

## Monterey Bay Central Labor Council - MBCLC

# Resolution opposing the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the California Department of Food and Agriculture's attempt to eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth via aerial and ground spraying:

**WHEREAS**, we are committed to a sustainable economy that will serve the community and workers for years to come; and

**WHEREAS**, we are committed to providing safe & healthy conditions in our workplaces, and in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, aerial spraying (with CheckMate), ground spraying (with Permethrin) and other related methods planned by the CDFA, have known and unknown negative health and environmental impacts associated with them; and

**WHEREAS**, the chemical CheckMate has been sprayed already in Santa Cruz & Monterey counties, and this spraying resulted in hundreds of reported adverse health reactions; and

**WHEREAS**, Department of Pesticide Regulation and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment studies show that these reactions are consistent with exposure to active ingredients contained in CheckMate; and

**WHEREAS**, the chemical CheckMate is neither a Natural Pheromone nor a Non-toxic substance; and

**WHEREAS**, no Inhalation or Long Term tests have been conducted, so no agency is in the position to claim that the proposed plan is safe; and

**WHEREAS**, an increasing number of qualified professionals in the field of pest management have come out in opposition to the proposed eradication plan—stating clearly that it simply will not work; and

**WHEREAS**, Scientists have reported that the light brown apple moth has not yet caused any crop damage and is more successfully controlled without the use of chemicals, by encouraging natural predators and healthy soils to prevent the spread of damaging infestations; and

**WHEREAS**, Entomologists in the state have shown that the LBAM has been in California for years, so no actual emergency exists. In order to avoid a situation which *may potentially* have a negative economic impact on an industry, the CDFA is pursuing a plan which *will* create a real public health disaster.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT The Monterey Bay Central Labor Council (MBCLC) stands firmly in opposition to the CDFA's plans to engulf our communities in these insufficiently tested & likely carcinogenic chemicals, sprayed from the air or ground, whether they use CheckMate, Permethrin or other similar substances.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT the MBCLC demands the USDA downgrade the pest classification of the light brown apple moth to reflect the lack of risk it poses; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** THAT the MBCLC will work with communities, groups & agencies across the state to seek truly safe solutions to real threats to our food supply and to safeguard the economic stability of the industries in which we work.

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