

Oranmore said the group has worked

According to Ellis, Janus expected nu-

For more information, call 425-2126.

# ✓ Tests show cocoon that of gypsy moth

By KATHY KREIGER

Sentinel staff writer

10-5-91

SEACLIFF — An empty cocoon case found Wednesday was identified as that of a male gypsy moth, said state agricultural officials Friday.

Amazingly enough, local agricultural officials are happy about it.

"We think it's good news," said county agricultural commissioner David Moeller. "Now we've got the place pretty much pinpointed for sure. Now we've got a really likely center from which to work."

Moeller said that narrowing down the area where the pest has come from will

help minimize the scope of whatever treatment is eventually used.

"It's not proof of infestation, but it's proof of activity," said Moeller.

The recent discovery of two male gypsy moths in county-monitored traps had triggered a door-to-door search of the Seacliff area of Aptos last week, turning up two likely places where the pest may have gained a toehold.

Further inspection of those spots turned up the empty pupal case and the remains of two egg masses.

Moeller said the egg masses remnants, however, were identified as those of the

eastern tent caterpillar.

What will happen next is still up in the air, Moeller said. A further search of the Mar Vista Drive property is likely, and ag officials may hack down two large blackberry patches there as well, looking for more signs of the little moth.

The moth, scourge of millions of acres of east coast forestlands, has so far been successfully prevented from establishing itself in California by a vigorous program of border inspections of entering vehicles from the New England area and the monitoring of traps baited with gypsy moth hormone pheromone.