

## GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

June 18, 2008

The Honorable A.G. Kawamura Secretary Department of Food and Agriculture 1220 N Street Suite 409 Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Secretary Kawamura,

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) employees have my admiration for their hard work in protecting California's environment from invasive species such as the light brown apple moth, Mediterranean fruit fly, glassy-winged sharpshooter and others. These pests are very real threats to our state's agriculture, forests and economy.

When it comes to invasive species – whether the light brown apple moth, the quagga mussel or other pests California certainly will confront and fight in the future – I have always said that we should use the most environmentally sound, safe and effective tools at our disposal. And because we are California, home to the most talented scientists and researchers in the nation, I have always pushed CDFA and other agencies to develop additional tools that are even safer, more effective and more environmentally sensitive.

Your recent success in working with the United States Department of Agriculture to develop a mass sterile insect colony to fight the light brown apple moth is yet another worthy accomplishment.

Several countries and states, including California, have used mass sterile insect releases since the 1960s to eradicate dangerous invasive species. I am writing to direct you to collaborate with the California Environmental Protection Agency, California Resources Agency and the California Health and Human Services Agency to take all necessary steps to continue to develop a light brown apple moth sterile insect release by 2009, and to use a fully integrated eradication campaign for 2008 that deploys all available appropriate tools.

As we discussed last year, creating the most sustainable tools to halt these pests is imperative. That will continue to be my direction in addressing all invasive pests that threaten California, and I am confident you will continue to use the safest, most environmentally sound tools available and to push for the development of new tools.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Shoreneg X

STATE CAPITOL • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • (916) 445-2841