

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

**Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 7, 2021**

**Operations Subcommittee Members Present:**

|             |             |               |
|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Kevin Ball  | Roger Smith | Keith Watkins |
| Brad Carmen |             |               |

**Operations Subcommittee Absent:**

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| John Gless | Zac Green |
|------------|-----------|

**CDFA Staff:**

|                    |                        |                       |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Kelley Aubushon    | Anmol Joshi            | Alex Muniz            |
| Karina Chu         | Marina Kaiser          | Colleen Murphy-Vierra |
| Paul Figueroa      | Sarah Kraft            | Keith Okasaki         |
| Alisha Garcia      | Luci Kumagai           | David Phong           |
| David Gutierrez    | Daniel Lee             | Briana Russell        |
| Daren Harris       | Betty Lee              | Michael Soltero       |
| Amelia Hicks       | Magally Luque-Williams | ThuyVy Truong         |
| Victoria Hornbaker | Zachary McCormack      | Claudia Vazquez       |
| Mathew Jian        | David Morgan           | Jennifer Willems      |

**Guests:**

|                       |                |                  |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bob Atkins            | Melinda Klein  | Sylvie Robillard |
| Teri Blaser           | Jessica Leslie | Riccardo Russo   |
| Holly Deniston-Sheets | Jasmine Lopez  | Cressida Silvers |
| Rick Dunn             | Weiqi Luo      | Krista Smith     |
| Lisa Finke            | Neil McRoberts | Stephanie Stark  |
| Jim Gorden            | Curtis Pate    | Karen Westerman  |
| Subhas Hajeri         | Jared Plumlee  | Qijun Xiang      |
| Alyssa Houtby         | Drew Posny     | Judy Zaninovich  |
| Jonathan Kaplan       | Monique Rivera | Sandra Zwaal     |

**Opening**

The Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) Operations Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting was called to order via webinar at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. Keith Watkins welcomed subcommittee members, guests, and staff.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – FIND AND ERADICATE HUANGLONGBING**

**Program Efficiencies Discussion**

Victoria Hornbaker reported that the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Division (CPDPD) is continuing to look at consolidating leased spaces where possible. She added that the CPDPD is trying to acquire long term lease vehicles, but is using short-term rentals to meet current needs. The CPDPD is looking into retrofitting some trucks with treatment tanks and equipment, so staff can respond quickly to detections. Additionally, staff are being cross trained in survey and treatment work in order to be flexible and increase our ability to fully utilize our work force.

**Huanglongbing Detection, Delimitation and Tree Removal**

Anmol Joshi reported that the first HLB positive tree was detected in Long Beach as part of the Huanglongbing (HLB) delimitation survey resulting in a quarantine expansion of 4 square miles. The positive tree property and adjacent properties will be quadrant sampled.

In March, HLB delimitation surveys were conducted in the cities of Long Beach, Corona, Riverside, Garden Grove, and Santa Ana, including re-surveys. Surveys in Corona and the city of Garden Grove are near completion.

The number of quadrant survey samples collected in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and Imperial counties were 39, 27, 25, and 118, respectively. It was noted that the information presented in the slides is for data covered through March 25, however, Anmol provided updated numbers to reflect 45 trees tested positive for HLB, 32 trees were removed, and 13 trees are pending removal. Two trees in Orange County that require warrants for removal have been scheduled for April 15.

The HLB border survey spring cycles started in San Diego and Imperial counties on March 23. Tissue and seasonality sampling is a CRB-funded program where young and old leaf, peduncle, and root samples are collected from HLB positive trees and non-HLB positive trees that were either inconclusive, had dog alerts, or had *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* (CLAs) positive ACP. The objective is to determine which sampling material is best for determining HLB in which season. The tissue and seasonality sampling winter cycle was completed on March 19. Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and Imperial counties had 25, 21, two, and two non-positive sites, respectively. Los Angeles County has one HLB positive site.

### **Laboratory Update**

The information in the presentation slides was for data as of March 24, however, Lucita Kumagai reported on updated numbers as of April 6. For March, the laboratory received 4,933 plant samples and 2,156 Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) samples were processed by the Citrus Research Board lab. Most of the plant samples were from Orange County and most of the ACP samples were from Los Angeles County. Year-to-date, the laboratory received a total of 18,179 plant and ACP samples, and confirmed 54 HLB positive trees. To date, there have been 1,675 sites with positive HLB and/or (CLAs) detections, 2,296 HLB positive tree detections and 325 CLAs positive ACP detections.

### **HLB Risk Survey**

Magally Luque-Williams reported that 33 of the 36 counties for HLB risk-based survey 2020 Cycle 2 are 100 percent complete. The three counties pending are Fresno, Tulare, and Kern counties, with completion rates of 35%, 75%, and 49%, respectively. 42,696 properties were surveyed, 10,818 entomology samples were collected, and 10,727 plant samples were collected in 2020 Cycle 2. 450 ACP samples and 1,389 plant samples were collected in March.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 – CONTROL ACP MOVEMENT AND ENFORCE REGULATIONS**

### **Regulatory Activity Update**

Keith Okasaki presented county regulatory activities conducted from July 2020 to January 2021. Zone 2 (Fresno, Kern, Kings, and Tulare counties) and Zone 5 (Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties) had conducted the majority of the regulatory activities. County regulatory agreements that begin July 2021 and end September 2022 are being processed.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 – ACP CONTROL/SUPPRESSION**

### **Trapping, Treatment, and Staffing Updates**

#### *Southern District*

Anmol reported that the 250-meter areawide buffer treatments for winter cycle 2021 are ongoing in the Imperial County border buffer with over 2,000 out of 7,500 properties treated. Areawide

buffer treatments in Coachella, UC Riverside, Hemet, Ventura, and San Diego border buffer are complete. HLB delimitation treatment in Corona and Whittier are 100 percent complete. HLB delimitation treatment in Santa Ana, Pico Rivera, and Long Beach are ongoing. Two public meetings were held in March.

#### *Central District*

Jennifer Willems reported detection trapping is ongoing in Madera and Fresno counties, areawide trapping is ongoing in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, and delimitation trapping continues in Madera, Kern and San Luis Obispo counties. Quality control inspections for trapping began in March. A sixth public meeting for Kern County was held on March 3, for the ACP detection in Arvin and the 400-meter treatment is complete. There was an ACP detection in a commercial grove on March 5 in Bakersfield. The grower was notified and treatment was conducted at the property. No further ACP have been detected in Kern County. *Tamarixia radiata* releases are ongoing in Kern County. Northern and Southern district staff assisted the Central district on risk-based survey, and will continue to do so until 2020 Cycle 2 is complete. Staff in the Camarillo office began risk-based survey 2021 Cycle 1.

#### *Northern District*

Amelia Hicks reported that winter residential ACP detection trapping will end on April 30, and that year-round ACP trapping will continue in Placer, San Joaquin, and Stanislaus counties. Quality control inspections of trapping are ongoing. She reported 4 new ACP detections in San Jose, Santa Clara County in the month of March and that biocontrol releases are ongoing. The most recent ACP find in San Jose was on April 2, and five miles away from the previous ACP detection. The find site and adjacent properties have been surveyed. After discussion from the Subcommittee, it was agreed that CPDPD staff will treat the find site and the adjacent properties.

#### **Biocontrol Update**

Dr. David Morgan reported over 550 *Tamarixia radiata* release events occurred in March. He reported that releases began in Santa Barbara County. Over 650,000 insects have been released year-to-date with most of the releases taking place around HLB positive sites and along trade routes. For the first time since 2015, branches are all flushing at the same time, which is sooner than traditional and possible reason for not finding higher numbers of ACP.

#### **Regional/GL ACP Update**

Bob Atkins reported that grower liaison (GL), Judy Zaninovich, responded to the ACP detection in Kern County by contacting the grower. Winter areawide treatment is ongoing and nearing completion. GL, Sandra Zwaal, continues to work with San Diego County to identify neglected and abandoned citrus groves. Bob reported that the GL positions in Riverside and Imperial counties have received qualified applicants and are currently under review.

#### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – IMPROVE DATA TECHNOLOGY, ANALYSIS, AND SHARING** **ACP Trapping Technologies**

It was agreed upon to move the ACP trapping technology research to the Science Subcommittee.

#### **Data Analysis and Tactical Operation Center (DATOC) Update**

Weiqi Luo presented on HLB risk-based survey design and Section, Township, Range (STR) selection. He reported that Fresno, Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, and Tulare counties had at least 70 percent of their STRs surveyed in the last six years. Most of the HLB detections were observed in STRs that were sampled at least four times from 2015 to 2020. He presented on the nine Dynamic Risk Factor Models that influence the model. He noted that there is strong correlation between HLB detection locations and both census travel introduction and citrus corridors. He presented factors that are taken into consideration when selecting STRs to survey

and sampling density which include: total risk value from the model, distance to commercial citrus grove, number of staff dedicated to HLB risk-based survey in the region, and sampling efficacy.

### **Data Management Report**

Rick Dunn reported that his staff continue to assist with the statewide Citrus Layer maintenance; updating the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources interactive web map with ACP, biocontrol, CLAs positive ACP detection, and HLB positive detection data; 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 tasks; updating the Data Analysis Tactical Operations Center websites; and supporting the commercial grove trapping/sampling program. He reported that 32,309 ACP samples were collected and tested from commercial groves and that 1.7 million traps have been serviced to date.

### **CalTrap/Citrus Surveyor Update**

Colleen Murphy-Vierra reported that CalTrap is currently behind schedule due to decreased staffing and is hopeful that the application will be ready for use in all counties by the end of summer. All counties have been trained to use the CalTrap desktop application. She is currently working with the vendor to update the CalTrap mobile application. Los Angeles County is currently the only county using the CalTrap application. The Citrus Surveyor application is being updated based on the feedback received from beta testers. The Citrus Surveyor mobile application is nearing completion. The Citrus Surveyor Supervisor desktop application is currently in development.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **Unofficial Lime Swallowtail Detections**

Victoria reported that unofficial lime swallowtail (LST) samples were collected by local individuals in Los Angeles County and not by regulatory officials. The Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner's office reached out to CPDPD about the LST detections. CPDPD staff surveyed the area where the LST samples were collected and no additional detections were found. Southern District staff will continue to search for LST when conducting HLB risk-based surveys. To date, the origin of the specimen is unknown. Additionally, CPDPD does not receive additional funds for this work but will absorb it as part of the program.

### **Closing**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m. The next meeting will be held via webinar on May 5, 2021.