



For Immediate Release

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UC DAVIS SCIENTISTS CALL ON OFFICIALS TO REVIST MOTH SPRAY PROGRAM

Respected Entomologists Say Program Is Incapable of Eradicating Moth

(Davis, CA) – Today, three respected UC Davis entomologists sent a letter to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Edward Schafer and to the California Department of Food and Agriculture expressing their concerns over their program to spray aerial pesticides to control the light brown apple moth (LBAM). The letter challenges the agency’s claims that the moth poses a severe threat to agriculture and that aerial pesticides will effectively eradicate the pest.

“Increasingly, the scientific community is challenging the assertions that aerial spraying for the apple moth is necessary and effective,” said Paul Schramski, State Director of Pesticide Watch. “Unfortunately, the United States Department of Agriculture and California Department of Food and Agriculture continue to promote a faulty program in the face of major scientific and public opposition.”

A copy of the letter can be found at <http://www.pesticidewatch.org/resource-center/newsroom>

Pesticide Watch is a statewide public health and environmental group that works side-by-side with communities to clean up and prevent pesticide pollution and exposure.

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