

## Recruitment notice for CRB President...

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**B**y now, many of you know that I will be retiring from the Citrus Research Board on September 30, 2013. I wanted to take this opportunity to do a little recruiting for candidates to fill the position. The Board is actively seeking applicants from now through December 31, 2012.

From my perspective over the past 20 years, this job is one of the most exciting professions that anyone could imagine. It is an opportunity to provide leadership and direction to the California citrus growers in the technical areas of production and pest management.

The scope of the California Citrus Research Program (as the CRB is officially titled) is quite wide and includes everything from financial oversight and funding, to the California Citrus Quality Council, to production research and operational activities in support of the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee. The program also provides guidance and funding to the Citrus Clonal Protection Program in cooperation with UC Riverside.

The two main platforms of the CRB program are funding contract research projects through a Request for Proposals process and providing operational support to the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Program.

Research has been the foundation of the CRB over the past 45 years and continues to be the main focus of the Board. Currently, CRB funds over \$4,700,000 in research projects with the majority of the funds dedicated to the fight against the Asian citrus psyllid and huanglongbing disease. The Program works closely with Florida and Texas in this battle to keep the United States citrus industry strong and viable. The California contribution to the process is focused on early detection systems to (1) find the psyllid to reduce the ACP populations and (2) locate trees infected with the HLB-associated bacteria early enough to prevent the spread of the disease.

The Operational functions of the program are to support the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Program. They include the management tracking of the ACP trapping program conducted by CDFA in commercial groves, providing oversight and support to the Regional Field Coordinators in the various parts of the state, and operating an HLB analysis laboratory in Riverside. In addition to these responsibilities, the CRB also provides support to the Biological Control Development Program which is a joint agency committee of USDA, CDFA, University of California, and industry representatives.

More information on the Program can be found at the CRB website: [www.citrusresearch.org](http://www.citrusresearch.org). This is a wonderful opportunity for someone interested in an exciting career. I know that I have thoroughly enjoyed the past 20 years. ●