CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION COMMITTEE
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE WEBINAR MEETING

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Operations Subcommittee Members Present:

Kevin Ball	Zac Green	Keith Watkins
John Gless	Roger Smith	

Operations Subcommittee Members Absent:

Brad Carmen	Kevin Severns

CDFA Staff:

Fidan Aghayarova	Victoria Hornbaker	Dr. David Morgan
Jonathan Babineau	Gavin Iacono	Alex Muniz
Karina Chu	Laura Irons	Keith Okasaki
Kiana Dao	Anmol Joshi	Lea Pereira
Paul Figueroa	Lucita Kumagai	Patty Tran
David Gutierrez	Magally Luque-Williams	Claudia Vazquez
Amelia Hicks	Zachary McCormack	Jennifer Willems

Guests:

Bob Atkins	Jay Gillette	Curtis Pate
Jill Barnier	John C. Gless	Tony Patino
Teri Blaser	Subhas Hajeri	Sylvie Robillard
Casey Creamer	Stanley Ishii	Markcus Santos
Natalie DeAngelo	Jessica Leslie	Cressida Silvers
Holly Deniston-Sheets	Mark McBroom	Stephanie Stark
Aaron Dillon	Dr. Neil McRoberts	Judy Zaninovich
Rick Dunn	Margaret O'Neill	Sandra Zwaal
Lisa Finke		

Opening
The Subcommittee meeting was called to order via webinar at 9:00 a.m. on October 7, 2020. Keith Watkins welcomed the Subcommittee members, guests, and staff participating via webinar.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – Find and Eradicate Huanglongbing (HLB)
Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) Canines Detection Funding Discussion
Lisa Finke stated that the program's research over 12 months has found the dogs to be 91 percent accurate on identifying Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), on average, across bins, trees, and tubs. She suggested that the canines could be used to inspect areas for ACP, inspect bulk citrus in the field or at packinghouses, post canine teams at border stations and assist growers with ACP management. The program costs $553 per hour or $96,616 per month. The program currently has two handlers, two scouts and six dogs, but starting in December 2020 three mobile teams will be available. The committee requested further information on the cost per tree, including analysis on the

role humidity plays in canine detection. It was noted that the canines are trained to search for live psyllids and therefore require live ACP to minimize false alarms. The Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) would like to see more collaboration between the canine team and the Citrus Division field staff, however, this is problematic as quarantine pests are not allowed into areas that are not infested and can pose a regulatory conflict.

Laboratory Update
Lucita Kumagai stated that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and Citrus Research Board (CRB) labs received 4,979 plant samples and 3,189 ACP samples, 50 percent and 40 percent of total capacity, respectively. Year to date, the labs have received 72,011 plant and ACP samples, 44 percent of total lab capacity. Cumulatively since 2012, there has been 2,098 positive tree detections and 312 positive ACP detections across 1,514 detection sites. Orange County contains 75 percent of HLB-positive tree detections and Los Angeles County contains 23 percent of detections. Fountain Valley, La Mirada, Ontario, San Bernardino, Colton and Rancho Cucamonga are new 2020 HLB detection sites. The majority of positive finds are located in Orange County. 2,098 HLB-positive trees have been removed to date; 482 from Los Angeles, 1,573 from Orange, 28 from Riverside and 15 from San Bernardino Counties. The CPDPC requested the actual costs per sample per year.

HLB Risk Survey Update
Magally Luque-Williams stated that Cycle 2 for 2020 has begun and will survey 36 counties. She noted that ACP populations were low for most of 2020 but have risen in August.

HLB Detection, Delimitation and Tree Removal
Anmol Joshi stated that five HLB-positive trees were detected in a new area in Rancho Cucamonga and have been removed. 37 trees tested positive in September 2020. The Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Division (CPDPD) has eight warrant properties awaiting execution in mid-October 2020. The program is doing delimitation survey in City of Orange, Santa Ana, Garden Grove, Whittier, La Mirada and Rancho Cucamonga, re-treatment in the City of Riverside, and quadrant surveys in Orange, Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 – Control ACP Movement and Enforce Regulations
Fines/Penalty Structure Discussion
Keith Okasaki stated that each county has their own fine structure to issue penalties, and CPDPD can suspend compliance agreements. In counties with limited resources, the program will assist with inspections to ensure adequate coverage.

Regulatory Activity Update
Keith Okasaki stated that the grants office is executing county agreements for regulatory work. The CPDPC requested information on how many notices of violations are given per county and which counties are most aggressive.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 – ACP Control/Suppression
Grove Trapping Discussion
Jennifer Willems stated that CPDPD uses yellow panel traps for detection trapping, delimitation trapping and commercial grove trapping. All traps are serviced monthly according to the ACP/HLB Action Plan, except for Central Valley (CV) commercial grove traps which are biweekly. Changing CV grove trapping schedule to monthly servicing would reduce salary expenditures, save $16,971 per year in trapping costs and reduce workload for screeners but would delay ACP identification. An alternative that was proposed was to change the ACP/HLB Action Plan to reflect the biweekly servicing schedule.

Trapping and Treatment Updates
Southern California
Mr. Joshi stated that area-wide treatments are complete in Santa Barbara, San Pasqual and University of California, Riverside and are in progress in Ventura, Hemet, San Bernardino and the United States/Mexico border. Delimitation treatments in City of Orange are 87 percent complete, Garden Grove are 80 percent complete, Santa Ana are 33 percent complete, and the retreatment of Tustin is complete. Retreatments in Fullerton, Yorba Linda and City of Riverside are in progress.

Central California
Jennifer Willems stated that there have been ACP detections in an organic grove in Arvin, Kern County. Staff treated find sites and adjacent properties in Bakersfield and near Edison. There was a detection in Kettleman City, Kings County that has been treated and no further detections were found. Risk survey in the valley and ACP trapping in Fresno and Madera counties are ongoing.

Northern California
Amelia Hicks stated that the HLB risk survey Cycle 2 is being conducted in Alameda and Santa Clara counties, with treatment area expansions in San Jose due to ACP finds. Delimitation and *Tamarixia radiata* releases are ongoing. Costs of treatment in August were in excess of $42,000 and September is projected to be over $80,000. At these levels, the current treatment contract will run out of funds. If the program terminates treatment, CPDPD would reduce trap density from 50 traps per square mile to 25, and would continue visual survey, collecting and testing specimens, and biocontrol program releases. The Subcommittee moved to recommend discontinuing treatment to the full Committee.

Biocontrol Update
Dr. David Morgan stated that the Biocontrol program has released 2,600,000 insects in 2020, 83 percent of last year. The program has begun to release *Tamarixia* regularly in Santa Clara and Kern Counties in addition to the usual Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, Ventura and San Diego Counties. The program has found low levels of flush since May 2020 with no second flush, mirroring low ACP populations.

Regional ACP Update
Bob Atkins stated that there is a candidate for the San Diego Grower Liaison vacancy; the Riverside Grower Liaison position has been reposted. Most Grower Liaisons are in

the process of area-wide treatments. There is no treatment going on in the Imperial buffer areas due to few residential properties near commercial groves.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – Improve Data Technology, Analysis and Sharing
Data Analysis and Tactical Operations Center (DATOC) Update
Holly Deniston-Sheets stated that DATOC is looking at the cost-effectiveness of the project, using the agent-based model and climate work as it relates to ACP populations. They will share climate data for ACP suitability in the CV and look at neighborhood density as it relates to buffer treatments.

Data Management Report
Rick Dunn stated that he is working with psyllid management areas and task forces and is close to completing the Ventura County citrus layer. CRB will be implementing an Enterprise Geographic Information System (GIS) to enhance in-house GIS capabilities and to help implement replacement hardware for field GIS units. It was also noted that CalTrap is under beta testing and the CDFA is working on an application for survey data collection.

Closing
The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m. The next meeting will be held via webinar on November 4, 2020.