

CDFA EATF Meeting 2/21/08

Robert Leavitt: Integrated Pest Control, CDAF
Laurie Gibson: Coalition for Sustainable Action, Monterey
Thomas Smith:
Susan Ellis: Fish and Wildlife
Pattie Tenbrook: EPA Region 9
Don Owen: Entomologist
James Warren: Toxicologist APHIS
Dennis Davie: Sierra Club
Susan Monheit: UC Davis
Schreider
Richard Kreutzer, MD, Environmental Health Investigations Branch (Chief), California
Department of Health Services
Zea Sonnabend: CCOF
Doug Babkin:
Rayne Thompson: Farm Bureau
Teresa Thorne, Alliance for Food and Farming, Watsonville

Agenda:

David Dilworth said that such meetings should be open to public comments. Mr. Leavitt read a statement from the office of the Attorney General saying that such meetings were not required to have a public commenting period; **Roy's recommendation**; request from the EATF members that each meeting allocate 15 minutes for public comments. Ask for a vote.

LBAM Biocontrol

1. Addressed a list of questions presented by EATF Member Laurie Gibson.

Question: "There are still concerns in the public about the potential temporal association between the spraying dates and the dead birds. Can you provide the public and committee with actual findings of test data? When?"

State has investigated. Alleged it is related to red tide but have neither obtained final results of testing nor have released any report. Say they will release a report within a few days but leading to red tide as causative. Checkmate tested and pointing to protein as causative. Chain of custody of birds; who tested what. Birds picked up by NOAA, Fish and Game, and petroleum chemistry lab; ruled out petroleum. Results will be put on CDFA website.

Dennis Davie asked if the ammonium phosphate and sodium phosphate in the Checkmate could have been contributory to the density of the red tide. No real answer given and Mr. Leavitt dismissed as irrelevant. Dennis admonished that it was exactly relevant.

Question: "The CDFA has continually reported that the aerial spray likely did not cause all of the adverse reactions people have reported; but the DPR and OEHHA Consensus

Statement said such symptoms were plausible. How can CDFA more sincerely address public concerns that in fact are real, and more importantly, protect the public from future harm? "

Kreutzer explained collection systems, call in number, etc. Will be providing training to health care providers and do greater public outreach. Working with OEHHA to give review of adverse health reports. "Some people reviewed those complaints. Will take a number of weeks". Focused on difficulty determining causality, risk assessment: "Exposure Pathway Assessment". Said there were 33-36 complaints submitted by physicians.

Question: " There are concerns regarding the size of the microcapsules. No respiratory studies were performed because the micron size was reported to be 25 micron and above and seemingly was not needed. Now that the UC Davis study showed the micron size to be 10 micron, what assurity can you give the public that this or any aerial spray will be safe?"

Micron size. Suterra said average size of cap is 80-100 micron. Said UC Davis researchers average size were 30 microns. And were 10-190. Said that 1/10 of 1% may be at 10 micron. Mean 107; median 104;

2. Next Task Force meetings: Planned for June in San Francisco, August in Monterey There will also be a EATF-hosted research conference on LBAM issues probably first week of May near Los Angeles airport; possibly invite only. After fruit fly meeting.

3. Dr. Wiliam Rolsch: CDFA Integrate Pest Control Branch: Update on Biocontrols

Trichogrammas pretiosum T. platneri (60% reduction of codling moth). Native to California. Good slide on LBAM life stages. Approx 60 eggs layed. Tested against LBAM; 20-30 most common concentration of egg masses. Exposed eggs to both species of Trichogramma. If parastitized, will see a blackened area. Egg mass was completely attacked with nearly 100% parastization.

T. platneri 5 of 34 egg masses 38% (3-58%) 65%

These species do attack LBAM. A certain amount will grow out.

Acknowledged that released trichogrammas will attack non-LBAM species but says they will feed, not move far and die off completely. They **will** attack other Lepidopterans.

Says they do not think they will negatively affect native populations because they have a limited range of movement, will feed, have a short life span, and will die off. "Lab trichos are different from wild ones", are being released in specific locations.

Two resident parasite species were found in the wild last fall.

4. Jim Warren: Presented on the **Environmental Risk of Pheromones.**

Risk = Exposure/Toxicity

Presented tox data on the study of Werner et al. and also on studies he did with pure pheromone. Some of the studies were with the full solution; others pure pheromone. Consider that the concentration of inerts is so low as to be negligible with no environmental consequence relative to the amount if, for example, urea that is dumped into the Bay through Watsonville.

Dave Davie, Sierra Club asks to make concentrations of ingredients available to public.

5. LBAM USDA Action Pest: “Why a control program is not sufficient”. “Says if they let it go moth will spread throughout the US and will see uncontrolled pesticide use by homeowners, and will go on forever.”

Said moth larva can damage threatened and endangered native species, eats everything,

6. Bob Dowell: In charge of operations for LBAM program. Presented overview of scoping sessions. Noted that was there to listen, not to answer questions.

EATF EIR Recommendations: Went around table asking each member what they wanted to see addressed in the EIR process.

Some wanted to see an accurate assessment of a no action proposal. Some wanted this because they are not convinced that the moth presents a danger to actual crops (Ms. Tenbrook, Dennis Davie); others asked from the perspective to show the public the immense damage that can occur with a no action proposal (Forestry representatives).

Dr. Kreutzer: mentions larger issue with community, mentions children, listing of inerts

Teresa, Food & Farming: concerned about health of residents and inerts

Western Growers Ass.: concerned about use of organophosphates and conflicting info about micro-capsule size

Patti, EPA: wants to see economic data, concerned about allergic reactions

Dave, SC: wants study about LBAM as food source for native ecosystem

Evaluate HOPE proposal in EIR

Zea, CCOF: asks to look into fully integrated agricultural approach

-Spinosad non-target species must be included in EIR

-Permethrin is not permitted to use for organic farming

-“economic damage” because of quarantine

-particle sizes must be studied in the wild

Farm-Bureau: increased use of pesticide if no-action

CA Ass of Nursery Growers: impact of pesticide use of home owners, economic impact on nurseries

Forestry Service: other technologies for mating disruption?

Susan Monheit: Former CDFA employee, subcontracted by Michael Johnson of UC Davis to conduct an environmental risk assessment for CDFA. Considering that the public is so concerned about exposure to pheromones that the EIR should do an analysis of how

much naturally occurring pheromone will people be exposed if we do not eradicate the moth.

Recommended Actions

Mission of EATF is to represent the public concerns. Therefore, we should be able to fully use this committee to represent our concerns.

Get EATF members to make sure the research conference is balanced and not just a CDFA focus.

Ask for public commenting 15 minutes per meeting.