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COMMENT CARD ON THE LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH ERADICATION PROGRAM

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Comments:

This program of "eradication" of the Light Brown Apple Moth is a tool in California agribusiness' trade wars. Agribusiness obtained quarantines on the import of fruit from New Zealand and other countries on the basis that the fruit would allow the Light Brown Apple Moth into California. When it was found the LBAM was already in California agribusiness shifted gears and got the California Department of Food and Agriculture to undertake an extensive "eradication" program in order to reimpose the quarantine of imported fruits from New Zealand, Australia, Mexico, and British Columbia.

An ancillary service to agribusiness of this "eradication" program is that county or regional LBAM quarantines are being put into place in order to put small organic farmers out of business.

All of the evidence indicates that the LBAM is not a pest dangerous to agriculture. The evidence also indicates that "eradication" is not possible.

All of the proposed (and approved) eradication programs involve introducing into the environment a wide range of pesticides and substances that are dangerous to human health.

California agribusiness has a long criminal history of damaging the health of farm workers, the general population and the consumers of their products. The state of California has a long history of servile capitulation to every one of these crimes. The current administration of the California Department of Food and Agriculture is continuing this policy of placing the "needs" of agribusiness above the health of California citizens.

I am aware that these "comments" will either not be read or dismissed with ridicule; the perceived needs of agribusiness in their trade wars takes priority over human health.

Howard C. Keylor