

**CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION COMMITTEE (CPDPC)
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE WEBINAR MEETING**

**Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

Operations Subcommittee Members Present:

Kevin Ball	John Gless	Roger Smith
Brad Carmen	Zac Green	Keith Watkins

Operations Subcommittee Absent:

CDFA Staff:

Fidan Aghayarova	Mathew Jian	Lea Pereira
Karina Chu	Anmol Joshi	David Phong
Kiana Dao	Marina Kaiser	Grace Radabaugh
Paul Figueroa	Daniel Lee	Lydia Rodriguez
Alisha Garcia	Magally Luque-Williams	Briana Russel
David Gutierrez	Zachary McCormack	Michael Soltero
Amelia Hicks	David Morgan	ThuyVy Truong
Victoria Hornbaker	Alex Muniz	Claudia Vazquez
Karla Huerta	Keith Okasaki	Jennifer Willems
Laura Irons		

Guests:

Price Adams	Subhas Hajeri	Monique Rivera
Bob Atkins	Melinda Klein	Sylvie Robillard
Teri Blaser	Luci Kumagai	Cressida Silvers
Casey Creamer	Jessica Leslie	Krista Smith
Holly Deniston-Sheets	Mark McBroom	Roger Smith
Aaron Dillon	Neil McRoberts	Karen Westerman
Rick Dun	Mia Neunzig	Qijun Xiang
Sara Garcia-Figuera	Margaret O'Neill	Judy Zaninovich
Jim Gorden	Etienne Rabe	Sandra Zwall

Opening

The Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) Operations Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting was called to order via webinar at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2021. Keith Watkins welcomed subcommittee members, guests, and staff.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – Huanglongbing (HLB) Detection, Delimitation, and Tree Removal

HLB Detection, Delimitation, and Tree Removal

Anmol Joshi clarified that the HLB-positive tree in the city of Riverside was not in an abandoned commercial area, but rather behind a closed business, and was removed. He reported that the remaining 57 trees at the find site were treated and quadrant

sampled. All trees tested negative for HLB. The property owner is collaborating with University of California, Riverside on a study for early detection of *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* (CLas). Anmol also reported that the delimitation survey and treatment of the 250m area in Fallbrook was completed. A total of 78 properties were surveyed, 21 had no citrus hosts, and one was a refusal property. A total of 59 plant samples and 20 entomology samples were collected, and all samples tested negative for HLB and CLas.

HLB delimitation surveys are ongoing in Los Angeles, Orange, and Riverside counties. Specifically, surveys are ongoing in the cities of Paramount, Orange, and Fountain Valley. He clarified that Corona had a total of 1,029 properties, but over 600 of the properties are apartments that staff could not access due to COVID-19 concerns.

He reported that the number of quadrant survey samples collected in January 2021 in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego counties were 22, 285, 25, and 52, respectively.

In Orange/Los Angeles/Riverside counties, four trees tested positive for HLB and 50 trees were removed in the month of January. The high number of trees removed was due to the high number of HLB-positive trees detected at the end of December 2021. He reported that there is one site with four trees in Orange County pending a warrant execution.

HLB border high-risk survey winter cycles are 26 percent completed in San Diego and 75 percent completed in Imperial.

He provided a staffing update indicating 72 permanent staff, 39 seasonal staff, and 14 open positions in the Southern District.

Laboratory Update

Lucita Kumagai reported that the laboratory received 3,473 plant samples and 2,149 ACP samples in January 2021, down from 7,407 plant samples and 3,292 ACP samples in December 2020. She stated that one technician was placed on contact tracing duties, reducing the laboratory's sample processing capacity. The laboratory received 104,571 plant and ACP samples, 48 percent of total laboratory capacity. Since 2012, there were 2,256 HLB-positive tree detections and 1,646 CLas-positive ACP detections across 1,641 detection sites. Most of the positive detections were in Orange County with 72 percent of the positive detection sites, 76 percent of the HLB-positive tree detections, and 66 percent of the CLas-positive ACP detections. In 2020, there were 488 HLB-positive tree detections and 2021 there are currently 14. Since 2015, 35 percent of the plant samples collected and 37 percent of the of the ACP samples collected were from Los Angeles County.

HLB Risk Survey

Magally Luque-Williams reported that seven of the 36 counties where HLB risk survey is conducted are 100 percent completed. The remaining counties had completion ranging from 6 percent to 94 percent. She stated that 29,690 properties were surveyed, 8,528 entomology samples were collected, and 7,584 plant samples were collected. A total of 1,465 ACP samples and 1,225 plant samples were collected in January 2021.

It was also reported that from 2012 to 2020 a total of 23,469 square miles were surveyed, 722,624 properties were surveyed, 242,142 ACP samples were collected, and 112,061 plant samples were collected.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 – Control Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) Movement and Enforce Regulations

Regulatory Updates

Keith Okasaki requested grate cleaned fruit inspection forms for the past couple of months from Riverside and Ventura County. Inspections in Ventura County have yielded great results, however, inspections in Riverside County have yielded high numbers of leaves per bin. He worked with Riverside County to issue a formal notice to packing houses near the end of January to improve on the grate cleaning method. Since issuing the letter, the numbers of leaves per bin inspected at Riverside County packing houses significantly decreased. It was noted that increased numbers will result in suspensions. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) will continue to work with all counties to have them send grate cleaned fruit inspection forms on a regular basis.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 – ACP Control/Suppression Trapping and Treatment Updates

Southern District

Mr. Joshi reported 250-meter areawide buffer treatments for winter cycle 2021 is ongoing in Ventura, Coachella, Hemet, San Bernardino, and San Diego/Imperial County border buffer, however, UC Riverside is postponed until late February due to inclement weather. San Pasqual was completed the same day. Santa Barbara and Imperial counties, and Borrego Springs were completed on December 22, 2020, January 28, 2021, and January 25, 2021, respectively. HLB delimitation treatment areas are nearly complete in Los Angeles and Orange counties. The rate of completion is 98 percent in both Paramount and the city of Orange. Two public meetings were held in February 2021 and were well attended by approximately 35-40 public residents.

Central District

Jennifer Willems reported detection trapping is ongoing in Madera and Fresno counties and that delimitation trapping continues in Madera, Kern and San Luis Obispo counties, with 43, 2,509, and 62 traps, respectively. Delimitation trapping in Madera and San Luis Obispo are all currently on a monthly servicing interval, and Kern County delimitation trapping has some grids still in weekly servicing. Kern County has been servicing most of the delimitation traps. She reiterated that delimitation traps in San Luis Obispo County are split between CDFA and Citrus Research Board (CRB) grove trappers. Santa Barbara and Ventura County areawide trapping is ongoing. She reported that treatment in Kern County is nearly complete. A fifth public meeting was held on January 20, 2021, in which treatment for the last 400-meter treatment area began on January 25, 2021 including biocontrol *Tamarixia* releases. She reported that HLB high-risk survey is ongoing and that high-risk survey in Monterey County is 100 percent complete. Many Central District staff are now returning to conducting HLB risk survey due to Kern County treatment nearing completion, with a goal of completing surveying by the end of February. The Central District is around 75 percent fully staffed, and several positions are vacant with interviews and/or offers pending.

Northern District

Amelia Hicks reported no new ACP detections in Contra Costa County since the November 2020 detection and subsequent December 2020 treatment. Delimitation trapping in Contra Costa County has switched over to monthly servicing. One new adult ACP was confirmed in San Jose on February 5, 2021, bringing the number of delimitation grids in San Jose to 21. She added that biocontrol releases are ongoing in Santa Clara County. District staff are continuing winter residential and year-round residential trapping, and that there are nearly 7,000 traps in the Northern District. She stated that the Northern District is around 90 percent fully staffed.

Biocontrol Update

Dr. David Morgan reported 141,000 *Tamarixia radiata* releases across 565 sites this year with the majority being in Los Angeles County (46,000 releases), followed by Orange (33,000 releases) and Riverside counties (12,000 releases). He stated that 70 percent of the releases are in HLB find areas, and 12 percent on transportation routes. Additionally, a new publication will soon be released detailing the reduction in ACP populations in urban areas.

Regional/Grower Liaison ACP Update

Victoria Hornbaker reported the grower liaison (GL) position in Riverside is still vacant and will be re-posted. Sandra Zwaal has been following up with growers in the Fallbrook area. The San Joaquin Valley GLs hosted a grower meeting that was very well attended. GLs in Tulare County are currently working with growers around the ACP find site at a packing house in Exeter.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – Improve Data Technology, Analysis, and Sharing **Data Analysis and Tactical Operation Center (DATOC) Update**

Holly Deniston-Sheets reported DATOC has been gathering trapping research on different types of traps and lures, including the standard yellow panel trap and Dr. Ramadugu's 3D traps using propylene glycol and suction devices. She recommended the use of the standard yellow panel trap, no-mess adhesive traps, and the 3D traps. The 3D trap has not been deployed by CDFA, but there is a plan to do so in the near future. She suggested that if the new technologies are too expensive for full deployment, that they might be useful in ACP and HLP hotspots and find areas. A written report will be ready for the next operations subcommittee meeting.

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn provided updates on CRB's Data Management Department's activities. His staff are continuing to update the Statewide Commercial Citrus GIS Layer; supporting Psyllid Management Area group activities and regional ACP/HLB Task Force groups with mapping support services, conducting data scrubbing quality control, and map production task; and supporting the commercial grove trapping/sampling program. Ms. Hornbaker stated that CalTrap has moved to the next phase in its deployment.

Current State of Program (Staff, Leases, Vehicles, etc.)

Ms. Hornbaker presented an updated organizational chart showing the current vacant positions, she stated that many of the vacant positions are in the Camarillo office in the Central District. She stated that the Division has submitted a fleet acquisition plan for 140 vehicles. She added that long term rental vehicles for staff are currently being used.

She stated the Governor's Office is now mandating all state agencies to reduce leasing space and the Division is reevaluating its leasing footprint.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m. The next meeting will be held via webinar on March 3, 2021.