

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 2, 2018

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 9:00a.m. on May 2, 2018 in Visalia, California by Chairman Keith Watkins.

Committee Members Present:

John Gless*	Link Leavens*	Roger Smith*
Zac Greene	Kevin Severns*	Keith Watkins

CDEA Staff:

Nick Condos	Jason Leathers*	Nawal Sharma *
Tina Galindo*	Magally Luque-Williams*	Scosha Wright*
Sara Khalid	Keith Okasaki*	Bob Wynn*

Interested Parties:

Bob Atkins	Nancy Holland*	Gary Schulz
Teri Blaser*	Leslie Leavens*	Cressida Silvers*
Aaron Dillon*	Joel Medina-Reyes*	Judy Zaninovich*
Rick Dunn	Tracy Moehnke*	Sandra Zwaal*
Sara Garcia-Figuera	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 a quorum for the meeting.

Regional ACP Update

Bob Atkins provided an update for the Grower Liaison activities. He noted that there is a new Grower Liaison that was brought on, Jason Schwarz, for San Diego County. Bob stated that the grower liaisons continue to work on getting neglected and abandoned orchards removed. It was stated that neglected groves and the lack of consistent treatment could be the biggest danger to the fight against HLB. It was suggested that the Pest Control Districts (PCD) become more involved to help regulate the neglected orchards. It was suggested that more proactive outreach be done regarding neglected orchards. Paul Worley with NST is willing to reach out to elected officials in Fresno County regarding specific problem groves. CCM has been working continuously on neglected groves as well. Roger Smith suggested having a statewide list of properties with neglected and abandoned groves which shows the progress forward on each of these properties.

Strategic Priority 1 – Find and Eradicate HLB

Discuss revisions to the risk based survey

Nick Condos stated that CDFA and Dr. Gottwald have decided that it would be most beneficial to move from 2 cycles per year to 3 cycles per year. Nick noted that this should have no significant impact operationally.

Strategic Priority 2 – Control ACP Movement and Enforce Regulations

Review protocol for shipping fruit between quarantine zones

Keith Watkins stated that he was not aware that one of the protocols for shipping between quarantines is essentially leaf removal in the bins. This has caused an issue with treatment before the fruit is picked. Keith Okasaki with CDFA stated that protocol to move fruit from a quarantine zone has to be field cleaned or treated prior to harvest. There is an allowance in the compliance agreement for other program approved methods to meet the ACP free performance standard. Keith stated that a few growers have contacted CDFA or the County Agricultural Commissioner's office in which staff have monitored the growers process in removing stems and leaves. There was further discussion regarding field cleaning. It was mentioned that one of the projects that DATOC is working on is different risks in the quarantine zones. It was also stated that it is difficult to have different rules for different regions. It was stated that this is a discussion for the full Committee. The DATOC risk analysis states that the current evaluation does not support a change in the regulation due to several reasons. It was stated that there should be a list of approved methods available.

Keith Okasaki provided a spreadsheet that provides information on the amount of enforcement that is being done in each county. It was asked who is responsible for the inspections and how can CDFA and the Committee get more uniformity with the inspections. Keith stated that CDFA has been working with the counties to get them to conduct inspections on the same level. Keith also presented a Notice of Proposed Actions (NOPAs) spreadsheet which breaks down fines by counting totaling in \$16,125. Most of the violations were given due to tarping.

Discuss mitigation statistics for fruit movement

Nawal Sharma presented a document that showed the trend of the fruit movement. The total bins moved between quarantine zones from October 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018 was 115,431. 72 percent of the bins were sprayed and move and 28 percent was field cleaned. Out of the 115,431 bins, 32 percent were moved to the Central Valley which is considered high risk to low risk. 40 percent of the bins are coming into the Central Valley from Ventura County.

Strategic Priority 3 – ACP Control/Suppression

Biocontrol Release Strategy for the Central Valley

In 2018 there have been a total number of 666,109 biocontrol agents released. In Kern County alone 11,600 Tamarixia have been released in 2018. Jim Gorden stated that there is a Biocontrol meeting being held May 2, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas and a report from that meeting will be given sometime in the near future.

Update on Central Valley Trap Reduction

Sara Khalid provided an update on Cassandra's behalf. ACP trap reductions are continuing and reductions are almost complete. Counties outside of the Southern Central Valley are starting with the revised protocol. It was asked how often the traps are monitored. Nick Condos stated that trap monitoring is serviced weekly for the first month and monthly thereafter for a year if there are no further detections. This is something that should be revisited with some scientific input.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m. The next Operations meeting will be held on June 6, 2018.