



THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIN COUNTY

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
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March 18, 2008

Honorable Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
California State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Concerns with Proposed Aerial Spraying for the Light Brown Apple Moth in Marin County

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

As you may be aware, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) plans to conduct aerial spraying of a pheromone pesticide for eradication of the light brown apple moth in Marin County this Summer. We question the proposed strategy of aerial spraying and its potential impact on public health and the environment.

I write on behalf of the Marin County Board of Supervisors to request that you work with CDFA to implement alternatives to aerial spraying until a thorough environmental and health assessment of the proposed aerial spraying is completed. We support alternatives such as pheromone twist ties, biological control strategies (i.e. stingerless wasps), pheromone male moth attractant treatment, and use of foliar ground treatments, for instance.

As a point of information, Marin County supports the following bills relating to the proposed aerial spraying for the light brown apple moth, including improved planning, notice and public hearings before any aerial use of pesticides:

- AB 2760 (Leno) regarding an environmental impact report before eradication in an urban area;
- AB 2763 (Laird) regarding advance planning and assessment of invasive pests;
- AB 2764 (Hancock) regarding use of pesticides and the declaration of a state of emergency;
- AB 2765 (Huffman) regarding notice and public hearing before aerial use of pesticides; and
- SCR 87 (Migden) regarding a moratorium on aerial spraying for the light brown apple moth

We believe these bills effectively address serious environmental and health concerns voiced by residents due to the proposed aerial spraying this Summer. However, if not designated as urgency matters, these bills would not take effect until 2009 – well after the proposed aerial spraying will have occurred in our County.

We respectfully request, therefore, any assistance you may be able to provide to avoid the need for aerial spraying in Marin County this Summer. Specifically, we request that you work quickly with the CDFA to implement alternatives to aerial spraying until its potential impact on public health and the environment is thoroughly studied.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles McGlashan, President
Marin County Board of Supervisors

C: Senator Carole Migden
Assembly Members Jared Huffman, Mark Leno, John Laird and Loni Hancock
A G Kawamura, Secretary, California Department of Food & Agriculture

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