

Spray

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ture spokesman, explaining that the types of complaints were not tracked by state officials.

Callers who thought they were experiencing health problems as a result of the spraying were urged to see a doctor, Lyle said. There was one official report of sickness related to the spraying by Saturday afternoon, according to Lungren.

“I don’t know any of the details,” she said. “It’s just one report.”

About 200 people in Monterey County reported upset stomachs and headaches from contact with a pesticide similar to CheckMate LBAM-F, which was sprayed in Santa Cruz County and acts as a pheromone and seeks to disrupt the male moths’ reproductive behavior.

State officials said Saturday that they will return in February or March to spray again.

“That’s when we expect more of the moths to hatch and come back,” Lungren said, adding they plan to launch a public education campaign prior to the next round of spraying.

The application of the pesticide was met with resistance from many county residents and public officials, who are concerned about the long-term effects of CheckMate. Dozens of protests urged state officials to halt the spraying and three groups — the city and county of Santa Cruz, an environmental group and three residents — filed suit against the state. Judges on all three suits denied requests to halt the spraying while lawsuits are working through the judicial system.

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