

CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.
Commercial Product Delivery Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2015

A meeting of the Commercial Product Delivery Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at the University of Florida, IFAS, CREC, Ben Hill Griffin Hall, Lake Alfred, Florida. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Ben McLean. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were: Dr. Timothy L. Anglea; Mr. Larry Black; Dr. Mary L. Duryea (telephone); Mr. David Howard; Mr. Peter McClure; Mr. Ben McLean; Mr. Jerry Newlin; Ms. Shannon Shepp; and Mr. Tom Stopyra. Committee members Mr. Joe L. Davis, Jr., Mr. Ricke Kress, Mr. Andy Rackley and Mr. Hugh Thompson did not participate. Also participating were: Dr. Gene Albrigo; Mr. Bill Bewlay; Dr. Harold Browning; Dr. Bob Bruss; Dr. Lisa Conti (telephone); Dr. Jim Dukowitz (telephone); Dr. Stephanie Slinski; Dr. Jim Syvertsen; Dr. Tom Turpen; and Ms. Callie Walker.

Also in attendance were: Dr. Calvin Arnold; Mr. Justin Cain; Ms. Sharon Garrett; Mr. Alec Hayes; Ms. Diane Johnson; Ms. Cheryl Nagle; Mr. Brandon Page; Dr. Michael Rogers; Dr. Rosa Walsh; Dr. Janice Zale; and Ms. Audrey Nowicki.

Mr. Black moved to accept the minutes of the December 2, 2014 meeting, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Newlin. Mr. McLean noted a correction needed in the last paragraph on page 1: Dr. Slinski reported on the status of the AgroSource projects. The December 2nd minutes will be corrected before posting. The motion passed.

Mr. McLean asked Dr. Slinski to lead the discussion of the first active project topic:

Antimicrobial Strategies - Dr. Slinski reported that the second quarterly reports have been received on the four AgroSource projects. The CRDF Executive Committee will meet on January 27th prior to the Board of Directors meeting for Mr. Richardson to discuss progress to date and respond to any questions from the board. There was a request that AgroSource provide data presentation as the project has been underway for six months and the quarterly reports contained little data presentation.

Dr. Bob Bruss, Technical Director, NuFarm, provided an overview and discussion of two NuFarm proposals for evaluation of Antimicrobial materials. Their first request is for \$50,000 to confirm the efficacy, rates and multiple application methods for oxy-tetracycline (Mycoshield[®]), and surfactants to suppress HLB. The second proposal is to conduct twenty-three field residue trials in Florida, Texas and California to establish tolerances for oxy-tetracycline on the citrus crop group in the amount of \$291,370 over two years. Mr. Black moved to approve the two funding requests of \$50,000 and follow-up request of \$25,000 with the caveat that the program manager review the project details, which was seconded by Mr. Stopyra. Clarification was made that the first proposal totaled \$50,000 and the second proposal totaled \$291,370 over two years. Mr. Black withdrew his original motion and moved to recommend the Board approve the one-year \$50,000 project for the efficacy trials with the inclusion of any revisions

requested after CRDF program management review, and second proposal for the residue studies of \$291,370 over two years. Seconded by Mr. Stopyra, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Slinski reviewed the antimicrobial matrix under development for summarization of information on candidates and groups of chemicals being considered. Dr. Slinski pointed out that the matrix is constantly changing and is updated as additional data is received on compounds tested and meetings are held with potential providers and partners.

Dr. Turpen responded to questions on the silver products and whether or not it is feasible to partner with companies at all stages for registration for foods due to the high costs.

Dr. Slinski continued, stating that once all data has been received, the matrix will be utilized to determine candidates for inclusion in field trials.

Dr. Slinski summarized a proposal in the amount of \$81,567 to add 30 assays through December 2015 to project 931C. Dr. Claudio Gonzalez's current Research Service Agreement would be supplemented.

Mr. Black moved to recommend to the Board approval of Dr. Gonzalez's proposal for the screening of 30 additional assays through December 2015 in the amount of \$81,567. Seconded by Mr. Newlin, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Slinski presented a new proposal for a whole plant greenhouse assay submitted by Dr. Pelz-Stelinski to test the efficacy, mobility and phyto-toxicity of antimicrobial materials against *CLas*. The total cost is \$125,797.33 for 50 assays over 12 months. Mr. Newlin moved to recommend to the Board approval of Dr. Stelinski's proposal for whole plant assays for up to \$125,797.33 for 50 assays over 12 months. Seconded by Mr. McClure, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Anglea questioned if there should be additional effort at this time to have a discussion with several researchers whether this is the correct assay to use, or if there might be another assay that is more scalable to 500 to a thousand assays.

Dr. Slinski reported a meeting was held with the Florida Fertilizer and Agrichemical Association to discuss a potential partnership to advance product delivery. A model format is being designed to present summary materials on best candidates to potential companies for their consideration.

Naturally Occurring Microbes - Dr. Syvertsen gave an update on the naturally occurring microbes field trials. He is compiling the trial data as it is received from contractors and expects to have initial results to report in March.

Thermal Therapy - Dr. Syvertsen reported that federal funding has been approved for thermal therapy projects. The USDA, APHIS MAC group has approved three projects that involve scale-up of thermal therapy to UF, IFAS, and to other participants.

Candidate Tolerant Rootstocks - Dr. Browning reported that five candidate HLB-tolerant rootstocks are ready for planting in spring at the Southwest and Ridge sites that were selected last month. Since there

were no grower participants to choose from in the Indian River area, another site can be selected by the Board from the prospective cooperators in the Ridge or Southwest area.

Ms. Shepp introduced Dr. Rosa Walsh to the committee. Dr. Walsh has recently joined the FDOC to lead their Scientific Research Department.

Plant Growth Regulators - Dr. Syvertsen reported that plant growth regulator project results to date are summarized in the meeting materials. He invited Dr. Albrigo to report on his projects.

Dr. Albrigo reviewed the pre-harvest fruit drop and tree health studies funded by the Foundation in the last year, as well as other studies that he is conducting with other support. He reviewed data compiled to date, noting that last year's drought may have been a contributing factor to the fruit drop starting in October, a month later than in the previous two years. Trials on Hamlin and Valencia not completed by December 31st will continue to completion without additional cost. Dr. Syvertsen reported that the four PGR field trials that are being repeated will include tree health evaluations and yield and fruit drop counts in the current year.

Strategic Inoculum Removal to Manage HLB in Florida - Ms. Callie Walker, FDACS CHMA Coordinator, reported on the initiative to strategically remove approximately 2,500 acres of economically abandoned citrus groves. The goal of this effort is to demonstrate the impact of inoculum removal on corresponding disease infection pressure on adjacent commercial citrus blocks. The process for determining blocks to remove and the procedures for block removal were described. The removal should be completed by June 30, 2015.

The meeting was suspended for a lunch break at 12:40 and was called back to order by Chairman McLean at 1:05 p.m.

ACP Management and CHMAs - Dr. Browning noted that Admire Pro[®] 24C renewal of Section 18 expanded use rates on citrus has been approved, as well as a Section 3 label for Silvanto[®]. State approval for use of Silvanto in Florida citrus is expected in the next few weeks with product inventory availability matching that timeline.

Psyllid Shield - Dr. Turpen reported on the Psyllid Shield project noting that efforts are moving forward to identify RNAi targets for possible deployment in field trials.

Integrating HLB Management Tools in New Groves – UF was awarded MAC funding for a model grove demonstration that proposes to integrate all available tools in grove site preparation, planting and management. A panel of expert growers and scientists will work together to develop the design and management plans. Dr. Rogers will update the committee as the project progresses.

Dr. Browning reported that the project management team reviewed CPD projects with termination dates through the end of the fiscal year to assess the needs for continuity across the major topics. They will confer with the PI's on progress and next steps. Dr. Anglea requested the list be sent to the

committee for review. He also requested clarification of the assessment/prioritization process for selecting CPD projects for funding.

Dr. Browning stated that the quarterly report on CPDC projects included with the committee materials contains much more information than can be discussed at the meeting, and encouraged the committee to review all projects and share any thoughts on the current projects.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Audrey Nowicki