$17,406,000 which has been exceeded. Through November 30, 2016 there has been \$19,057,152 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$356,208. The CHRP budget amount is \$12,444,701 with \$12,378,791 expended so far leaving a remaining balance available of \$65,910. The urban treatment sub-budget has a remaining budget balance of \$748,155. The central valley survey and treatment sub-budget is over spent by \$3,032,297 bringing the total spent to \$6,005,776 due rapidly increasing ACP finds in the central valley. These two sub-budgets have the highest expenditures.

James presented the spending authority tracking spreadsheet. The 2015/2016 authority is \$15,624,418 and 98 percent has been spent as of November 30, 2016 leaving the remaining balance at \$268,267.

It was asked if there were going to be any more expenses or changes in revenue for 2015/2016. James stated that there may be a few changes but no significant differences and the budget should be closed out by the end of January 2017. Victoria stated that the only revenue that would be received is any late fees, underpayment fees or interest for the citrus assessments. It was asked if there were any vendors that are behind on assessment payment and Victoria gave a brief

update on how the transition process has gone from Standardization handling the assessments to Plant Division handling them. There have been a few vendors that have paid late however most are good about paying their late fees once the vendor receives notice. CDFA staff continues to work on making the process as easy as possible for the vendors.

b. Variance Analysis Review 2015/2016

Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is -0.59 percent. There have been 98.17 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2015/2016 so far.

c. 2016/2017 Budget

James presented the 2016/2017 assessment budget to the Committee with projected expenditures totaling at \$25,655,331. To date \$812,142 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$18,000,000. Through November 30, 2016 there has been \$1,686,199 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$23,969,132. The urban treatment sub-budget has a remaining budget balance of \$4,357,927 and \$287,500 expended so far. The central valley survey and treatment sub-budget has a remaining budget balance of \$5,074,433 and \$392,415 expended so far. These two sub-budgets have the highest expenditures. The CHRP budget amount is significantly less than 2015/2016 with a budget balance of \$9,760,231. As of November 30, 2016 there has been \$719,602 expended so far leaving a remaining balance available of \$9,040,629. It was asked what the probability was that additional funding be added to CHRP to match what was received in 2015/2016. Joel Nelsen stated that USDA has not received full approval from congress for an annual budget. There is currently no budget at the federal level therefore USDA does not have a complete budget and funding allocated to CDFA will not be forthcoming until the budget is approved in April 2017.

Victoria stated that CDFA staff has been responding to new ACP finds in Placer and Solano Counties and HLB in Cerritos that have not been budgeted for. CDFA staff has put together a budget for those three items for the Committee's consideration since there is no line item for these activities in the existing budget.

Motion: To approve a total of \$403,623 for the new budgets for Cerritos, Placer and Solano Counties.

First: Jim Gorden

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: The motion passed with twelve yays and one nay.

It suggested that there be a contingency line item added to the budget to cover future unexpected ACP and HLB finds. Victoria stated that the Committee had a contingency line item in the past however it made the Committee vulnerable for additional prorata therefore the line item was removed. Nick Hill suggested having a task force formed which would include CDFA staff and a few Committee members to break down the budget as well as discuss ongoing CDFA activities and come back to the Committee with recommendations on what be most beneficial best for the industry.

James presented the spending authority tracking spreadsheet. The 2016/2017 authority is \$16,038,903 and 36 percent has been spent as of November 30, 2016 leaving the remaining balance at \$10,267,855.

Gary Schulz presented a budget amendment to the contract between CRB and CPDPC. The amendment is for two research projects involving Chris Godfrey and Greg McCollum. The total amount of the budget amendment is \$352,539 which creates a net saving on the grant of \$82,000. There was a comment made that the Committee is responsible for funding pests and diseases and not for funding research. There was discussion that followed regarding what research the two projects involve.

Motion: To amend the CRB budget as presented.

First: George McEwen

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: The motion did not pass with eight nays, four yays and one abstention.

d. Variance Analysis Review 2016/2017

Year to date the ending variance for the assessment budget is 65.66 percent. There have been 6.57 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2016/2017 so far.

e. Proposed Drench Trial Budget

Beth Grafton-Cardwell and a group of other researchers have been working to find methods to disinfect bins of fruit from ACP. Beth gave a brief overview of the drench study as well as some issues that the researchers have run into. Beth would next like to conduct a bin drench on a smaller scale. Beth gave a budget breakdown of all of the activities that have been completed as well as what activities she wishes to have done in the future which brings the total budget to \$31,000 which will be provided to Beth and the university as a grant.

Motion: To approve the funding for the drench study at \$31,000.

First: Link Leavens

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. Regional ACP Management

Bob Atkins reported that the contracts have expired for the ACP grower liaisons in Imperial and San Diego. RFP's have been sent to CDFA's contract's office for renewal. Winter treatments have begun and will continue through February. Bob stated that participation in all areawide treatments is slightly improving. The San Diego and San Bernardino task forces are looking into forming pest control districts to try and reach close to 100 percent participation for treatments. Orange County has issued letters for neglected and abandoned orchards. The Early Detection Technology (EDT) task force has authorized the CA1 survey. The Grower Liaisons have been working with growers to find trees that have not been exposed to HLB to get a background for a number of the EDT's to work against.

b. Review Edited Tristeza Eradication Agency MOU

Jill Barnier gave an update regarding the MOU between CPDPC, CCTEA and CDFA. There is concern that the MOU as written could be construed to restrict the agency to only tristeza related activity. CDFA and CCTEA attorneys are reviewing the MOU to see if an adjustment is needed to make sure that as CCTEA is available to severe as a resource to the industry for testing and that CCTEA is not in violation.

c. Presentation on New ACP Insecticide

Travis Coney and Andrew Peterson gave a presentation on an efficacy study which used an insecticide named Celite 610. The study was done in Florida on ACP on citrus.

d. Emergency Tarping Regulation Update

Keith Okasaki with CDFA gave an update on the tarping regulation. The regulation was submitted to the Office of Administrative Law on December 12, 2016 and was approved on December 21, 2016. The regulation reads that bulk citrus is prohibited from moving from “or within” an area under quarantine which means that everyone will now have to operate under a permit and everyone who handles bulk citrus will need a new compliance agreement. CDFA staff will be sending out a letter to all bulk citrus establishments and notifying them that the current compliance agreement will be canceled as of March 1, 2017. Phone lines will be set up at CDFA by three or four staff to answer any questions anyone may have. Reminder letters will also be sent out to help everyone meet the deadline. It was asked what happens to those who are found in noncompliance. Keith stated that they could be cited under two different Food and Agriculture Codes which result in a fine up of up to \$10,000 per violation.

d. Proposed Nursery Regulations

Kevin Olsen stated that Beth Grafton-Cardwell and Neil McRoberts have been added to the working group. Kevin presented map of the regional quarantines which included high risk areas, medium risk areas and low risk areas. Kevin also revised the proposed nursery stock regulations with the Committee. Kevin went over the production nursery requirements in an ACP quarantine region, requirements of retail nurseries in an HLB quarantine area, and restrictions for nursery stock in HLB quarantine areas. Kevin stated that there is going to be a voluntary pilot program put into place to see if these proposed regulations are practical for when more HLB is found. The HLB pilot program will last a minimum of two 90 day cycles.

Motion: To adopt the regional quarantine map as a living document that will be amended as ACP detections occur, a county will be added to the medium risk area on a single ACP detection in the county and the counties would transition to high risk based on the proximity to HLB detections. It was noted that Solano County should be added to the medium risk area on the existing map. This will allow the program to move forward with the regional quarantine regular rulemaking for bulk citrus and nursery stock. The Committee had an understanding that the map and draft regulation would be reviewed by the Nursery Working Group by February 10, 2017 to iron out compliance agreements and permits.

First: Richard Bennett

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Jim Gorden gave a brief overview of the discussions that were had at the Operations Subcommittee meeting that was held on January 4, 2017.

a. Treatment Updates

Tina gave an update regarding treatment in Southern California. In Imperial the grove areawide treatment is complete as of September 22, 2016. The border areawide treatment is pending merit

and tempo. Treatment was stopped in partial areas on Riverside on December 14, 2016 due to limited staff because of the increasing Med Fly finds. San Bernardino treatment is complete. Ventura areawide is 60 percent complete and treatment was stopped in Camarillo, Oxnard, Ventura, and Ojai. Santa Barbara areawide is 40 percent complete and treatment began on October 17, 2016 and was stopped on December 21, 2016. In San Diego border areawide should be complete by January 13, 2017 however the grove areawide is complete. The San Gabriel core and 8 expansion areas are complete. Hacienda Heights and La Puente are both complete as well.

b. HLB Survey Updates

Hacienda Heights

There are currently 100 traps placed in the core square mile in Hacienda Heights. In September there were 59 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 417 ACP samples collected. In October there were 78 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 906 ACP samples collected. In November there were 69 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 133 ACP samples collected. The Hacienda Heights core survey is complete. 100 percent of the plants in the 800 meter area from the HLB find were sampled. There were a total of 1,590 properties visited, 969 plant samples collected, 132 ACP samples collected and 615 sites negative for ACP and/or plant samples. Cycle 6 cluster survey is currently in progress and began on November 2, 2016. So far there have been 391 sites visited, 68 plant samples collected, 298 ACP samples collected and 68 sites negative for ACP and plant samples. Cycles 1 through 5 are complete. The 800 meter core survey in Cerritos is complete as well.

San Gabriel

There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in San Gabriel. In September there were 32 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 95 ACP collected. In October there were 36 traps with ACP and 70 ACP collected. In November there were 38 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 69 ACP collected. The San Gabriel core survey is complete. 100 percent of the plants in the 800 meter area from the HLB find were sampled. There were a total of 4,495 properties visited, 2,983 plant samples collected, 835 ACP samples collected and 1,577 sites negative for ACP and/or plant samples. Cycle 3 is currently in progress and began on September 7, 2016 and 2,421 sites have been visited with 268 plant samples collected and 1,992 ACP samples collected. There have been 306 sites negative for ACP.

Risk Survey

Magally Luque-Williams gave an update on the HLB risk-based survey. Cycle 1 is complete in Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Lake, Marin, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Monterey, Orange, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Shasta, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Ventura and Yolo counties. Cycle 1 should be complete by mid-January 2017 and is still ongoing in Fresno and Los Angeles. Cycle 2 data has been requested from Dr. Gottwald. Per the direction of the Operations Subcommittee CDFA is organizing a small working group to develop and implement HLB surveys to supplement the risk-based survey. Trapping along the United States/Mexico border has been stopped and ACP collection and testing for HLB has been implemented instead.

Debby presented a presentation on Treatment and Delimitation Survey Costs. She stated that this has been an ongoing planning discussion. In 2015 \$8,084,325 was spent on treatment and survey.

In 2016 \$12,384,098 was spent on treatment and survey. In January and February of 2017 CDFA staff anticipates that \$1,429,730 will be spent on treatment for two months alone. Debby presented a breakdown of treatment and cost by county. The difference between 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 is an estimated \$458,882. Santa Clara County is at high risk for HLB however Santa Clara has limited commercial citrus and one packing house. If CDFA staff were to continue to treat Santa Clara at the current rate the projection for treatment cost alone would be \$1.2 million for 2017. For Santa Clara, Debby proposed to treat find sites and adjacent properties only and to increase HLB surveys using demographic information and when available, Ct data. Also place traps at citrus groves and at the packing house. Biocontrol agents should also be released in the area.

Motion: To approve the proposed ACP response plan for Santa Clara County as presented.

First: Kevin Olsen

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

Debby stated that there is a definite need to decrease treatment cost because the 2017 budget exceeds CDFA's budget authority. Debby reviewed the treatment and survey costs from 2015/2016 and the projected difference for 2016/2017 for the Central Valley, Southern California and miscellaneous counties. She noted that the buffer treatments in Southern California around commercial groves that treatments are becoming spottier due to lack of participation by the commercial growers. She proposed that the trigger for buffer treatments should be increased from 75 percent to 90 percent and there should be no gaps in treatment. She also recommended stopping response treatments in the Central Valley and miscellaneous areas except for on find sites and adjacent and increasing the biocontrol agents and conducting additional HLB surveys.

Motion: To change the trigger for residential areawide buffer treatments from 75 percent of commercial acreage treated within 2 – 3 weeks to 90 percent of commercial acreage treated. Only psyllid management areas achieving the 90 percent trigger would be eligible for the CDFA 400 meter buffer treatment.

First: Kevin Olsen

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

Motion: That the response to ACP detections in other counties, including those outside of the central valley or without citrus production would be treating find site and adjacent properties only.

First: Jim Gorden

Second: Kevin Olsen

Motion Passes: All in favor

c. Laboratory Updates

CDFA Laboratory

The CDFA lab report was in the binder for review.

CRB Laboratory

Cynthia LeVesque gave a few updates on what is currently ongoing at the CRB lab. The lab remodeling is currently in progress. CRB has prepared documents that were required for USDA recertification. CRB has hired a lab manager and a quality manager.

Non-Regulatory Laboratory

Courtney Owens with CDFA gave a brief update on the progress for the CDFA permit for non-regulatory labs. 5 non-regulatory labs have submitted a preliminary application, with 2 having submitted their signed permit conditions back to CDFA and 1 has passed CDFA's preliminary review and is scheduled to be inspected this month.

d. Biocontrol Update

David Morgan gave an update regarding biocontrol. In 2016 a total of 1,870,291 biocontrol agents have been released. The total for the last 4 years is 3,719,007. David reviewed the plans for 2017 including the proposal to release in new areas.

Motion: To release biocontrol agents in residential areas where ACP have been intercepted on approved traps and have been positively identified by a Pest Diagnostic Lab certified by CDFA, in residential areas where breeding populations of ACP have been found and around HLB find sites.

First: Jim Gorden

Second: Gus Gunderson

Motion Passes: All in favor

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Nuffer, Smith and Tucker (NST) is requesting a new grant of \$150,000 to hold more train-the-trainer workshops, to hold a series of packing house and grower meetings and to continue with media outreach and advertising. This would be done by issuing a request for proposal (RFP) through CDFA.

Motion: To have CDFA staff prepare a RFP for additional industry outreach.

First: Kevin Olsen

Second: Link Leavens

Motion Passes: All in favor

CRB REPORT

Gary Schulz reported that the next CRB board meeting will held on February 8, 2017 at the Mission Inn in Riverside, California.

CLOSING COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT

There were no closing comments made.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. The next meeting will be held in Palm Desert, California on March 8, 2017 at 10:00am.