

Light Brown Apple Moth

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State will study impacts of moth spraying

Public meetings on tap to gather comments

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SANTA CRUZ — The state Department of Agriculture is crafting an environmental review of its effort to eradicate the light brown apple moth, but the report won't be completed before aerial spray-

ing is expected to begin June 1.

As it forms an environmental impact report that is a requirement of state environmental law, it will hold a series of meetings to gather public comment, including one set for Feb. 21 in Santa Cruz.

"It's an opportunity for the public, government agencies and other stakeholders to come and explain to us how they think the environmental impact report should address the concerns they have,"

said Steve Lyle, spokesman for the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

The light brown apple moth is an invasive pest the department says threatens the state's agricultural industry. Last fall, it sprayed a pheromone over parts of the Central Coast to fight the moth.

The meetings are designed to take comments, but not so much to dissemi-

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Meetings will be held in Santa Cruz and Monterey seeking comments on the light brown apple moth.

California Department of Food and Agriculture