



California Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch
Pesticide Epidemiology Section

Carrie Jones, MD, MPH
Public Health Medical Officer II

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE
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3/26/09

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March 26, 2009

media rep. # 916-654-0462

Dear Resident,

The Gypsy Moth Project ("Project"), a cooperative project between the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner, has determined that the treatment of your property is vital to the success of the ongoing effort to eradicate the gypsy moth in your area. The Project's records indicate that you have not allowed access to your property to treat for gypsy moth infestation. Over 95 percent of properties within the eradication area have already undergone the first of three treatments using *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki*, (Btk) a naturally occurring soil bacterium that is used extensively in organic food production to control caterpillar pests.

Only by initiating treatment of ALL the properties in the prescribed area with Btk by Sunday March 29, 2009 can we help prevent a number of public problems, including: re-infestation of your neighborhood's already-treated properties, the need to use harsher chemicals later (commencing as early as next week) on your and potentially your neighbors' properties, and the spread of this harmful pest to other parts of California and to other non-infested states in the western United States.

* As the defined eradication area has been determined to be infested, your property constitutes a public nuisance (Food and Agricultural Code Section 5762) and thus will be subject to abatement proceedings that may result in the application of Btk or other approved pest control products.

We respectfully request that you contact our project office at 800-491-1899 no later than **5:00 p.m., March 26, 2009** and let us know if we have your consent to treat your property. If we do not hear from you by that date, we intend to initiate abatement proceedings because treatment is only effective if all properties in the area receive the treatment. If you have any questions, please contact the Project personnel at the number above. Legal questions of course, should be directed to your own legal adviser.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Called office before 5pm deadline

Literature given @ approx 3:45pm

Jessica
only "Jessica"
at the hotline

