

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

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, September 6, 2017

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on September 6, 2017 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chairman Keith Watkins.

**Committee Members Present:**

Jim Gorden	Link Leavens*	Keith Watkins
Zac Greene		

**Committee Members Absent:**

John Gless	Kevin Olsen	Kevin Severns
Mark Mc Broom		

**Interested Parties:**

Bob Atkins	Sara Khalid	Leandro Ramos
Erin Betts	Melinda Klein*	Cressida Silvers *
Teri Blaser*	John Krist*	Debby Tanouye*
Stephen Brown*	Jason Leathers	Carla Thomas*
Lauren Droogh*	Leslie Leavens*	Jack Williams
Rick Dunn	Katie Nieri*	Bob Wynn*
Paul Figueroa*	Sandy Olkowski	Judy Zaninovich
Tina Galindo	Curtis Pate*	Sandra Zwaal*
Victoria Hornbaker*	Sylvie Robillard	

**\* Participated via telephone/WebEx**

**Opening Comments**

Keith Watkins 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. There were no public comments.

**Approval of Minutes**

Keith Watkins reviewed the minutes from the August 9, 2017 Operations Subcommittee meeting. The consensus of the Subcommittee members was to post the meeting minutes as presented.

### **Areawide Management of ACP**

Bob Atkins report that most of the Southern California psyllid management areas (PMA) are conducting their Summer/Fall coordinated treatments. San Bernardino is going with a foliar systemic due to issues with water not being available for the soil treatment. Bob mentioned that there is an issues with ground water availability in some areas of Southern California. He discussed the progress with establishing the San Bernardino Pest Control District (PCD). He also mentioned that he attended a meeting of the coalition of Central Valley PCD's, noting that they are interested in doing residential sampling and sending the samples they collect to the Citrus Pest Detection Program (Tristeza Agency). Keith asked about the progress of CDFA in permitting private labs to do non-regulatory samples. It was explained that there are several labs that are permitted to accept non-regulatory samples. The group asked if CDFA would work with the labs to explain what would need to be done to collect and track samples. Victoria mentioned that all of the information is already in the permit and that the intent was for commercial growers to send samples from their trees not for residential samples. The group further discussed the need for CDFA to work closely with the labs and PCD's to make sure that they all understand how to complete the sampling and analysis

### **Review DATOC Report**

Sandy Olkowski presented an update on DATOC project. She mentioned DATOC team set the priorities for review during the Priority Issues Workshop on August 7th. The four priorities are:

- PMA buffer treatment triage
- Resource allocation – Priorities in ACP/HLB sampling and response
- Role of 'inconclusive' PCR clusters
- Priorities in HLB positive commercial grove response

The team was broken into smaller working groups to address the priorities. They then came back together to meet in Davis during the CRB External Review August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. She mentioned the progress on developing a web-based tool called a "dashboard." The group reviewed the mock-up and approved it. The website will be built on a dedicated server. They are now working on two briefing papers, one on ideal behaviors in response to an HLB detection in a commercial grove and the other briefing paper being worked on is the role of inconclusive ct clusters and how to use them to guide activities. There was discussion on the response to HLB in a commercial grove and the need for early detection and other activities that can be used to help growers make decisions on their property.

### **Timing of Residential Buffer Treatments**

Tina Galindo explained that the PMA treatments vary by county, but that the program attempts to time the residential treatments in the 400 meter commercial grove buffer to complete them while in the same time frame as the growers, generally within a 2 week period. She mentioned that the program and Grower Liaisons gather the pesticide use reports for the PMA and tally the amount of acreage treated in the each PMA if the achieve 90 percent, the program will do the buffer treatment in the next round of treatments. She noted that in Ventura it takes up to 4

months for the growers and the residential buffers to be completed, whereas in Imperial the treatments are all completed within 2 weeks. There was concerns raised regarding the length of time to get through Ventura as the biology of the tree and the insect change over time. Link Leavens noted that Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell is consulting on and monitoring the Ventura areawide treatments.

### **Review Science Advisory Panel Report**

Dr. Jason Leathers discussed the Budget Taskforces request to the Science Advisory Panel (SAP) that was presented in a meeting with the SAP on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The SAP conferred for several hours on the issues and information presented and then came back with a report several weeks later. The questions asked revolved around the treatment, survey and control activities and if those activities were reduced would it increase the likelihood of HLB spreading. The Panel members did not directly answer the questions, but due to their concern with inconclusive tree and ACP ct values throughout many areas of the State, they focused their responses on non-regulatory decision thresholds and what to do about them. The SAP did make a recommendation on biocontrol, that the program should continue rearing and releasing *Tamarixia*, as there is not sufficient efficacy data to support the use of generalist predators. Jason stated that the Science Subcommittee will be looking at the budgets and the program activities on September 7, 2017 to attempt to answer the questions that the SAP did not answer. The group discussed the need for a science based program that is also economically feasible.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m. The next Operations meeting will be held on October 10, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.