

# Residents criticize state over moth spray

By **BRIAN SEALS**  
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

Light Brown Apple Moth  
2-22-08

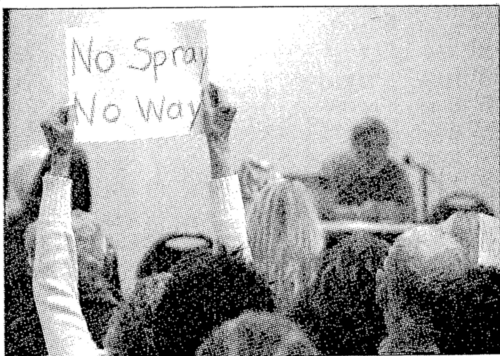
SANTA CRUZ — Critics of the state's aerial attack on the light brown apple moth told officials Thursday to gauge the health effects on humans when crafting an environmental impact report.

A decidedly anti-spraying crowd of more than 100 people packed the University Inn and Conference Center to comment, at times passionately, on an environmental report that is to be crafted by the California Department of Food and Agriculture as part of its bid to eradicate the invasive pest.

Although aimed at scoping out issues to be included in the environmental report, the meeting was also a chance for residents to bemoan last year's spraying and question the need for the program at all.

State and federal officials say eradicating the moth is needed to protect the state's agriculture

See **MOTH** on **PAGE A8**



Shmuel Thaler/Sentinel

An opponent of aerial spraying makes her feelings be known as Bob Dowell from the state Department of Food and Agriculture speaks at Thursday's meeting.