

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS INDEX SHEET**

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Resolution(s): 301-2007

Ordinance(s):

Contract(s):

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--Resolution

- Item: 33.1** Resolution opposing aerial spraying by the State of California to control the Light Brown Apple Moth;
- (1) ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 301-2007 opposing aerial spraying by the State of California to control the Light Brown Apple Moth, as amended, adding the words "over urban areas" in section (3) of the first paragraph, to read: "that the State expedite its preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the aerial spraying project and employ a less invasive treatment program that would not include aerial spraying over urban areas until such time that a final EIR is certified"; with an additional request the County Administrative Office place an item on the agenda for the meeting of November 6, 2007 to explore the hiring of an expert for an independent evaluation of the product in question;
- (2) motion made to amend resolution to add the words "either" and "or" in section (3) of the first paragraph, to read: "that the State expedite its preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the aerial spraying project and either employ a less invasive treatment program that would not include aerial spraying over urban areas until such time that a final EIR is certified or independent experts, selected by the County, analyze the ingredients and its affect on humans, animals and the environment and provide written public assurances of the safety of the aerial spraying of CheckMate LBAM-F (motion does not pass)

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



AT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
On the Date of October 23, 2007

REGULAR AGENDA Item No. 33.1

Resolution opposing aerial spraying by the State of California to control the Light Brown Apple Moth;

Upon the motion of Supervisor Stone, duly Seconded by Supervisor Coonerty, with Supervisor Pirie, and Supervisor Campos voting "no", the Board, ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 301-2007 opposing aerial spraying by the State of California to control the Light Brown Apple Moth, as amended, adding the words "over urban areas" in section (3) of the first paragraph, to read: "that the State expedite its preparation of an Environmental impact Report (EIR) for the aerial spraying project and employ a less invasive treatment program that would not include aerial spraying over urban areas until such time that a final EIR is certified"; with an additional request the County Administrative Office place an item on the agenda for the meeting of November 6, 2007 to explore the hiring of an expert for an independent evaluation of the product in question;

Upon the motion of Supervisor Pirie, duly seconded by Supervisor Campos, with Supervisor Beautz, Supervisor Coonerty and Supervisor Stone, voting "no" motion made to amend resolution to add the words "either" and "or" in section (3) of the first paragraph, to read: "that the State expedite its preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the aerial spraying project and either employ a less invasive treatment program that would not include aerial spraying over urban areas until such time that a final EIR is certified or independent experts, selected by the County, analyze the ingredients and its affect on humans, animals and the environment and provide written public assurances of the safety of the aerial spraying of CheckMate LBAM-F (motion does not pass)

cc:

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



AT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
On the Date of October 23, 2007

CAO
Senator Joe Simnitan
Assembly Member John Laird
California Department of Food and Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Commissioner
Agricultural Policy Advisory Commission
Valley Women's Club
Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau

State of California, County of Santa Cruz-ss.

I, Susan A. Mauriello, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the order made and entered in the Minutes of said Board of Supervisors. In witness thereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed tthe seal of said Board of Supervisors.

by _____ , Deputy Clerk ON October 29, 2007



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

(831) 454-2200 FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD: (831) 454-2123

JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

ELLEN PIRIE
SECOND DISTRICT

NEAL COONERTY
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

MARK W. STONE
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 10/23/07

October 17, 2007

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH

Dear Members of the Board:

We have watched the State try to impose a process on this county that has been marked by controversy, lack of information, and some troubling implications for the people of Santa Cruz County. While we agree that the use of pheromones to control and potentially eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth is responsible and far preferable to a significant infestation or the use of insecticides, we would like to see our Board send a clear message to the State regarding the process they have used here.

Given the inadequate environmental review of the use of CheckMate products, especially the lack of public review of alternatives, the lack of independent review of CheckMate products, the lack of adequate response to public questions and concerns, too much secrecy around the ingredients to be sprayed with the pheromone, the lack of explanation of the efficacy of the aerial spraying compared to other applications of the pheromones and the lack of plans for long-term study of the health effects, we recommend that our Board adopt the attached resolution opposing aerial

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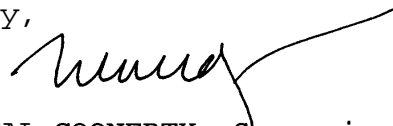
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
October 17, 2007
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spraying of CheckMate until the State can better address these issues.

Sincerely,



MARK W. STONE, Supervisor
Fifth District



NEAL COONERTY, Supervisor
Third District

MWS/NC:ted
Attachment

cc: Senator Joe Simitian
Assembly Member John Laird
California Department of Food and Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Commissioner
Agricultural Policy Advisory Commission
Valley Women's Club
Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 301-2007

On the motion of Supervisor Stone
duly seconded by Supervisor Coonerty
the following resolution is adopted

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE POSITION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S
USE OF AERIAL SPRAYING TO CONTROL THE LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH

WHEREAS, the Light Brown Apple Moth is a pest subject to
Federal and State quarantine and eradication orders; and

WHEREAS, there is a confirmed presence of Light Brown Apple
Moths in Santa Cruz County; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Food and Agriculture
(the "State") has proposed a treatment program in Santa Cruz
County which includes an extensive aerial spraying application of
a microencapsulated pheromone product known as CheckMate LBAM-F
(the "pheromone pesticide"), intended to interrupt the
reproductive cycle of the Light Brown Apple Moth; and

WHEREAS, the State has claimed an emergency exemption under
the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and plans to
begin the aerial spraying program without conducting
environmental review based on an emergency exemption; and

WHEREAS, the State has confirmed that it will begin
preparation of an Environmental Impact Report after the aerial
spraying program has begun; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture (the
"USDA") maintains that the pheromone pesticide poses only
"minimal risk to human health," but acknowledges that it is
considered a "slight to moderate dermal irritant" and does
present some "very low toxicity" [see *Treatment Program for Light
Brown Apple Moth in Santa Cruz and Northern Monterey Counties,
California* (September 2007) pages 10-12]; and

WHEREAS, the USDA states that its risk assessment assumes
that the rate of exposure will be insignificant, with no dietary
exposure from food and just a minimal amount of incidental
exposure from drinking water or swimming [see *Treatment Program
for Light Brown Apple Moth in Santa Cruz and Northern Monterey
Counties, California* (September 2007) pages 10-12]; and

WHEREAS, Dale Kemery, a spokesperson for the Environmental
Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., was quoted in a local
newspaper as comparing the pheromone pesticide to "something
along the lines of Raid"; and

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE POSITION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S USE OF AERIAL SPRAYING TO CONTROL THE LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH

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WHEREAS, the State has relied almost entirely on its own scientists to address public concerns, instead of using independent, outside experts to support the program or at least address the issues in a direct and impartial manner; and

WHEREAS, the failure to detail all of CheckMate LBAM-F's ingredients has been a matter of enormous concern to the public; and

WHEREAS, the information about the product's ingredients provided to the public has been inconsistent and unreliable in that: (1) the product's manufacturer refused to release ingredients, claiming they were protected as a "trade secret"; (2) the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) originally stated that a potentially harmful chemical (polymethylenepolyphenyl-isocyanate, or PPI) was an ingredient in the product; (3) the EPA then corrected its prior statement and said that PPI was not an ingredient; (4) the manufacturer then stated that PPI was an ingredient, but that it was only used as a starting material and was not present in the end-use formulation of the product; and (5) when Governor Schwarzenegger ordered a release of the ingredients in the product, PPI was not listed; and

WHEREAS, neither the EPA nor the State of California has clarified whether PPI actually is an ingredient of CheckMate LBAM-F, and if it is an ingredient, give adequate assurances that it is not present in the end-use formulation of the product; and

WHEREAS, the State has not adequately pursued or explained the decision not to employ less invasive treatment programs such as the use of sterile Light Brown Apple Moths, restricting the use of aerial spraying of pheromones to inaccessible rural areas, restricting the spraying of pheromones to public streets, or the more extensive use of twist tie dispensers; and

WHEREAS, while the use of pheromones for pest eradication is a safer alternative to insecticides, the State's failure to adequately respond to public questions and concerns has resulted in a fearful public, which itself is damaging to progress toward safer, biological approaches to pest control.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors declares its opposition at this time to the State of California's proposed program of extensive aerial spraying of a pheromone pesticide to control the Light Brown Apple Moth unless and until the following conditions have been met by the State: (1) that the State furnish the public with additional assurances from independent, outside experts

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE POSITION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S USE OF AERIAL SPRAYING TO CONTROL THE LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH

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that the products proposed for spraying are proven safe for contact with humans, animals, and the environment; (2) that the State provide a full and complete disclosure and evaluation of all of the pheromone pesticide's ingredients (both those used to make it and those present in the final product); and (3) that the State expedite its preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the aerial spraying project and employ a less invasive treatment program that would not include aerial spraying over urban areas until such time that a final EIR is certified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors requests that the State fund a long-term study of the health effects resulting from the aerial spraying project that would include, at a minimum, a baseline monitoring of providers and hospital emergency rooms for medical complaints, continued monitoring around the period of spraying from self-reports and providers, follow-up of positive symptomatology and self-assessments of health one month, six months, and one year post-spraying; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors requests that the State fund a monitoring program that will evaluate potential application effects on the County's water resources, and collaborate with Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Service staff to identify sampling locations and frequency, parameters, and analysis methods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that no County department shall take any action that would facilitate the aerial application of CheckMate products in Santa Cruz County until the Board of Supervisors is satisfied that the conditions of this Resolution have been met.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 23rd day of October, 2007, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS Beautz, Coonerty, Stone
NOES: SUPERVISORS Pire, Campos
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS None

JANET K. BEAUTZ
JANET K. BEAUTZ, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: TESS FITZGERALD
Clerk of said Board

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE POSITION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S USE OF AERIAL
SPRAYING TO CONTROL THE LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH

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Approved as to form:



County Counsel

DISTRIBUTION: County Counsel
Senator Joe Simitian
Assembly Member John Laird
California Department of Food and Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Commissioner
Agricultural Policy Advisory Commission
Valley Women's Club
Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau

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California do hereby certify that the foregoing is
a true and correct copy of the resolution passed
and adopted by and entered in the minutes of the
said board. In witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and affixed the seal of the said
Board on October 23 2007.

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO, County
Administrative Officer

By  Deputy

CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2007 7:07 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 10/23/2007

Item Number : 17

Name : Rose Marie McNair

Email : realrose@norcalbroker.com

Address : 4743 Soquel Creek Rd
Soquel, CA 95073

Phone : 831 476 2102

Comments :
Oct. 18, 2007

Honorable Supervisors:

Unable to attend last week's meeting regarding the brown apple moth...

However, I wanted to say this: Of all the people that spoke against the pheromone spraying, how many of the speakers have scientific knowledge or background? How many of the speakers spoke because of study, and not based on symbiotic emotion? It is my sincere wish that whenever REAL SCIENCE has answers, politics needs to step back...

My son and daughter-in-law have a small ORGANIC nursery, and this is their second year trying to create a viable living...in their desire to provide ORGANIC plants, they are caught in this political catch-22. Without a reasonable method of deterring these insects--quickly, I might add--they may lose everything! And, so may others in this County!

While waiting for so-called "answers", the moth will not wait...and while we wait, we once again lose.

Rose Marie McNair
(831) 476-2102

10/19/2007

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October 20, 2007

Janet K. Beautz
Chair, Board of Supervisors
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
701 Ocean Street, Suite 500
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SENT VIA EMAIL and FAX

RE: LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH **SPRAYING**

Dear Members of the Board:

As you are aware the City of Santa Cruz City Council voted on October 9, 2007 to take legal action to try to stop the spraying to eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth within our City. I am concerned that we do not know the long term effects that this spraying could have on the people in our community. In addition, I would like to see a greater emphasis on exploring alternatives to the aerial spraying on our communities in the Central Coast.

Therefore, I want to give my whole-headed support to the recommendation of Supervisors Mark Stone and Neal Coonerty in the resolution to oppose the aerial spraying of CheckMate in our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Madrigal".

Tony Madrigal
Councilmember
City of Santa Cruz

cc: Emily Reilley, Mayor, City of Santa Cruz
Congressmember Sam Farr
State Senator Joe Simitian
Assemblymember John Laird

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Santa Cruz County Supervisors

10/19/2007

Dear Supes:

On Tuesday night I stayed up until almost midnight watching the replay of your previous night's meeting about the pro's & con's of spraying for the Apple Moth.

While I wholeheartedly Concurred with some of the more eloquent speakers (of which there were a few), that **there should** have been much more study before schemes Like MTBE, Mercury dental fillings, Fluoride, Corn based Ethanol, and similar things were foisted on the marketplace, ^{but} equating those fiascos with the apple moth problem is like comparing apples & oranges,

All of those were elective choices reliant upon the whims of the politicians and those with a vested interest. There was no impending emergency.

It would be great if we could "study the Apple Moth problem to death", IF WE HAD THE TIME TO DO SO! : In the meantime the devastation will have destroyed much of California,,

Anyway, My wife & I, and the neighbors that I've spoken with and who've witnessed the devastation which moths have wrought upon our Oaks & the Oaks in the forest across Bonita from us, welcome the spraying. The sooner the better! We'll take our chances with the health problems which of course We hope there will be none,

Sincerely,

Louis Schiavon
Louis Schiavon

688-5061

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Terry Dorsey

From: Ellen Pirie
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2007 10:17 AM
To: Terry Dorsey
Subject: FW: Apple Moth Spraying Concerns.doc

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Vanderwoude [mailto:mark.vanderwoude@coastwire.com]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2007 6:56 AM
To: Ellen Pirie
Cc: Ellen Pirie; 'Mark & Deborah Vanderwoude'
Subject: Apple Moth Spraying Concerns.doc

Ellen,

I would appreciate it if you would share our concerns with the other District Supervisors by providing them with a copy of this letter.

Thanks
Mark

Rio del Mar Improvement Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 274 Rio del Mar, California 95003-0274

October 19th, 2007

Ellen Pirie - District 2 Supervisor
701 Ocean Street - Room 500
Santa Cruz, California 95060
ellen.pirie@co.santa-cruz.ca.us

Dear Ellen,

I am writing to you regarding the proposal before the Board of Supervisors to spray the chemical CHECKMATE County wide for the eradication or control of the Apple Moth. I would appreciate it if you and your fellow District Supervisors would consider the following points or questions before rendering a decision:

1. SUTERRA, maker of the CHECKMATE OLR-F/LBAM-F will not disclose their inert ingredients why?
2. SUTERRA states on their own product label that CHECKMATE is a "biochemical"
3. CHECKMATE is a pesticide by the EPA's own definition
4. Spraying CHECKMATE County wide would be similar to having RAID sprayed all over you
5. You are considering spraying a Biochemical Pesticide over our homes for 6 nights several times a year until the year 2010
6. CHECKMATE is a pesticide that will linger in the air for 30 days.
7. CHECKMATE Warning Label states: "Hazard to HUMANS and domestic ANIMALS. HARMFUL if absorbed through SKIN. Causes moderate EYE irritation. Avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing. Harmful if inhaled. AVOID BREATHING VAPOR or mist. This warning also states, ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD- DO NOT APPLY TO WATER OR AREAS WHERE SURFACE WATER IS PRESENT. What about run off into the Monterey Bay Sanctuary?
8. CHECKMATE will contaminate our water supply, ocean and Monterey Bay Sanctuary.
9. CHECKMATE has only undergone short term tests with rats and rabbits and results have been adverse. No long term testing with humans has been done so we are the Guinea Pigs?
10. No long term testing regarding the effects to wildlife, other insects (bees) or vegetation have been performed.
11. There are alternative methods that can be used in stead of mass spraying and are we considering alternative methods?
12. How can we have organic crops in our County if CHECKMATE is sprayed County wide?

In closing potential health damage to humans, animals, and crops are a high concern. I feel we need to research and discuss all issues before doing any blanket spraying so we don't look back in future years wondering why we created a far more devastating effect on ourselves and the environment.

Additionally chemicals in our environment are the cause of cancers; however because we do not die immediately from

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exposure and the after effects take years to develop making it almost impossible trace back to an incident such as spraying that was "considered safe". The spraying as indicated by Kamakura (Head of Ag Bureau) will be continued to 2010 and beyond. This is not a healthy choice, and granting permission to spray also sets precedents for spraying of other pesticides for other non native pests. I am concerned not only for the short term illnesses that this type of spraying may have on our children, but also for those with asthma and challenged immune systems and the elderly. Please consider what long range effects might be to our children 10, 20, and 30 years from now as well as what this spray will do to other animals, insects and plant life?

Sincerely,
Mark Vanderwoude
President
Rio del Mar Improvement Association

10/22/2007

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CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2007 2:07 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 10/23/2007

Item Number : 17

Name : Karen Stafford

Email : kdpstaffprd@comcast.net

Address : 6 Elk Run
Monterey, CA 93940

Phone : Not Supplied

Comments :
October 22, 2007

To: Governor Schwarzenegger
916-445-4633 FAX
Re: Please stop the aerial spraying

Dear Governor:

Thank you for releasing the ingredient information about the LBAM pesticide.

Now please stop all aerial spraying, especially in cities where just a hand full of moths was trapped! This pesticide continues to be experimental and not approved for use in urban areas.

Citizens will organize as volunteers to help place pheromone baited sticky traps. This is the method backed by the Pesticide Action Network.

Karen Stafford, Citizen of Monterey

Cc: Assemblymember John Laird
Congressman Sam Farr
Monterey County Board of Supervisors
Mayor Chuck Della Sala and Councilmembers, City of Monterey
Pesticide Action Network

10/22/2007

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CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2007 3:43 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 10/23/2007

Item Number : 17

Name : Theodora Kerry

Email : thekerry@comcast.net

Address : City of Santa Cruz

Phone : Not Supplied

Comments :

Thank you for your letter of opposition to the aerial spraying of our county's urban population and your support of medical treatment and tracking of anyone injured by the spray, but I still have some questions for you:

How will this letter of opposition actually stop the spraying and/or protect your constituents?

What actual support activities by county employees will be stopped by this declaration?

Why are you not joining with the city in suing to stop the planned spraying until proper protocol is followed?

Because I'm very concerned about potential health effects of the spraying, concerns that have not been allayed by the so-called "experts", and because i do not believe for a minute that your paper declarations will stop this assault on your constituents' rights to breathe air free of bio-pesticides, I will be there tomorrow to encourage you to do more to stop the spraying.

10/22/2007

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CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2007 9:19 PM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 10/23/2007

Item Number : 17

Name : Lois Robin

Email : lolotusi@cruzio.com

Address : 4701 Nova Dr.
santa Cruz, CA 95062

Phone : 831 454-1184

Comments :

What right does the State have to shower us with chemicals to destroy a moth that has done no damage? The precautionary principle must prevail on matters of uncertainty such as this. Please support the existing resolution and go even farther by suing the State. The County has lawyers capable of doing this. We would like to see this spraying stopped.

The State is not listening to us. They are defending an unacceptable plan. We cannot count on them to look after our safety. We are counting on you, our elected representatives to find a way to stop it .

10/23/2007

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CBD BOSMAIL

From: CBD BOSMAIL
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 8:25 AM
To: CBD BOSMAIL
Subject: Agenda Comments

Meeting Date : 10/23/2007

Item Number : 17

Name : Lisa Bunin

Email : Not Supplied

Address : Santa Cruz

Phone : Not Supplied

Comments :

My name is Lisa Bunin. I was appointed by this Board to serve on the Public Health Commission's Genetic Engineering Subcommittee. Our investigative report led to your passage of a moratorium on the planting of genetically engineered crops.

I'd like to thank the Board of Supervisors for acting boldly by passing a resolution opposing the state-mandated emergency spraying of CheckMate to combat the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM). I am here today to appeal to the Board to do more, by taking legal action to stop the spraying.

What worries me most is that the state's action to supersede county authority, under CDFA's jurisdiction, may be only the tip of the iceberg. Today, it's the LBAM, tomorrow it could be the green-eyed tsetse fly, the hissing cockroach, or the rusty tree ant.

As long as we live in a globalized economy we will continue to discover new non-native species of all types. According to the National Invasive Species Information Center of the USDA (<http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/>), 50,000 invasive species exist in the US and that number is growing. Unless we close our borders to all imports, which is highly unlikely, the US will continue to inadvertently allow non-native species to cross its borders.

So, what can we do about it? It is inconceivable that we as a county, state, or nation will be able to combat the spread of non-native species. Our federal government spends more than 120 billion dollars annually to control the impacts of 800 invasive species and we can see how effective those efforts have been in our county. As our state Agriculture Commissioner has admitted, it is unlikely that we can completely eradicate the LBAM problem. So, the best we can do is contain it, manage it, and live with it as we do with so many agriculture pest such as aphids, ants, and whiteflies, all of which I live in my garden.

In the case of LBAM, I have yet to see concrete data that proves that an emergency exists. Yes, traps were set all over our county and LBAMs were found, but where is the scientific data that proves that emergency conditions exist and that we need to act swiftly versus carefully and prudently?

It would be far better public policy and practice to address this fairly isolated problem with a less invasive approach to contain the moths. Using twist tie pheromone traps and the release of sterile moths seems to be a sensible approach that matches the severity of the problem both in scale and immediacy.

If labor costs are constraining this option, why not create teams of community members who volunteer to set traps in designated areas close to their homes? I am sure that most residents would prefer to lend a

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hand rather than be faced with 5 days of aerial spraying over their homes.

I urge you to take legal action to stop the spraying and help steer **CDFA** on a softer path that ensures the protection of community health and our environment.

Thank you

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10/23/2007

PESTICIDES IN THE NEWS

Pesticides continue to produce unpleasant surprises around the world.

** In April, researchers in Switzerland announced that much of the rain falling on Europe contains such high levels of pesticides that rainwater would be illegal if it were supplied as drinking water.' Rain over Europe is laced with atrazine, alochlor and other common agricultural poisons sprayed onto crops.

The European Union has set a drinking water standard of 100 nanograms per liter for any individual pesticide. Stephan Muller at the Swiss federal Institute for Environmental Science and Technology in Dubendorf reported finding one sample of rain containing 4000 nanograms per liter of 2,4-dinitrophenol, a common pesticide (not to be confused with the weed killer 2,4-D).

Muller had previously studied samples of rain from 41 storms over Europe and found Atrazine at levels exceeding 100 nanograms per liter in 9 of them. A 1999 study of rainfall in Greece found one or more pesticides in 90% of 205 samples taken. Atrazine was measurable in 30% of the 205 samples.'

Atrazine is a weed killer used on 96% of the U.S. corn crop each year. Introduced in 1958, some 68 to 73 million pounds were used in the U.S. in 1995, making it the best-selling pesticide in the nation. Atrazine interferes with the hormone systems of mammals. In female rats, it causes tumors of the mammary glands, uterus, and ovaries. Two studies have suggested that it causes ovarian cancer in humans. EPA [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency] categorizes it as a "possible human carcinogen." Atrazine is found in much of the drinking water in the midwestern U.S., and it is measurable in corn, milk, beef and other foods. (See REHW #553.)

Last March, well-known Swedish scientists Lennart Hardell and Mikael Eriksson published a case-control study (404 cases and 741 controls) showing once again that non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) is linked to pesticide exposures. Hardell and Eriksson published their first study linking phenoxy herbicides to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) in 1981.³

Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) is a group of cancers that arise in the white blood cells. NHL is increasing rapidly in the U.S. and elsewhere in the industrialized world.

Between 1973 and 1991, the incidence of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma increased at the rate of 3.3% per year in the U.S., making it the third fastest-growing cancer (after prostate cancer, growing at 3.9% per year, and melanoma of the skin, also growing at 3.9% per year).¹ In Sweden, the incidence of NHL has increased at the rate of 3.6% per year in men and 2.9% per year in women since 1958.

In recent years, AIDS patients have contributed to the increase in NHL, but a steady rise in the incidence of this disease was apparent long before the AIDS epidemic. Together the known "risk factors" for NHL --including immune-suppressing drugs, rare immune-system diseases, and AIDS, explain only a small proportion of NHL cases.

One of the herbicides linked to NHL by the most recent Hardell study is glyphosate, sold by Monsanto under the trade name Roundup. A previous study of human subjects in 1998 had implicated Roundup in hairy cell leukemia (cancer of the blood-forming organs), a rare kind of NHL.⁵ Several animal studies have shown that Roundup can cause gene mutations and chromosomal aberrations.³

The use of Roundup is expected to increase substantially in the next few years because several of Monsanto's genetically engineered crops (such as potatoes and corn) are "Roundup Ready" which means they have been specifically designed to withstand a thorough dousing by Roundup. The goal is to create crops that are not affected by Roundup so that unusually large quantities of Roundup can be applied to eradicate weeds without harming the crop. Roundup is Monsanto's most profitable product. (See REHW #637, #638, #639.)

** Last month, researchers in the U.S. and Canada announced that they had measured pesticides in the amniotic fluid of 30% of a sample of 9 pregnant women in Los Angeles, California.⁴ A baby growing in the womb floats in amniotic fluid for 9 months before birth.

The particular pesticide found in amniotic fluid -- p,p'-DDE -- is a breakdown byproduct of DDT and is known to interfere with male sexual development by deactivating the male sex hormone, testosterone. Until now, pesticides had not been measured in amniotic fluid.

The unpublished study of pesticides in amniotic fluid was reported at the 81st annual meeting of the Endocrine Society in San Diego, California, in June.⁶ The researchers released a statement in San Diego saying, "The concentrations of p,p'-DDE found (range of 0.01 to 0.63 nanograms per milliliter [parts per billion]) are sufficient to cause concern, since the levels measured are in the same range as some steroids [hormones] which occur naturally in the fetus at the same time of development." The statement also said, "Of the various health problems associated with these chemicals, developmental abnormalities of the male reproductive tract, suppression of immune function, development of the brain and neurobehavioral problems in children are of major concern because they are potentially avoidable and irreversible."

One of the authors of the study, Siu Chan of the University of Calgary in Canada, told *New Scientist* magazine that researchers cannot be sure that DDE would have any affect on babies exposed continuously in the womb.' But Chan pointed out that alligators were harmed by exposure to a similar chemical in Florida after a chemical spill. "In males, the penis was much smaller than normal," Chan said. (See REHW #372.) Several studies of laboratory animals have confirmed that DDE can interfere with normal sexual development of males and can cause enlarged prostate glands.^{3,9}

** A study published in May in *Environmental Health Perspectives*, a U.S. government science journal, makes the case that insecticides sprayed on forests in eastern Canada in the mid-1970s led to a dramatic decline in the population of Atlantic Salmon (45% reduction in small salmon, 77% reduction in large salmon).⁷ Salmon are born in fresh water but after 2 or 3 years they undergo physical changes

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called "smoltification," after which they move downstream into salt water. Smoltification is controlled by hormones. Researchers believe the pesticide interfered with the hormones of the salmon, somehow disrupting smoltification, leading to the loss of large numbers of fish.

The pesticide in question was called Matacil 1.8D. The "active ingredient" in Matacil 1.8D is aminocarb, which makes up about 25% of the insecticide by weight. The other 75% of Matacil 1.8D is an "inert ingredient" called 4-nonylphenol (4-NP for short). In laboratory tests, 4-NP is anything but inert. It is a powerful hormone disrupter.

The authors of the study point out that many U.S. streams contain levels of hormone-disrupting chemicals comparable to the levels that they believe wiped out so many Atlantic salmon. (See REHW #545.)

** Consumer's Union, publisher of *Consumer Reports* magazine announced last February that many U.S. hits and vegetables carry pesticide residues that exceed the limits that EPA considers safe

and can cause learning disorders and violent behavior. (See REHW #529, #551, and #648.) Science has no way of assessing what effects combinations of these poisons will have.

Yet risk assessors working for the poisoners, and their apologists in government, make a good living manipulating mathematical models to "prove" that all of this is acceptably safe. They are the conductors keeping the trains running on time to Auschwitz, just doing their jobs.

But of course the owners of the trains are the industrial poisoners and the political representatives they own.

It boils down to this: we must get private money out of our elections so that we can choose political representatives who are not in the pockets of the poisoners. Until that happens, the poisoning will continue.

[1] Fred Pearce and Debra Mackenzie, "It's raining pesticides; The water falling from our skies is unfit to drink," *New Scientist* April 3, 1999, pg. 23. See www.newscientist.com/ns/19990403/newsstory12.html.

[2] Emmanouil Charizopoulos and Euphemia Papadopoulou-Mourkidou, "Occurrence of Pesticides in Rain of the

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