

# News

Santa Cruz, California

## ✓ GYPSY MOTH ✓ Carbaryl Banned As Spray

2-28-85 GT  
UNLESS the state can convince a county superior court judge otherwise, no carbaryl pesticide will be sprayed in Felton next month as part of a state program to eradicate the gypsy moth.

County Superior Court judge Donald May told the state Monday to use a substitute for carbaryl or to appear in his court on March 13 to argue for its use. In addition to Judge May's ruling, the City of Santa Cruz, the county and 41 other plaintiffs filed suit Tuesday in Santa Cruz Superior Court in an attempt to stop the state's use of carbaryl.

The suit, begun by the county, claims the state would violate its own safety regulations if it ground-sprayed carbaryl, a chemical which is not recommended by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, on 175 acres near downtown Felton.

The federal health agency has linked carbaryl with kidney and liver disease and birth defects in tests with laboratory animals. People exposed to the chemical compound can experience headaches, dizziness and nau-

# News

## Spray

(continued from page 5)

due to get underway on or after March 15.

City council members, fearing carbaryl contamination of the San Lorenzo River, joined the other plaintiffs during an executive session before last Tuesday's council meeting. The suit notes that Santa Cruz draws 45 percent of its water supply from the river.

County Supervisor Joe Cucchiara, leading the drive for an amended

gypsy moth spray program, said Felton property owners, businesses, People For a Safe Felton and the Sierra Club also are among the suit's plaintiffs, filed Tuesday in county superior court.

Cucchiara and John Wittwer, county counsel handling the case, argue carbaryl should not be used if an "effective and practical" alternative is available.

Cucchiara believes the alternative is *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), which the state plans to aerially spray over 250 acres near Felton. •