

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 7, 2018

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 9:00a.m. on March 7, 2018 in Visalia, California by Chairman Keith Watkins.

Committee Members Present:

Zac Green*	Mark McBroom*	Keith Watkins
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CRB Staff:

Rick Dunn	Gary Schulz	Matt Stuemky
Melinda Klein		

Interested Parties:

Price Adams*	Sara Khalid	Nawal Sharma*
Bob Atkins	Magally Luque-Williams*	Cressida Silvers*
Teri Blaser	Neil McRoberts*	Maegan Salinas*
Nick Condos*	Colleen Murphy*	Dan Willey*
Tina Galindo*	Keith Okasaki*	Bob Wynn *
Melinda DeHerrera*	Sylvie Robillard	Sandra Zwaal*

*** 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.

Status of Quarantine Implementation

Keith Okasaki gave an update on the implementation of the new Regional Quarantines.

Nurseries - Mailers on the new compliance agreements for the implementation of the Regional Quarantines were sent out to the nurseries in regions 2 and 3. About 800 mailers were sent out directing nursery representatives to come to a local CDFA. Only 90 nurseries have complied so far, but staff is hopeful that we will make better progress this month.

Bulk Citrus – A reminder was mailed out to the bulk citrus compliance holders on February 21, 2018. This reminded that the cut off for updating their compliance agreements is March 16, 2018 and it also stated that as of March 17, 2018, any establishment without the new compliance agreement could be cited. As of March 5, 2018, about 3,900 of the 6,700 bulk citrus compliance agreements had been updated.

CDFA is looking at addressing inconsistencies in County enforcement of the compliance agreements by compiling the information from the monthly activity reports onto a password protected online database. This will allow County and CDFA staff to monitor the activities being conducted in neighboring counties and work on making sure the level of effort is consistent between counties.

Keith noted that he has calls scheduled with the Counties regarding their upcoming cooperative agreements and that he will note the expectation for the level of effort that they will be expected to put into the quarantine enforcement. He did state that Counties can only bill for the work that is done.

Gary Schulz asked for clarification of who makes up the 6,700 compliance agreement holders for bulk citrus. Keith Watkins stated that it is for packers, growers and transporters. Keith Okasaki clarified that a compliance agreement is required for any entity moving citrus for any purpose other than personal consumption, this would include bulk citrus moving to a farmer's market in the back of a pickup truck.

Gary asked why the program requires a grower to have a separate agreement for each property. Keith Okasaki explained that if a compliance agreement were suspended for fruit moving out of a certain grove and we did not have a separate agreement for each property, then all the properties would be suspended. It protects the growers from undue enforcement.

Review CDFA Trapping Protocols

Rick Dunn gave an update on trapping. First, he discussed the length of time between trap collection and screening. 100 percent of the grove traps are screened within two weeks of collection and suspects are confirmed by CDFA within one week of the screening. Rick noted that the Grower Liaisons are notified within a week of confirmation. This information is shared with Bob Atkins and he shares the information with the Grower Liaisons. Rick noted that staffing shortages may create delays. Colleen Murphy noted that the laboratory workload could also be a factor that could delay the process. The Glassey-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) traps are serviced every two weeks and screened in the field for GWSS. They are then sent to Los Alamitos to be screened for ACP. Rick noted that he has been told that there is a one-month backlog on screening at Los Alamitos. Los Alamitos suspects are sent to the Meadowview lab for confirmation. Sylvie Robillard asked if GWSS is obligated to provide traps for ACP screening. Rick noted that he has heard that the GWSS program sends all traps for ACP screening. Keith Watkins stated that it appears that the delay is with the Los Alamitos screening and he wondered if we had more staff or another facility if we would have a faster turnaround. Rick stated that a working group has been established to review trapping and that is one of the issues they are discussing. The next program is the PDEP detection trapping, at 5-16 traps per square mile in urban settings. These traps are serviced every two weeks. Delimitation traps are also deployed and monitored by PDEP at 100 traps per square mile in a nine-square mile area around a find and are serviced monthly. Bob Wynn joined the group and answered that the GWSS program will continue to send the traps to Los Alamitos for ACP screening, because he has directed the program to do this as it creates efficiencies for both programs.

Bob Atkins mentioned a discussion with Keith Watkins and Judy Zaninovich about the time between placement of a trap and the information that a detection occurred being given to the Grower Liaisons. Keith Watkins also mentioned the potential overlap of trap placement between GWSS, grove, detection and delimitation traps and if the working group is looking at efficiencies. Rick noted that this is something that the working group is looking at as well and that they are going to recommend moving grove traps away from GWSS traps and eliminating delimitation traps near GWSS or grove traps.

Bob Atkins brought up the treatment area in San Luis Obispo, 50-meters and the concern that this is not a large enough treatment size in this area. This then brought up discussion on the recent treatment injunction, CDFA and its contractors will not be able to conduct chemical treatments, regardless of type of treatment as of March 13, 2018, but CDFA will look for ways to continue its efforts with alternative CEQA coverage.

Laboratory Capacity Needs

Nick Condos reported on the lab capacity for conducting analysis for HLB, noting that the CDFA lab is at maximum capacity, which limits the number of samples that field staff can collect and send. He noted that the program is working with the CRB lab and the Tristeza lab to conduct analysis of ACP samples and both

labs are ramping up their capacity. Nick noted that Dr. Neil McRoberts and Dr. Karen Jetter are working on a cost benefit analysis to show what is the appropriate level of diagnostics to achieve the level of detection we need.

Map Display Parameters

Colleen Murphy stated that the CDFA has a protocol that is parallel to the MOU, which does not allow point data to be displayed in public meetings. This means that point data cannot be shared, this protocol has been shared with CDFA staff. The protocol states that cannot point data cannot be shown at any scale that shows actual locations of detections, this is for all pests and includes positive and negative data. Data cannot be shown at a scale larger than one-square mile. Treatment and quarantine boundaries can be shown on maps. Rick asked about using an 800-meter buffer instead of a point and Colleen said no, because the point can be triangulated from the buffer. Bob Atkins discussed the law and Colleen responded that this is an internal CDFA policy. Colleen noted that the maps that are shared with Grower Liaisons and other cooperators are for internal use only. Bob asked for more discussion on how data is shared and to whom as he feels it would be beneficial to see how the HLB finds are spreading. Colleen mentioned that the data can be displayed in a way to help answer questions, without releasing point data.

DATOC Report

Dr. Neil McRoberts reported that Dr. Sandy Olkowski has resigned and that CRB will be looking to recruit a new DATOC manager. He reported that he and Dr. Karen Jetter are working on a cost benefit analysis for looking at the program components, specifically on sampling and analysis. They are also doing a project to look at HLB positive trees and look for exposure over time to determine how quickly a tree is infected in the HLB core area. This may allow CDFA to act on exposed trees. Sara Fugera is looking at the bulk citrus movement in the new regional quarantine areas, to see if there is flexibility in mitigations for movement between low risk areas to higher risk areas.

HLB Update

Magally Luque-Williams reported on the progress of the Risk Survey, noting that in most areas they have completed cycle 1 and 2 and that they are currently working in LA, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco and San Bernardino on Cycle 2. They have surveyed 33,550 sites and have submitted 11,559 ACP samples and 7,161 plant samples for analysis.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42a.m. The next Operations meeting will be held on April 11, 2018.