

We are a group of concerned mothers. San Francisco will be aerielly sprayed for the light brown apple moth with an untested bio-pesticide starting August 17th. The spray is time released and will be repeated every 30-90 days for 2-10 years. We are opposed to the aerial spraying of a biochemical to eradicate the light brown apple moth (LBAM). We are concerned about the negative short term health effects and the unknown long term multi-generational effects of the inert chemicals to the health of pregnant women, our children and the environment. We demand a moratorium on the CDFA's aerial spray program for the LBAM as it has not been proven to be safe, effective, or necessary. We encourage all efforts towards stopping the LBAM eradication plan, including re-classifying the LBAM to a lesser pest, focusing on containment, and filing lawsuits against the CDFA.

Aerial Pesticide Spraying

The California Department of Food and agriculture (CDFA) has announced that it will begin spraying for the light brown apple moth (LBAM) starting in the Greater Bay Area August 17th, 2008. They intend to spray multiple times per year, for up to 10 years!

What are they spraying?

The untested chemical cocktail is known as *Check-mate* and is composed of 11 different synthetic substances, some of which are known carcinogens and endocrine disruptors that are toxic to humans and animals. The pesticide is enclosed in time-released plastic microcapsules, small enough to be inhaled and become lodged in the lungs. During the previous sprayings last fall, the CDFA advised everyone to stay indoors during the spray, and to hose down all play and eating areas the next morning.

640 people are already sick.

After the LBAM spray in Monterey and Santa Cruz in Sept & Nov 2007, over 640 people were documented with respiratory, skin, digestive and other health issues directly connected to the spray. Hundreds of birds were found dead, and a massive Red Tide was reported.

Is the moth harmful?

CDFA itself says the moth has to date done no crop damage in California. Yet the CDFA has by-passed all health and safety regulations by declaring a pesticide emergency. CDFA has banned the public from policy decisions and ignored independent scientific study. Many UC Scientists agree that spraying is completely

unnecessary and will not eradicate the moth! Many Entomologists believe that LBAM has likely been here for decades and is being kept under control by natural predators and is not a major threat.

Many are vulnerable to the spray.

Aerial spraying disproportionately impacts vulnerable segments of the population. People with multiple chemical sensitivity are being forced to relocate. Children and the elderly with weaker immune systems are particularly vulnerable.

We can stop this. 4 things you can do.

1. Spread the word.

Talk to friends, family, co-workers, schools about what is happening. Go to www.playnotspray.org to find information and tools like downloadable flyers and sample letters.

2. Sign the petition at www.playnotspray.org

3. Contact Governor Schwarzenegger.

Urge him to stop the light brown apple moth eradication program. Call at 914-445-2841 or fax/mail a letter. You will find sample letters & fax numbers at www.playnotspray.org. He has the power to stop this immediately!

4. Go to the next event.

Show your support. Go to www.playnotspray.org for news, updates, events and activities.