

CITRUS DISEASE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING ANNOUNCED

WASHINGTON, January 25, 2016 – The Citrus Disease Subcommittee (CDS) will meet on February 17-18, in Riverside, CA. The primary purpose of the meeting is for the CDS to provide the annual consultation with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) on the relevancy review process of the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) and to provide comments on the grants awarded in the previous fiscal year. Several Specialty Crop Research Initiative Project Directors will also attend the meeting to present information and progress on their SCRI grant awards. In addition, the Committee will also discuss their strategy for providing advice and recommendations on the overall scope and effectiveness of research, extension, and economics programs affecting the Citrus Disease industry.

All CDS meetings are open to the public. Those interested in attending must register with Shirley Morgan-Jordan at Shirley.morgan@ars.usda.gov or calling (202) 720-3684. A public comment period will be available at the end of each day or interested individuals may provide written comment for the public record to be postmarked by March 3, 2016.

The meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m. on February 17 and end at 5:00 p.m. On February 18 the meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. The SCC will meet at the Hyatt Place Riverside Downtown Hotel, 3500 Market Street, Riverside, CA.

The Citrus Disease Subcommittee was established as a subcommittee of the NAREEE Advisory Board by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Sec. 7103). The purpose of the committee is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on citrus research, extension, and development needs, engage in regular consultation and collaboration with USDA and other organizations involved in citrus, and provide recommendations for research and extension activities related to citrus disease. The Citrus Disease Subcommittee is also responsible for advising the Department on the research and extension agenda of the Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program.

For additional information, please contact Michele Esch, Executive Director, NAREEE Advisory Board, The Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 332A, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0321, Telephone: 202-720-3684, Fax: 202-720-6199, or e-mail: Michele.esch@usda.gov.

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