

The aerial spraying over so-called "urban" areas has since been substituted with sterile moth releases, planned in 2009



Expanded LBAM Program Area as of July 2008

If more moths are found in other areas being monitored with "pheromone" traps, pesticide applications may be expanded to include them. The United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) is conducting a National Survey in search of the LBAM. They estimate likely areas for future LBAM infestation across 80% of the continental U.S.

#### Risk Map Epiphyas postvittana, Light Brown Apple Moth \*All USDA Plant Hardiness zones. Legend Risk 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1:28,100,000 Source: NASS, USFS FHTET; NAPPFAST USDA-APHIS-CPHST Created By D. Borchert and P. Margosian Raleigh, NC Miles

345

690

1,380

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April 30, 2007

## **"PHEROMONE" TRAPS**



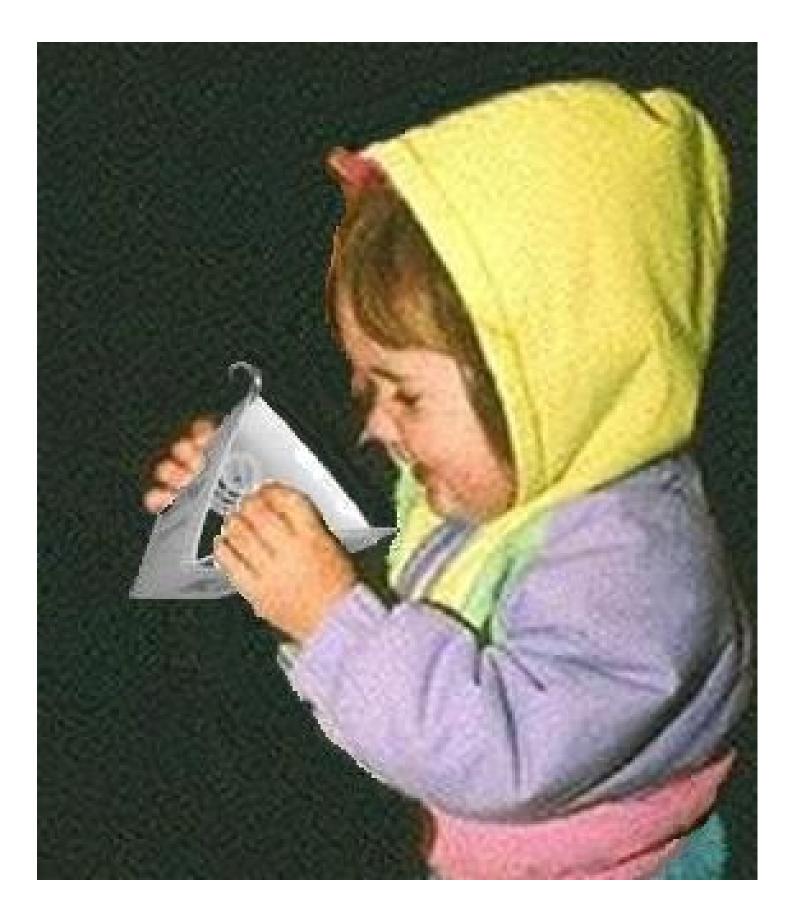
Some opponents of the CDFA's LBAM program propose "sticky" traps as an alternative to the aerial spraying. But the traps contain the same synthetic "pheromone" and secret "inert" chemical ingredients, expose us to toxics, and put at risk other beneficial insects, especially honeybees, who are attracted to various colored traps, and who are in a real global emergency due to



"Colony Collapse Disorder", in which pesticides have been implicated. Clearly neither the "pheromones" nor these traps are "targeted", as they have to test moths to see if it's really an LBAM and not a local look-alike. In fact, you can see a non-target insect trapped below. The traps, however, do target neighborhoods for further pesticide applications.







(Artist depiction of possible exposure from pesticide lures in traps to children)



# **TWIST TIES**

Isomate LBAM Plus, "pheromone infused" twist ties are being hung on trees, plants and fences, 250 per acre, 30-40 per property, throughout entire neighborhoods, to be replaced every 3-6 months. While these "pheromones" sound natural, they are not naturally acquired. They are synthetic chemicals designed to imitate natural pheromones. In order for these chemicals to affect moths, they have to drift through the air



we breathe, so the insects can perceive them. Like all pesticides used in the LBAM program, twist ties contains "inert" ingredients, which are protected from disclosure by trade secret laws. The manufacturer's Material Safety Data Sheet, which is unlikely to tell the whole story, admits it is an eye irritant and "Harmful if absorbed through skin". Many are placed quite low, in easy reach of climbing and curious children and animals, as can be seen in these pictures from a CDFA report.







(Artist depiction of possible contamination from pesticide twist ties of pets and wildlife)



(Artist depiction of possible contamination from pesticide twist ties of pets and wildlife)

# HOSING DOWN <u>A</u> NEIGHBORHOOD



Truck with pesticide containers



and long hose



hosing down sidewalk vegetation



and the soil in between



around windows of homes



and overhead

The pesticides to be used by this method are Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) and Spinosad. Both are "approved" for organics, but contain large percentages of secret synthetic chemical "inert" ingredients. Bt has made hundreds of people in New Zealand sick. Spinosad is harmful to bees, wasps, other moths and butterflies, birds, oysters and other marine mollusks, aquatic invertebrates, fish, and many other non-target species. Spinosad requires the rich microbial activity found on organic farms for breakdown. If used where toxic herbicides have been used, such as city parks and neighborhoods with unknown herbicide usage, build-up in soil is expected. The Organic Materials Review Institute states that "Spinosad, while an improvement over some materials, is still fairly broad spectrum and not representative of an ecological approach." Spinosad is manufactured by Dow, most infamous for making napalm and Agent Orange.

## <u>Permethrin</u> on a Minimum of 3,000 Utility Poles & Trees per Square Mile

Permethrin, mixed with the synthetic "pheromone" and other secret ingredients, is planned as a "pretreatment" for, or concurrently with, aerial spraying, to be applied in a "clay matrix", every 30-60 days, 8 feet off the ground, just overhead of passers by and in easy reach of climbing children and animals, to a minimum of 3000 utility poles and trees per square mile.

The USDA admits that the crystalline "silica quartz component of the clay is listed as a possible human carcinogen under California Proposition 65 for inhalation exposure; however, since the material is mixed with liquid diluent, it will not be available for inhalation." But potters know that clay dries fast in the air, and crumbles in little time.

The document claims that the "direct application of this material to trees and poles eliminates the possibility of drift". It also describes the pheromone as "highly volatile", and anyone who's ever smelled head lice shampoo, flea collars, or Raid, knows that permethrin mixes offgas fiercely. The description that the chemicals are formulated in such a way as to provide for a "slow release to the atmosphere", says it all. If the moth can perceive it, then we are exposed to it too.

According to the Mercury News' interview with a CDFA spokesperson, the pesticide "should dry within a week" after application. The USDA claims that "the ability of both formulations to become rainfast once the material is applied reduces any potential for run-off." Simultaneously they want us to think of the clay as the same as what's in that horrid pink stuff for diarrhea. Imagine all that Pepto-Bismol stuck to people's insides, that a good guzzling of water couldn't flush down. Imagine what might happen to wax on a hot, inner city California day, stuck to a pole. Imagine what the full "potential" of their toxic run-off might be, if it wasn't "reduced"...

Permethrin is a neurotoxic, carcinogenic, endocrine disrupting, chromosome damaging insecticide, that is especially deadly to cats.



The CDFA has not made much information about this method available, but this is what the material they are considering looks like in some types of application. It is unclear which application method will be used, but it has been described as "squirted by a person in a van". This is one method offered by the manufacturer, and a CDFA truck applying a similar pesticide mix in another program:



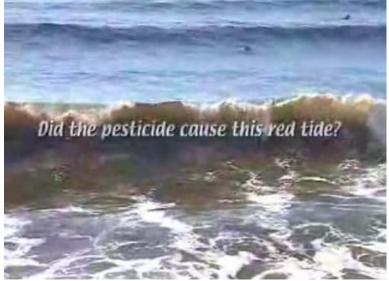
### <u>Aerial Spraying of synthetic "Pheromones"</u> <u>mixed with secret chemical ingredients</u>



These chemicals have never been tested for safety. They are suspended in microcapsules, some of which are small enough to lodge permanently in the lungs, and are confused for pollen by bees, who carry them back to the hives. In the days following the 2007 sprayings, residents reported that gardens previously full of birdsong and buzzing bees, were silent, as birds and bees avoided the sprayed areas long after. In the hundreds of dead birds were immediate aftermath, "mysteriously" washed ashore. The State denies that there is anything in the chemical mix, that could possibly have stripped their weatherproofing off of the birds, or contributed to the worst red tide in decades, which was later blamed for the deaths of the birds. The red tide in turn was blamed on surfactants in the water. The chemical mix contains several surfactants. Research shows that red tide forming algal

Filling up a plane with pesticide

blooms prefer to feed on urea from urban runoff. The capsules are made of urea. It rained after the aerial spraying, and the storm drains lead straight to the bay. Not all watersheds were excluded from the spray zones. The San Lorenzo River was not an exclusion site. Also pilots made known errors on four separate days. The red tide made surfers in those waters sick, some with long lasting respiratory effects. The planes they use to spray are chartered from Dynamic Aviation, who consider themselves to be "Partners Safeguarding Earth", one of whose primary markets is national defense, and who are involved in "intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance". Their home port is in Virginia, but they also have offices conveniently located in Central America and the Caribbean.



During and after the spraying hundreds of people got ill, including with the following symptoms:

- Asthma attacks
- Bronchial irritation
- Lung congestion and soreness
- Difficulty breathing and shortness of breath
- Coughing or "wheezing"
- Skin rashes (sometimes severe)
- Vision blurred
- Eye irritation
- Sore throats
- Nasal congestion
- Sinus bleeding
- Headaches (sometimes debilitating)
- Inability to concentrate and focus
- Dizziness
- Muscle aches
- Body tremors
- Intestinal pain and diarrhea
- Nausea
- Feelings of lethargy and malaise
- Chest pains and tightness
- Heart arrhythmia and tachycardia (irregular and rapid heartbeat)
- Swollen glands and lymph nodes in neck and under arms
- Menstrual cramping, an interruption to menstrual cycles, and in some cases a recommencement of menstrual cycles after menopause





Dynamic Aviation Coming Soon to an Area Near You