



Pest Prevention Committee
Minutes
May 7, 2013, 10:00-12:00 PM
Marriot, Visalia, Ca.

Committee Members:

Fred Crowder, Chair
Richard Price
Kevin Wright
Kurt Floren
Miguel Monroy
Jeff Dolf
Les Wright

Alternates:

Marilyn Kinoshita
Joe Deviney
Pat Griffin
Lisa Leondis
Jeff Pylman

Call to order-10 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

October 16, Winter Conference minutes previously approved by email.

Chair Report: Fred Crowder, San Mateo Agricultural Commissioner

Sec 10201 projects-Three proposals were submitted for funding. Marmorated Stink Bug, Weed Eradication and Digital Imaging for Insect ID. CACASA was unsuccessful in obtaining funding. Feedback was asked for all three proposals, but no response yet from USDA. PEXD training webinars were successful. New system training well received. Let the Chair know if any more are needed.

Reduction of sub-committee within Pest Prevention will be reviewed in the next couple of months to determine if they are still needed.

CACASA participated in planning the 21st Century Pest Prevention Symposium to be held June 5th in Oakland.

Report 4 instructions have been updated and revised for clarity. Some counties indicated there may be an additional need to reconvene sessions with deputy groups for further review. Contact Chair if this is indeed the case.

Sub-Committee reports:

Mary Pfeiffer Agricultural Commissioner Shasta County-CACASA regarding CISAC contract with Farm Bureau. Invasive Species Brochure being distributed in Farmers Markets. Contract required 100 Farmers Markets and surveys have been distributed to at least twice as many as required. Surveys will be conducted to measure effectiveness of brochure.

Communications:

No communications to report

CDFA Reports:

Plant Health Budget: Dr. Robert Leavitt, CDFA - Informational handout attached

General Fund -37% cuts across state service. \$60 million to \$36.6 million

Increase from Seed Advisory board for seed lab operations for \$150K/yr.

PCIT fee collected \$1.15 million. Funds used for interior pest exclusion work.

Only high risk inspections are conducted at border stations to make budget. No double inspections.

Hours at stations cut back. Changes were made mid-year.

Federal funds are being cut. APHIS budget cut 16% since 2010. Budget cuts for cooperative agreements 7.8%. Since cuts came in middle of year, cuts could be as high as 16 % to operating expenses for rest of federal fiscal year through September 2013. May not be the end of federal budget cuts depending on political events. In addition a \$500,000 Medfly release program cut is planned. Challenges will continue. No enhancements on general fund side and hope things don't get worse on federal side. Public can call Dr. Leavitt directly with concerns.

Draft Pest Ratings Regulation-Steven Brown, CDFA

Steve presented a handout of the proposed regulation to update the pest rating system in California and ensure it meets international standards. Informational ratings and H rated for weeds are not included in the proposal. If there already is a regulation concerning a pest, there cannot be a duplicate regulation. Economic impact statement is needed before final proposal is accepted. Plan will be developed for coordinated effort for development of pest ratings. Pest Prevention Chair is coordinating collection of comments which will be forwarded to Steve and a conference call will be scheduled to review the final document before it goes public.

New Pest Update-Dr. Jason Leathers, CDFA

Ficus white fly (*Singhiella simplex*) has been found in Los Angeles and San Diego County. It feeds on species of Ficus but not commercial fig. It has been found in the environment but not in nurseries yet. Common blossom thrips (*Frankiniella schultzei*) thrips were found in Los Angeles on rosebushes, a pest of vegetables. Found in shipments of cut flowers. Two species of Protea mealybugs have been found. *Delottococcus confusus* has been found in San Luis Obispo County and San Diego County and *Phenacoccus hakeae* has been found in San Luis Obispo County. They feed on proteaceous plants and can lead to development of sooty mold. The Eulophid gall wasps *Ophelimus* sp. and *Selitrichodes* sp. have been found in Los Angeles County. They cause protruding leaf galls on Spotted Gum trees. The thrips *Dendrothrips howei* has been found in Riverside County and Orange County. It is only known to feed on plants in the genus *Xylosoma*. Bamboo Borer (*Chlorophorus annularis*) has been found in Tulare County. It feeds on dead bamboo.

Asian Citrus Psyllid /Haunglongbing-Victoria Hornbaker, CDFA

Next meeting will be held in Visalia June 12th. Grower liaison contracts for impacted counties have been issued. Any county with less than 1,000 acres of citrus will not have contracts. CDFA is only treating ACP infested residential properties adjacent to commercial citrus groves.

LBAM regulatory update-Amber Morris, CDFA (handout)

Shortfall in LBAM funding, hoping for increase in funding level from USDA by the end of the FY.

Coast Group meeting with CDFA to discuss funding and prioritizing LBAM regulator activities.

CDFA is planning an LBAM Summit in June or July. Most recent LBAM finds are in San Diego

County. Host LBAM cut flowers and nursery stock -exported to Canada and Mexico must meet ISPM

10 requirements, including negative trapping, although Canada may consider alternatives for cut flower and nursery stock.

CDFA will send a letter to counties to let industry know that their products may not meet origin requirements to Mexico because of trapping requirements.

Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) - Regulatory Summary

LBAM Domestic Update:

•Regulatory Funding

Per Pest Exclusion Advisory (PEA) 07-2013, the current funding received from the USDA for the statewide LBAM Program is \$1,971,000. This total is insufficient to support statewide LBAM Program needs, including the regulatory enforcement activities conducted by both CDFA and the counties for the cooperative agreement period of October 1, 2012 - September 30, 2013.

The total funding available for county LBAM regulatory agreements is \$338,000. Details regarding the amount allocated per county are outlined in PEA 07-2013. Work plans are due to Pest Exclusion by Friday, May 10. Regulatory agreements may be amended if additional funding for LBAM becomes available.

•Regulatory Activities

Revised "LBAM Regulatory Work Plan Instructions" (attached to PEA 07-2013) were developed to assist counties with determining the frequency and types of activities that are required under LBAM federal and/or state quarantines. Pest Exclusion is also working on revisions to the LBAM Scope of Work and Regulatory Procedures Manual to ensure they accurately reflect the requirements of the LBAM federal and/or state quarantines.

•Recent USDA Host Exemptions

Per Phytosanitary Advisory (PSA) 09-2013, on April 2, 2013, the USDA announced that cherries and conventionally-produced strawberries have been added to the exempted host list for LBAM (Appendix I of the LBAM Federal Order). Intrastate and interstate regulations for LBAM do not apply to these and all other listed exempt commodities.

LBAM Export Update:

•Canada- LBAM Host Fruits and Vegetables

CDFA has issued several Phytosanitary Advisories to clarify shipping requirements for fruits and vegetables being exported to British Columbia, including:

PSA 12-2012- Shipping requirements are described with USDA/APHIS clarifications.

PSA 02-2013- Specifies how a shipper becomes re-eligible after LBAM detection.

PSA 05-2013- Outlines new certification option with no trapping component.

PSA 04, 07, 10-2013- Issuance of compliance agreement documents and clarifications for using new certification option.

•Canada- Export Requirements for LBAM Hosts Other than Fruits and Vegetables

USDA has confirmed that Canada is open to discussing alternatives to current importing requirements for LBAM hosts other than fruits and vegetables (cut flowers, nursery stock). They would like to see one proposal by early June. Pest Exclusion will collect input from counties and forward to USDA.

•Mexico- LBAM Host Fruits and Vegetables

CDFA has issued several Phytosanitary Advisories to clarify shipping requirements for fruits and vegetables being exported to Mexico, including:

PSA 12-2012- Shipping requirements are described with USDA/APHIS clarifications.

PSA 02-2013- Specifies how a shipper becomes re-eligible after LBAM detection.

SOD Update – Amber Morris, CDFA

FY 13-14 17.5% reduction in program funding. Federal order to remove requirement for inspection of non- host nurseries is pending to lessen workload. An advisory will be coming out shortly.

Enhanced Detection 10201 Project – Art Gilbert, CDFA

\$2.8 million in project funding is available for now. Contracts have gone out. \$1.8 million in Ag quarantine money not received yet. CDFA may need to re-evaluate the program in January, if the USDA funds do not materialize. Detection program will be run like last year, JB and Gypsy Moth trap inspections. Fruit fly placement trapping starts May 1.

SOD and North American Ornamental Research Sits at Dominical University, California (NORSUDUC)-Kathy Kosta, CDFA

Slide presentation highlighting SOD control study project on Dominical University campus as relates to nursery industry. Funding for the project came from the 2008 farm bill and continues. Study is set up to both contain pathogen and not allow it to get out from study site as well as prevent introduction of pathogen from outside. Study has looked at multiple non pesticide treatments, notable steam treatments and the use of Tricoderma fungi. Both have worked successfully on a small scale to clean up SOD infested nurseries and show promise for future.

USDA Reports:

USDA/APHIS Report -Barb Maehler

Late resolution of FY 13 budget mandated by sequestration requires 7.8% reduction, applies to USDA and cooperators. CDFA bio control, woodborer and nematode survey will take cuts. PPQ is reducing staffing costs through restructuring and maximizing program efficiencies. Cooperative agreements are high on priority list for funding that has been provided. USDA is committed to EGVM, GWSS, and LBAM.

28 California projects funded for \$14.3 million has been approved. CHRP funding also has been reduced.

USDA sent Mexico a letter requesting pest scouting as alternative to LBAM trapping, but has not heard back from Mexico.

USDA/CBP Report - Robin Wall, Liaison to CDFA

ACP, Asian Gypsy Moths and Khapra Beetle interceptions have been increasing over the last few years.

USDA held trainings for Khapra Beetle detection which has resulted in increased interceptions on incoming shipments and on vessels. There are treatment options if Khapra Beetle is found in commercial shipments. As well as finding insects, any body parts of Khapra Beetle are actionable, cast skins, etc. Trapping is done around storage facilities by local authority.

Wood products rejections for pests and markings have increased. Rejected shipments require mandatory export of entire shipment. Many are crates and pallets of stone products.

Monk parakeets are coming in as pets from foreign travelers.

Interceptions of fighting roosters and paraphernalia peaked in January and February. Birds are taken to Mexico then brought back during this time.

Swim bladders of the endangered drum fish used for fish belly soup are worth up to \$10,000 apiece. Smuggling is a problem along the southern U.S. border and a federal offense.

Meeting Adjourned at 12 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Les Wright.