

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes
Thursday August 24, 2017

Opening:

The interim meeting of the California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on August 24, 2017 in Exeter, California by Committee Chairman Nick Hill.

CPDPC Members Present:

Craig Armstrong*	Nick Hill	Etienne Rabe
Franco Bernardi	Mark McBroom*	Kevin Severns
Bob Felts, Jr.	James McFarlane	Brian Specht*
Jim Gorden	Kevin Olsen	Keith Watkins

CPDPC Members Absent:

John Gless	Link Leavens	George McEwen
------------	--------------	---------------

CDFA Staff:

Stephen Brown*	Amber Hoyt*	Keith Okasaki*
Jason Chan*	Sara Khalid	Leandro Ramos
Nick Condos	Jason Leathers*	Debby Tanouye
Melinda DeHerrera	Paul Martinez*	Bob Wynn*
Victoria Hornbaker		

Guests:

Bob Atkins*	Rob Ledington*	Gary Schultz
Jill Barnier*	Katie Neiri*	Cressida Silvers*
Teri Blaser*	Joel Nelsen	Dan Sliskovich
Keith Freitas*	Curtis Pate*	Rayne Thompson*
Danny Hamon*	Lea Pereira*	Karen Westerman
Alyssa Houtby	Sylvie Robillard	Judy Zaninovich
Brett Kirkpatrick*	Kelly Salinas	Sandra Zwaal*
Ellen Kragh*		

*** 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:

Mark McBroom made a public comment, stating that he would like to get the meeting documents in advance of the meeting, as it is hard to come to conclusions without reviewing the documents. He stated that he does not appreciate not having the information prior to the meeting.

Nick Hill introduced Nick Condos to the Committee, explaining that Secretary Ross appointed Nick Condos to Secretariat level position to oversee the program. Nick Hill noted that Nick Condos has a good knowledge of the Citrus Program and will be able to hit the ground running. Nick Condos stated that he will be dedicating 100 percent of his time to the Citrus Program, focusing on strategic planning, long term vision for the program, assessing resource needs and procuring resources and opening the lines of communication between the Committee and CDFA.

REVIEW REVISED REGIONAL QUARANTINE MAP

Keith Okasaki presented a PowerPoint presentation on the revised regional quarantine maps and the pest risk criteria to be used for moving areas into a region. The pest risk criteria being used were developed by the Regional Quarantine Working Group and the Nursery Quarantine Working Group. The pest risk criteria include:

- Substantially similar levels of ACP detections
- Substantially similar levels of HLB detections
- Proximity to the US/Mexico border
- Geographical barriers to the natural movement of ACP
- Contiguous commercial citrus growing regions
- Sufficient citrus commodity cleaning and packing capacity

This criteria will be evaluated prior to adding an area into a region, both for bulk citrus and nursery stock. Adding the pest risk criteria to the Regulation will allow the program to administratively amend the quarantine regions, by posting a map with the new region for a 10-day comment period. This will allow CDFA to respond effectively and efficiently.

Keith showed a side by side comparison of the original Nursery Regional Quarantine map with the revised version. He noted that there are 3 Nursery Regional Quarantine Zones on each map, with Zone 1 being the non-infested area, Zone 2 (medium risk) included some additional counties where ACP had been detected since the original map was developed and Zone 3 (high risk) remained the same.

He also showed a side by side comparison of the original Bulk Citrus Regional Quarantine map with the revised version. The only differences were the expansion of portions of Riverside and San Bernardino into Zone 6 due to the recent HLB detection in Riverside and the addition of Zone 7, which include the counties with recent ACP detections.

The Committee was reminded that the Regional Quarantine is for ACP, not HLB as they are regulated separately.

PRELIMINARY CITRUS CROP PROJECTIONS

Victoria presented a preliminary crop projection for the 2017/2018 fiscal year. It was noted that the estimate was based on the National Agricultural Statistics Service report dated July 12, 2017 and that these numbers will be reviewed when the September report comes out. The crop estimate is trending to be about 5 percent less than last year. The estimated cartons of navels is 80,000,000. The Committee felt that the estimate was high and should be adjusted down to 75,000,000 cartons of navels. The other estimates included 38,000,000 cartons of lemons, 48,000,000 cartons of Mandarins, 19,000,000 cartons of Valencia and 8,000,000 cartons of

grapefruit. Victoria showed the Committee the expected revenue for assessment rates of \$.07 through \$.12 per carton. At \$.07 per carton the projected revenue would be \$13,510,000 and at \$.12 per carton the projected revenue would be \$23,160,000. The Committee will be setting the assessment rate at the September 12, 2017 meeting.

2017/2018 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PROJECTIONS

Jason Chan presented the preliminary 2017/2018 budget projections. The funding sources presented were; \$18,753,335 in assessment funds (pending CPDCP recommendation), \$14,144,701 in CHRP funds (pending USDA decision), \$10,000,000 in general fund and \$470,000 in citrus commodity funds for a total projected budget of \$43,368,036. Jason provided a projection by Target-Activity and described the expenditure break down for each activity. There was concern raised by Committee members about how number were arrived at. They were assured that the budgets were developed based on the existing work plan. Nick Condos explained that when we put together the budget, it was done at the maximum of what could be spent in the year. Jason presented a breakdown of the budgets by activity/task that combines all funding sources for each task. Jason also presented a comparison by year 2015/2016 actual expenditures, 2016/2017 budgeted amount and 2017/2018 projected budget. The Committee asked Jason to amend the 2016/2017 entry to be the projected modified straight line from the variance report. Jason followed this up with a breakdown of the activities by region and county. Debby discussed the “pick list” that was presented to the Committee so they could give direction on where to focus the activities.

There was lengthy discussion about how to streamline and or decide what activities should take priority over other activities. Nick Condos explained that the Committee’s strategic planning will help focus the program on the core elements and cost associated with those core elements. There needs to be a longer term program, including stable spending on ongoing activities and cushions for emergencies. Debby explained that there is a tremendous amount of data that needs to be analyzed to help determine the return on investment (ROI). Joel mentioned that the Committee should focus on funding activities where there is an acceptable ROI and move away from the activities that do not provide an acceptable ROI, rather than focusing on money. James discussed the Science Advisory Panel’s (SAP) recommendations and that the Budget Taskforce chose 3 of the recommendations that will be easy to implement and will save about \$750,000. The Committee stated that they would like to send the questions back to the SAP, with more data for them to make another attempt to respond. Committee members asked for information and clarification on different budget activities and staff responded. Nick Hill stated that the program will need to make some difficult decisions moving forward.

The Science Subcommittee will review the budgets and see if they can make some recommendations to the full Committee on September 13, 2017.

CLOSING COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT

There were no closing comments made.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m. The next meeting will be held in San Bernardino, California on September 13, 2017 at 10:00am.