

State to examine moth spray options

Light Brown Apple

By **DANIEL LOPEZ**

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moth

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CAMPBELL — State agriculture officials' latest move in their fight to eradicate the light brown apple moth comes too late in the eyes of some.

Pest control, environment, wildlife and farming officials met Thursday in Campbell at the Center for International Trade Development to form an environmental task force that will look at alternative approaches to the eradication and advise A.G. Kawamura, California's secretary of food and agriculture, on the effort's environmental impacts.

The formation of the task force comes just days after a round of pesticide spraying was done over Santa Cruz County and weeks after airplanes sprayed the Monterey Peninsula with pheromones.

"This should have been done way earlier and now it's being done," said Steve Shimek, executive director of the Otter Project in Marina.

Shimek, who is among the nearly two dozen people invited to serve on the task force, said that while the timing may not be the best, the group can still have

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