



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

APR - 2 2008

Dear Concerned Citizen:

Thank you for commenting on the programmatic environmental assessment (EA) the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is conducting for the aerial dispersal of pheromones to control the light brown apple moth infestation in California. We recognize your concerns, and we assure you that we are committed to ensuring that the aerial pheromone dispersals are safe both to public health and the environment. The public comment period for the EA closed March 17, 2008. However, because of the substantial amount of interest generated by this issue, officials with our Agency of USDA continued to accept and evaluate public comments received through April 2, 2008.

Once the supplemental EA is released, the public will have 30 days to submit comments. After we have reviewed and analyzed all public comments, as well as any environmental effects of the proposed actions, our Agency will make an environmental decision regarding the use of aerial dispersal of the pheromone by either issuing a finding of no significant impact, or—if we determine that the action will have a significant impact on the environment—preparing an environmental impact statement.

We hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

David T. Kaplan
Assistant Deputy Administrator
APHIS Emergency and Domestic Programs
Plant Protection and Quarantine



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