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***State Responds to Public Health Issues Raised in New Study Linking LBAM  
Spray to Breast Cancer and Endocrine Disruptors***

*CDFA's response offers no answers to six hundred public health complaints and raises new questions*

**May 30, 2008 – San Francisco, California.** Turning their back on the new study, and hundreds of health complaints that followed aerial spray operations in Monterey and Santa Cruz, the State of California declared that *“To date, the only impact to the environment or living things is confusion in male moths looking to mate with females .”*

In an effort to quiet mounting concerns and new research that the Fall 2007 operations endangered the health and safety of thousands, the California Department of Food and Agriculture tried to dismiss the report with claims that new pesticides would render the study obsolete.

Dr. Ann M. Haiden, a physician in Marin County and author of the study disputes this claim, and called on the State to use 21<sup>st</sup> century science to evaluate the potential adverse health impacts of any pesticide sprayed over human populations.

Says **Ann. M. Haiden, D.O.**, the author of the study “The questions asked in the study do not become obsolete, but rather, highlight the need for rapidly evolving scientific understandings in the decision-making process.”

The report, authored by Ann Haiden, D.O. draws on new, leading edge scientific peer-reviewed knowledge about how the body is affected by particles and chemicals that it finds to be noxious. Although the study focused primarily on two of the ingredients of the Checkmate spray, the same systems affected by these ingredients are actually affected by many chemicals. So the study conclusions remain intact even if the State changes the pesticide. The delivery capsule particle size and how it interacts in the human respiratory system is a known health hazard; the particles and any chemicals they carry can cause damage in the nasal passages and more proximal respiratory tract. The tests that need to be performed to access the safety of any proposed spray include a whole array of testing – from biochemical, to genetic, to thyroid toxicity. Furthermore, since biochemical insults can take years to manifest and the campaign is long term and time released, studies need to test long-term effects. Currently the State is relying on a much less rigorous test called the “6-pack”.

Says **John Russo**, founder of **StopThe Spray**, “The readiness with which the State dismisses the public health reports, and any new information on the hazardous health effects of the spray is just negligent. Instead of respecting the rights of people and their health, the CDFA spends their money on PR campaigns to convince us that breathing plastic capsules filled with chemicals and urea is completely safe. It’s not working.”

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About Ann M. Haiden, D.O.

**Dr. Haiden** ([www.drhaiden.com](http://www.drhaiden.com)) is an internal medicine physician in private practice in Marin County. After surviving breast cancer as a young adult, she embarked on her medical career. After a second bout with breast cancer, chronic fatigue and environmental chemical sensitivity, she discovered and developed her current focus of environmental, nutritional and behavioral impacts on health, also known as a functional or systems medicine approach. She is the founder of GoGreenLiveHealthy.com, an eco-health focused resource and web site. She earned her medical degree, with honors, and trained at the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine and The Kaiser Permanente Hospital in San Francisco.

About Stop The Spray

**Stop The Spray** ([www.stopthespray.org](http://www.stopthespray.org)) is a grass-roots movement that was founded by John Russo in October of 2007, as a public response to massive aerial sprayings of thousands of people on the Monterey Peninsula. The focus of the movement is on the people's right to information and the demand for their consent prior to any spraying program that directly exposes their bodies to toxins. As of May 13, 2008 the petition started by **Stop The Spray** has been signed by 26,806 people. **Stop The Spray** has organizations throughout the entire Bay Area, East Bay and Marin.

**StopTheSpray.org** is currently evaluating ballot initiatives and other measures necessary to curtail the power of the Department of Food and Agriculture to endanger the health and human rights of people in California. To view or sign the online petition opposing pesticide spraying without consent and to read more about the issue please visit: [www.stopthespray.org](http://www.stopthespray.org)

Proposed Legislation

AB 2763 (Laird - D) Requires the Department of Food and Agriculture to create a list of invasive animals, plants, and insects that have a reasonable likelihood of entering California for which an eradication program might be appropriate, and hold public hearings on this information.

AB 2765 (Huffman - D) sets new limits on the emergency powers of the Department of Agriculture. The bill requires a public hearing to receive testimony and examine alternatives to aerial spraying prior to any decision to spray.

AB 2760 (Leno - D) would require that an Environmental Impact Report be completed before the CDFA can apply pesticide in an urban area for the eradication of the light brown apple moth.

### **About Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM)**

The Light-brown Apple Moth (LBAM) was officially discovered in California in 2007 although it may have been in residence in the state for up to 30 years. The CDFA declared an administrative emergency, established quarantine zones and launched a multi-million dollar eradication program. The eradication program, which includes residential and urban areas, is at least in part motivated by international trade issues. Of particular concern is that the chemicals used have never been tested for use on humans and have never before been applied on such a large scale and over human populations. Long-term effects on human health and the environment are unknown and highly controversial, and over 640 health complaints have been identified. The CDFA aerial spray campaign is scheduled to resume and expand into the larger Bay Area in the summer of 2008 with monthly applications until the total eradication of the moth – deemed impossible by most experts – until at least 2010.