

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 12, 2018

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on December 12, 2018 in Visalia, California by Chairman Keith Watkins.

Committee Members Present:

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| John Gless* | Ted Grether* | Roger Smith | Kevin Severns |
| Zac Green | Jim Gorden | Keith Watkins | |

Committee Members Absent:

None

CDFA Staff:

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| Ray Leclerc * | Victoria Hornbaker* | Magally Luque-Williams* | Nawal Sharma* |
| Cassandra Davis | Luci Kumagai* | Dr. David Morgan* | Bob Wynn* |
| Tina Galindo* | Dr. Jason Leathers* | Keith Okasaki* | Sean Farnum* |
| Sara Khalid* | | | |

CRB Staff:

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| Rick Dunn | Holly Deniston-Sheets |
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Guests:

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| Bob Atkins | Daniel Lee* | Jason Schwartze* | Judy Zaninovich* |
| Jill Barnier* | Karen Wasterman* | Tracy Moehnke* | Sandra Zwaal* |
| Erin Betts* | Dr Neil McRoberts* | Kirk Williams* | Mathew Lai* |
| Teri Blaser | Karen Lowerison* | Sylvie Robillard | Subhas Hajeri* |
| Dr. Melinda Klein* | | Cressida Silvers* | |

*** 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 a quorum for the meeting.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – Find and Eradicate Huanglongbing (HLB)

Laboratory Update

The CDFA lab analyzed 7935 plant samples in November bringing the cumulative number of plant samples to 81,538 for 2018. Total ACP sampled analyzed for November were 3,906 completed by the CRB lab. The total number of ACP and plant samples for the year to date is 142,368.

Based on a question, Luci will look at the cost per sample of University of Arizona and the anticipated cost for them going forward.

Risk-based Survey and Orange County Delimitation/Treatment Update

Magally presented the status the second phase of the statewide-wide HLB survey with significant progress happening in Imperial, Merced and many other Central Valley Counties. She also presented the status of the delimitation surveys in Orange County. Delimitations are complete or mostly complete in Tustin, La Habra, Fullerton, Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino, and Yorba Linda. Delimitations in Garden Grove, Santa Ana and Anaheim continue to grow with the new finds every week. There were questions regarding staff resources and allocation. CDFA is working diligently to hire in areas where we have the most work and allocate resources in the areas of greatest need which is in Garden Grove and Anaheim at this time.

There was a question regarding when we take Quadrant samples from trees- our response was that we do that within the vicinity of an HLB positive tree or ACP.

There was a question regarding sampling flush on trees- our response was that generally don't take flush samples as they do not show visible signs of infection. CDFA will follow-up on the procedures and efficacy of sampling and analyzing flush with a small workgroup of Magally, Luci and Don Stewart.

There was a question regarding the correlation between CLas positive nymphs and the associated CLas analysis of the host plant. Luci would look at the data she has and report back.

Los Angeles Area Delimitation

Tina stated that the delimitations are complete in Pico Rivera, Rosemead, and Lakewood and mostly complete in Whittier. We are continuing to work the new finds in Duarte and San Gabriel.

There was a question regarding treatment periods for area-wide buffer treatments and treatment within HLB areas and newly found ACP areas. We will adhere to the protocols set up by Beth Grafton Cardwell for are-wide buffer treatment. Out treatment for new ACP finds and in HLB areas are conducted as soon as possible following a detection and follow an annual cycle there-after. This is due to the nature of our response oriented program and due to staffing. While it is not possible or desirable to synchronize all treatment to follow a set seasonal protocol, CDFA will continue to investigate optimizing our response treatments and discuss with the Science Subcommittee.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 - Control ACP movement and Enforce Regulations

Nawal described our current procedures for handling the request for hand-field cleaning of fruit prior to shipment. Use of the alternative method to hand clean fruit requires approval of the source and receiving County Agricultural Commissioners and CDFA. The

CDFA form was modified on October 25, 2018 to clarify the intent of the form, that the only currently approved field cleaning method is machine cleaning utilizing washing or brushing.

CDFA is currently evaluating two Hand-field cleaning proposals to ensure they are equivalent to machine cleaning and will conduct field evaluations before any of these proposals are approved.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 - ACP Control/Suppression

Biocontrol Monitoring Updates

Dr. David Morgan stated that since its 2012 inception the biocontrol program has released over twelve million biocontrol agents and are on track to exceed the previous year significantly. Biocontrol agents are released around HLB find areas, and David will make releases in late winter in Visalia and Maricopa and has received approval from Kern and Tulare Counties. David stated that transect data showed that if 4,000 or more *Tamarixia* are released within one kilometer in a previous month, it drives down ACP in the area significantly. He noted that the program produces several thousand *Tamarixia* per month. David is working with a bio-statistician to get a better understanding of *Tamarixia* effectiveness in areas with larger releases of *Tamarixia*.

There were questions about recent ACP finds in Marin and San Luis Obispo Counties. There was a single find of ACP in Novato and a significant population found in Soledad. CDFA is following up consistent with the ACP/HLB Action Plan.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – Improve Data Technology, Analysis and Sharing

Grower Liaison Issues

Bob Atkins stated all counties are continuing to look for neglected and abandoned groves and are working to remove them. Both San Joaquin and Fresno Counties have been discussing the issue with our liaisons.

Exposure: Finalizing a Description

Neil stated his lab has completed a paper that helps a define HLB exposure in trees near HLB find sites. The paper has been provided to the Science Subcommittee and will be discuss at the Science Subcommittee in February and introduced to the Committee at the next full Committee meeting on January 9, 2019.

CLOSING COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 p.m. The January Operations Meeting that was scheduled for January 2 was cancelled and the next meeting will be held in Visalia, California on February 6, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.