

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

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 1, 2017

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on November 1, 2017 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chairman Keith Watkins.

**Committee Members Present:**

Jim Gorden	Link Leavens*	Keith Watkins
Zac Green*	Kevin Severns*	

**Committee Members Absent:**

John Gless	Mark Mc Broom
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**Interested Parties:**

Bob Atkins	Sara Khalid*	Debby Tanouye*
Jill Barnier*	Magally Luque-Williams*	Carla Thomas
Erin Betts	Neil McRoberts*	Spenser Walse
Teri Blaser	Tracy Moehnke*	Jack Williams*
Nick Condos*	Sandy Olkowski	Scosha Wright*
Rick Dunn	Sylvie Robillard	Sandra Zwaal*
Linda Haque*	Cressida Silvers*	

\* 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 a quorum for the meeting. There were no public comments.

**Areawide Management of ACP**

Bob Atkins reported that all areas are near completion for the fall flush coordinated treatments and the planning of winter treatments is being scheduled. San Bernardino County has received positive results from their first ballet for a petition to form a Pest Control District. The San Diego County Pest Control District has had their fifth meeting at which they discussed dealing with abandoned and neglected orchards. The district is sending out letters to owners to start the removal process. Additionally, the County Agricultural Commissioner has also began sending out letters to known abandoned properties. The Agricultural Commissioner in San Luis Obispo is taking the lead on forming a task force in preparation for the eventual shift to areawide management. Bob mentioned the CCM market memo article which suggested that the

Committee defund the Grower Liaisons. Bob stated that he has not received any complaints about the Grower Liaisons and would appreciate to be involved in any discussions regarding their work. He is concerned that the Committee would take action and defund one of the core programs during the fight to eradicate HLB and stated that he is working on developing a PowerPoint to give an overview of what the Grower Liaisons do. The Grower Liaisons are ready and willing to improve in any way they can. In regards to the Grower Liaisons the Committee wants to make sure the funding is being spent wisely. Nick Condos stated that this is a perfect example of something that needs to be dealt with through Strategic Planning and perhaps there needs to be a better administrative structure.

### **Review DATOC Report**

Dr. Sandy Olkowski presented an update on the DATOC project. As an overview, the goal of the DATOC is to systematically evaluate what impact buffer treatments may have on limiting ACP incursion into commercial groves, and thus reducing risk of HLB establishment. By indirect evaluation the DATOC will identify key factors that determine effectiveness, compile evidence for factor and recommend next steps in the decision making process. Critical factors for effectiveness are:

- ACP movement
- Effectiveness of residential insecticide applications
- Regional ACP populations and HLB risk
- Residential participation
- Grower and residential participation combined

Sandy stated that there is insufficient information to make an evidence-based decision at this time in regards to the buffer treatments being efficient and cost effective. The recommendations were to one, to eliminate buffer treatments completely in Southern California or reduce them by prioritization and redirect resources toward increased HLB surveillance or alternative ACP management in the residential buffer areas, or two, the program continue as it currently exists. Neil stated that he personally thinks that buffer treatments are probably not effective enough to justify the cost. It was stated that buffer treatments are also an incentive for growers to participate in areawide management. There was further discussion regarding the effectiveness and importance of the buffer treatments. The DATOC stated that if the Committee chooses to look at this in further detail that there needs to be a small number of selective sites used to determine whether the buffer treatments work or not. This project also needs to have a time limit so that there is a practical answer in the shortest time possible.

### **Strategic Planning Progress Report**

Nick Condos stated that there has been a draft of the Strategic Planning scenarios circulated and sub-group members are now being assigned. There was a productive meeting held on October 27, 2017 with the scientists. CDFA wanted to familiarize the scientists on the type of data that CDFA collects during operational activities so that they are well prepared with knowledge of the data that currently exists as well as the gaps in data. Nick stated that the process is moving right along. It was asked how the sub-groups are being established and when the sub-group meetings are going to be held. Nick would like at least two Committee members on each sub-group as

well as subject matter experts on each sub-group as well. It was asked that staff spend less time at the full Committee meetings giving reports. Staff should give the reports at the Operations Subcommittee meeting that way the full Committee can spend more time on discussion at the full Committee meetings. It was also asked that the reports be sent out well in advance of the Committee meetings so that the Committee members have enough time to thoroughly review the documents and are prepared for discussion at the meetings.

### **Chairman Report and Adjournment**

Keith Watkins stated that he has asked Spenser Walse to join the Subcommittee meeting to give an update on another test that was completed with good results for psyllid management in loads of fruit. Spenser gave an update on the high pressure fog trial runs that he has been conducting. Spenser stated that he will have a report out shortly for review. There was further discussion regarding the fumigant treatment and the test trials.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am. The next Operations Subcommittee meeting will be held on December 13, 2017 at 9:00am.