7.7 Citrus Health Research Forum: A National Research Effort

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In 2007, the Citrus Health Response Plan (CHRP) was established as a national program and is a collaborative effort involving growers, federal and state regulatory personnel, and researchers. The Citrus Health Science and Technology Coordinating Group was formed as part of its organizational structure in December 2009. The Group’s approach to planning research is outcome-based, where emphasis is placed on the products of research - to manage or prevent HLB - even as a project is designed. This differs from evidenced-based research in which conclusions are drawn as data are analyzed. Three outcomes were identified: (1) how can groves currently affected by ACP and HLB remain productive, (2) how can the spread of ACP and HLB be prevented or slowed, and (3) what genetic and horticultural strategies can be pursued to keep groves free of ACP and HLB. These desired outcomes were used to organize the first Research Forum in June 2010 in Denver, CO. Participants assembled into three separate groups according to the outcomes and discussed what is known and what research is being conducted regarding that subject area. An inventory of research projects conducted within the United States and poster abstracts from the Denver meeting are available on the USDA APHIS web site: \url{http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/cphst/_index.shtml}. Notes from each of the outcome group breakout sessions are available on the USDA ARS web site: \url{http://www.ars.usda.gov/citrusgreening/}. 

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