



REPORT

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What is Happening at the CRDF?

We frequently get requests for information on what is happening at CRDF. The topics range from funding to projects to results. In this newsletter, we present a quick overview of some of the recent activities and status of CRDF research.

How many research projects are being supported?

CRDF is supporting 119 research projects that vary from 1-3 years, covering all aspects of HLB research, with 11 projects focused on citrus canker and a few others on citrus black spot, CVC and citrus leprosis. The majority of these projects are being conducted in Florida, but additional research to find solutions for Florida is supported at Universities and USDA labs in other states, as well as a few international projects and collaborations. The University of Florida, IFAS and the USDA, ARS Horticultural Research Lab in Fort Pierce have the broadest capability to address citrus disease, and thus are strongly supported with CRDF projects. This funding complements their institutional commitments to find solutions to citrus diseases.

In addition to the current research projects which are in their first, second or third year, CRDF has just invited 74 new proposals to be developed from the recent submission of 121 CATP-12 pre-proposals. These proposals are due in late November, and will be subject to scientific review and review by the grower-based Research Management Committee. Final approval of projects selected for support in the 2012 cycle will occur in February, 2013. The CRDF website citrusrdf.org can be accessed for a list of current projects, quarterly progress reports on each project, and the list of the recently invited new proposals and newsletter copies.

What is the purpose of the Commercial Product Development Committee?

Many of the research results that are supported by CRDF lead to new information or tools that are transferred immediately to growers through field trials and IFAS extension efforts. Improvements in psyllid con-

UPCOMING MEETINGS

NOVEMBER, 2012

27	CPDC Meeting	Telephonic	10:00 am
30	Finance & Audit/Governance Committee	CREC, Lake Alfred	10:00 am

DECEMBER, 2012

4	Board of Directors Meeting	CREC, Lake Alfred	
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JANUARY, 2013

22	Board of Directors Annual Meeting	CREC, Lake Alfred	
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trol recommendations that provide timing, rates and methods of application fall into this category. However, when the research results lead to the need for development of a new product, or require regulatory consideration before use, the CRDF Commercial Product Development Committee is in place to assist in identifying what needs to be done to turn the results into products that will assist the industry, and to identify partners who can make it happen. An example that is being considered is the advanced evaluation of a number of antimicrobial chemicals that have shown some potential to reduce HLB titer within citrus plants. The best performing of these materials will ultimately have to be developed as products to make them available for use, and will likely involve regulatory review and approval from one to several federal and state agencies. The CPDC is facilitating this process by supporting and managing the steps between discovery of these chemicals and their commercialization. While CRDF does not intend to participate in manufacture or marketing of solutions, our role is to identify opportunities and help move the results to solutions. An example of success in this area is the recent approval of a Special Local Needs 24(c) label for ADMIRE® PRO, a soil applied neonicotinoid insecticide that is useful in protecting young citrus trees from ACP feeding. Grower interest in expanded use of the product was paired with information from IFAS research, and discussions with the registrant, with US EPA, and with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Registration Division lead to the submission, review and approval of the SLN la-

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bel. CRDF's role was to bring together those who could assist in this process, including Dan Botts from FFVA, and facilitate moving it forward. Several other projects are in place with similar goals to help deliver solutions to the industry.

What is the funding picture?

The CRDF budget for FY 2012-13 is approximately \$16.5 million, a composite of research projects mentioned above, commercial product facilitation projects, and operating expenses. Funding to support this budget comes from a variety of sources, with the most important being the grower box tax components. This year, the research box tax is projected to provide just over \$5 million, and the Florida Citrus Commission is projected to provide \$5.8 million for HLB and other disease research support. Complementing this base funding is a USDA commitment of \$2 million to be expended over 3 years and state legislative support of \$2 million for the current fiscal year. The first year revenue from the USDA, NIFA, SCRI grant and the recently announced award from the Specialty Crop Block Grant also have been incorporated into the FY 2012-13 budget. Rounding out support for research through CRDF are numerous donations from industry partners who have committed funds to support research.

How is the citrus industry involved in running CRDF?

CRDF was envisioned, designed and established by

the Florida citrus industry. By design, the Board and committees are comprised in majority by citrus industry representatives who are nominated by industry groups. The CRDF website citrusrdf.org provides background on the Board and each committee, and lists the current members of each. All CRDF meetings are publically announced and are open to attendance by all interested parties. Dates of board and committee meetings are posted on the website.

How can I learn more about progress on particular projects?

The best source of updates and progress, as well as challenges and roadblocks in an area of research is to attend industry events scheduled to provide updates from those who are directly involved in the research. UF, IFAS extension meetings and field days, and numerous industry events are planned regularly to showcase the latest information emerging from research on HLB and other topics. These events generally are organized around themes, and thus attendance at the events will give participants an update on several related areas. These more in-depth opportunities complement the searchable progress reports which are available on the CRDF website. Also, don't forget the 3rd International HLB Conference which will be held in Orlando in February, 2013, to be followed in March by a specific grower event to summarize the results of the HLB Conference.

ANNUAL AND FINAL REPORTS

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 citrusrdf.org>GROWERS>RESEARCH>SEARCH PROGRESS REPORTS.

LINK	TITLE	RESEARCHER
	Soil applied systemic acquired resistance (SAR) for control of citrus canker on young trees	Graham
	Grower educational programs to enhance adoption of psyllid and HLB control	Futch