

# CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 6, 2018

## **Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on June 6, 2018 in Visalia, California by Chairman Keith Watkins.

## **Committee Members Present:**

John Gless\*                   Keith Watkins

## **Committee Members Absent:**

Zac Greene	Link Leavens	Kevin Severns	Roger Smith
Ted Grether			

## **CDFA Staff:**

Jonathan Babineau	Gavin Iacono*	Jason Leathers	Scosha Wright
Nick Condos*	Sara Khalid	Magally Luque-Williams*	Bob Wynn*
Cassandra Davis	Melinda Klein*	Colleen Murphy*	
Tina Galindo*	Luci Kumagai*	Nawal Sharma*	

## **CRB Staff:**

Rick Dunn	Gary Schulz
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## **Guests:**

Bob Atkins	Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Sylvie Robillard	Judy Zaninovich
Erin Betts*	Curtis Pate*	Cressida Silvers*	Sandra Zwaal*
Teri Blaser	Tracy Moehnke*	Dan Willey*	
Dan Dreyer	Joel Reyes	Andy Wilson*	

## **\* Participated via Webinar**

## **Opening Comments:**

Keith Watkins welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online. He stated that there was no quorum for the meeting.

## **Approval of Calendar:**

Keith noted the Committee and Subcommittee Calendars for the 2018/2019 fiscal year will be presented at the Full Committee Meeting. No staff or guest had any suggested edits to the calendars.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 - Find and Eradicate HLB**

### **Laboratory Update**

Luci Kumagai gave the lab totals for May (14,243), with 8,941 Plant and 5,302 ACP samples being analyzed for HLB. She explained that additional samples were distributed to other labs,

CRB receiving 4,259, CPDP receiving 516 and University of Arizona receiving 527 samples. Total samples for the year are 71,403. Luci explained that compared to the year-to-date total from last year, of approximately 42,000, the increase is significant.

It was reported that 180 CLas-positive ACP samples and 602 HLB positive trees from 479 sites had been confirmed. This includes 244 trees from Los Angeles, 355 trees from Orange County and 3 trees from Riverside. The cities with the highest concentration of CLas positive trees were San Gabriel with 61 trees, Pico Rivera with 89 trees, Whittier with 80 trees, Anaheim with 193 trees, and Garden Grove with 143 trees. There was a recent new area in Orange County, 1 tree was found in Yorba Linda.

Gary Schulz stated that USDA audited and toured the CRB lab, and announced the reaccreditation of CRB. He explained that CDFA will train CRB lab technicians in Meadowview on data input systems and commonalities of results for a more seamless flow of sample work.

### **Risk Survey Update**

Magally Luque-Williams stated that the risk survey was focused on Los Angeles, which was 74 percent complete. She explained that 915 square miles have been surveyed overall and the survey was 98 percent complete.

The HLB delimitation survey in Orange County focused primarily in Anaheim where 12,336 properties were surveyed, approximately 42 percent complete. La Habra and Riverside delimitations were complete, awaiting warrant. San Bernardino was completed and no HLB-positive trees were found. ACP was recently found in the City of Orange and the survey is 1.7 percent complete. Garden Grove has 14,308 properties and survey is 6 percent complete. In Westminster there are 3,580 properties and survey is 13 percent complete. Santa Ana has 5,948 properties and the survey is 17 percent complete. Yorba Linda consisting of 1,746 properties is 1.7 percent surveyed.

Magally explained that the supplement survey, used to fill in other areas near HLB finds such as Orange and Tustin, is 74 percent complete. The HLB border survey was 63 percent complete in Imperial county (135 sites) and 59 percent complete in San Diego County (198 sites). It was suggested that in the future there be separate numbers for refusal and noncommunication.

### **HLB Detection and Removal**

Tina Galindo gave an update on HLB detections in LA County. Surveys are ongoing in LA County, Norwalk's 3032 properties are 61 percent complete, Pico Rivera's 7126 properties are 77 percent complete, Rosemead's 4548 properties are 29 percent complete, and Whittier's 8921 properties are 43 percent complete. She noted that they would begin surveying a new Whittier area starting the week of 6/11/2018.

It was suggested that ACP numbers were down from last year. Tina stated it would be difficult to confirm, as survey and treatment have been concurrent projects and numbers may be inaccurate due to surveying previously treated sites. Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell noted that 36,984 ACPs were recorded in 2016, 35,649 were recorded in 2017, and 8,828 were recorded to date in 2018. She noted collections were higher, which might indicate that surveyors are getting better.

Tina Galindo listed resampling for those times Lucita received inconclusive results. 212 inconclusive results were resampled. She noted intense sampling resulted in 427 adjacent trees and 321 remaining trees on existing sites.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 - Control ACP movement and Enforce Regulations**

### **Regulatory Activity Update**

Nawal Sharma explained that CDFA has worked with counties in the Central Valley and Southern California to ensure that everyone understands quarantine requirements and uniform enforcement. Nawal described a meeting at the Stanislaus County Commissioner's Office with Stanislaus, Merced, Kings, Tulare, Kern, and San Joaquin County staff regarding expected grower, packer and hauler obligations. Nawal noted he wished to improve notification from growers and packing houses. He stated that the season is ending but the next season will see better enforcement at the county level.

Nawal explained that of 6,430 growers, 45 percent are in Tulare County. He stated that Tulare County in zone two was by far the busiest county, followed by San Diego in zone five, Ventura in zone four and Fresno in zone two. It was explained that a Notice of Violation is a warning letter detailing a violation, while a Notice of Proposed Action (NOPA) is a fine and a request to resolve the violation. If a NOPA is ignored, a court may need to resolve the issue.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 - ACP Control/Suppression**

### **Trapping and Treatment Updates**

#### **Southern California – Grove Trapping**

Cassandra Davis explained the cumulative grove sampling since it started in 2013. Cassandra listed 9,879 collection sites, 27,511 site collections with some sites being sampled multiple times, 135,212 adult ACPs and 20,015 nymph ACPs collected. 25,883 sites that tested negative for HLB, and 708 sites still awaiting results.

Cassandra gave a Central Valley trap removal update. CDFA removed 22,423 delimitation traps, mostly in Tulare County. Cassandra stated CDFA trapping was complete but the counties were still processing their traps. CDFA will relocate some traps once final trap locations for commercial traps in some netted orchards are decided and CDFA will be giving some traps back to the county to get back to contract level.

#### **Central Valley and Northern California**

Cassandra Davis explained 2018 ACP and PDR finds from compared to 2017. She noted an additional find in Kern County in 2018 that was not yet positively identified. This site was a previous find site in the Mettler area. Two sites were discovered in Tulare and 18 sites found in San Luis Obispo County, the Nipomo area. She explained that more treatment will be performed in Nipomo, pending public meetings.

Cassandra Davis stated cumulative valley and coastal ACP totals since 2012. She noted ACP numbers decreased drastically since 2016 and new finds since then were rare. It was suggested the 50-meter perimeter in Nipomo was not working and should be reassessed. Cassandra

explained delimitation protocols were changed to 50 traps per square mile for four square miles around the find.

Nick Condos stated that Notice of Treatment documents were currently being improved. He stated that CDFA would start with the highest priority, HLB treatments in LA and Orange and following that will be Nipomo. CDFA would next issue responsive treatment for the Central Valley. It was suggested that responsive treatments for the Central Valley be a priority, as overtaking the spread of ACP would be invaluable. Cassandra noted that visual surveys were completed on all finds once CDFA was notified, but no additional psyllids were found.

### **Biocontrol Updates**

David Morgan stated that over 200,000 biocontrol agents were released in May 2018. Releases focused on the HLB areas in Los Angeles and Orange County. Agents were released into Bakersfield townships in April 2018, and new locations Arvin, Mettler, Meridian and Buttonwillow, as well as releases in Taft and Mariposa. Biocontrol also released in Santa Maria, Solvang and San Luis Obispo concentrated in Nipomo. David explained that Biocontrol was notified of treatments to north and west of main town area, so concentrated their releases to the south and east. David noted that some agents were released in Grover Beach as a precaution.

David stated that three years of post-release monitoring data was being analyzed by Neil McRoberts and Dr. Steven Hong of the ARS and should be available shortly.

### **Regional ACP Updates**

Bob Atkins stated that Jason Schwartze, the new grower liaison, was knowledgeable and familiar with San Diego pest control services and the San Diego Department and Ag Commissioner.

Bob noted that detecting neglected and abandoned groves continues to be a priority for the Grower Liaisons, who are sending the information on to the County Ag Staff for follow-up.

Bob stated Neil McRoberts's staff was analyzing results from California 1a and 1b participants and would report mid-June. Bob is looking to quickly schedule another EDT task force meeting before the CRB June 27-28 Exeter growers meeting.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – Improve Data Technology, Analysis and Sharing**

### **Data Department Update**

Rick Dunn stated that CRB supports Psyllid Management Area group activities and ACP/HLB task force groups through mapping support services. He stated that revising the Citrus Layer as information was received and Ventura County is in progress.

Rick noted that Matt Stuemky will leave June 15 and interviews for his replacement were complete. Rick stated the department hired DATOC Coordinator Holly Deniston-Sheets. Holly begins work at the CRB Visalia office on July 2, 2018.

### **CLOSING COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. Visalia, California on August 8, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.