



# REPORT

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## Funding

It is the time of year when industry organizations and others are closing in on the end of fiscal years and focusing energy on projecting needs for the next year. With citrus harvest winding down, it also is the time for all to contemplate how best to invest industry resources in meeting its many challenges.

Since March, CRDF has been working internally and with industry groups to solidify plans for the next year of research and product development, and also to put into perspective the various sources in funding that are available to support CRDF efforts on behalf of the industry.

With that in mind, we presented our preliminary budget overview to Citrus Commissioners at their May 16 meeting in Bartow, and shared with them our projections for research, product development and overhead expenses for the 2012-13 fiscal year which begins July 1. With the new round of 67 approved research projects inserted into the portfolio, the projected budget needs for 2012-13 are \$17 million, down from nearly \$19.5 million approved for the 2011-12 budget year. This budget includes all current projects as well as a projection for first-year costs of the next cycle of research project applications that will begin in Fall.

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of many, resources to fuel this budget appear within reach to meet the goals for the next budget year. While a significant proportion of the funding will come from growers via the research box tax administered by FDACS (estimated at \$5.1 million for 2012-13) and the marketing box tax program administered by FDOC (requested at \$5.5 million for 2012-13), we also will incorporate funds from several other sources. On a continuing basis, donations from sectors of the Florida citrus industry that have interest in HLB solutions are applied to our research portfolio, and to date the primary donors have been citrus processing entities. Most recently, the \$250,000 commitment from Florida Citrus Processors has been received and dedicated to several research projects over their 2-3 year life. This brings donations from this area of the industry to \$3.75 million.

Funding from state and federal sources also is a com-

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

#### JUNE, 2012

14	Board of Directors	Bonita Springs, FL	1:30 pm
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#### JULY, 2012

22	Board of Directors	CREC, Lake Alfred	
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ponent of the 2012-13 budget, largely due to engagement by Florida Citrus Mutual and other industry groups with government budget builders. Two million dollars each from state and federal legislative appropriations has been incorporated into the CRDF budget, and, as with other funds, will be allocated for expenditure to support existing research projects over one or more years. This diversified funding base is vital to maintain the momentum of the research and development efforts, and balance the need for grower support of marketing and promotion of citrus fruit and juice products.

The collective resolve of the Florida citrus industry is to be commended, and the CRDF Board, committee members and staff greatly appreciate the commitment of the industry to continued support of seeking solutions to HLB and canker.

## Keeping up with Research Project Results

A stated goal in establishing CRDF is to keep growers informed of progress on the research priorities identified in 2008 that serve as the basis of the program. We do this in a variety of ways, including general summaries in this newsletter and in magazine articles and public presentations. In addition, our website ([www.citrusrdf.org](http://www.citrusrdf.org)) hosts the quarterly progress reports for CRDF projects, as well as the projects sponsored by California (CRB) and Texas (TCPB). While these reports are technical descriptions, they can provide insight into the activities being supported.

Probably the best way to gain detailed awareness of progress on HLB, canker and other disease research is to attend and participate in the many annual opportunities organized for the industry. At these meetings and seminars, the scientists themselves present data and interpretation of their work, focusing their presentations on what these results mean to growers. While several

of these meetings have already taken place in 2012 (Indian River Citrus Seminar and Florida Citrus Growers' Institute), several others are upcoming and offer updates on several areas of research. When you attend presentations by UF, IFAS or USDA scientists at one the upcoming meetings (Florida State Horticultural Society [June] Florida Citrus Mutual Annual Grower Meeting [June], and Citrus Expo [August]), please note that much of this work is made possible by your investment via the Citrus Research and Development Foundation.

## CRDF Now Seeking Applications for Program Assistant

CRDF, a direct support organization of the University of Florida, is currently accepting applications for the full time position of Program Assistant who will provide support for planning, conduct and documentation of Board and committee meetings and events, maintain various detailed contact lists, handle travel activities, track research progress and product development project reports, assist staff with general correspondence, production of newsletter and press release information,

document management, special projects and day to day general office support functions as required. Proficiency in Word, Excel and Power Point as well as general office procedures is required.

The CRDF office is located in Lake Alfred, FL. Minimum qualifications are high school diploma and four years of appropriate experience. Appropriate college coursework or vocational/technical training may substitute at an equivalent rate for the required experience. Salary range is \$10.37 to \$20.00 hourly (\$21,652.56 to \$41,760.00 annually) dependent on education and experience; position is time-limited. A Criminal Background Check will be conducted on the applicant selected for this position.

Interested candidates can find a detailed description of the responsibilities and apply at the UF job site. Visit <https://jobs.ufl.edu> to begin the application process. Click the Create Application link. Create a User Name and Password and follow the online instructions. The requisition number is 0900967. The position will remain open until June 8, 2012.

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## ANNUAL AND FINAL REPORTS

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Following are the annual and final reports on CRDF-funded research projects which have been posted online since our last issue. The full report can be accessed from the 'link' button. These, and interim progress reports on all projects as well as projects funded by the California Research Board and Texas Citrus Producers Board can be found online at [www.citrusrdf.org](http://www.citrusrdf.org)>GROWERS>RESEARCH UPDATES.

LINK	TITLE	RESEARCHER	HEADLINE
	Infection traits and growth of "Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus" inside microfluidic chambers	De La Fuente	LAS Cell Viability Over Time is Improved by the Addition of Citrus Juice to Media
	Development and evaluation of psyllid management programs for protection of resets and young tree plantings from HLB	Rogers	Conclusions reached on young tree protection and next steps
	Huanglongbing: Understanding the vector-pathogen interaction for disease management	Rogers	Psyllid / HLB pathogen interaction and disease spread
	Controlling HLB by controlling psyllids with RNA interference	Falk	RNAi effects can be induced in psyllids by various approaches