

Greater Santa Cruz Federation of Teachers AFT Local 2030

Resolution Opposing the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Program to Eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth

Whereas, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has identified the presence of the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) within the Santa Cruz City Schools District community, and

Whereas, the CDFA has declared an emergency and launched a Program to Eradicate the LBAM, and

Whereas, the CDFA has not, to date, identified an imminent threat, economic or otherwise, to local agriculture due to the presence of the LBAM, and

Whereas, an environmental impact report has not been completed addressing community concerns relating to the impact of the LBAM Eradication Program to local ecosystems, and

Whereas, it is not known the extent to which effects of the LBAM Eradication Program will impact the safety and health of populations inhabiting this region, and

Whereas, the health and welfare of schoolchildren and school employees cannot be assured due to the lack of adequate study of the impacts of the LBAM Eradication Program,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Greater Santa Cruz Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 2030 (GSCFT 2030) hereby opposes the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program, and

Be it further resolved that GSCFT 2030 requests that the CDFA complete an environmental impact study and order an independent, peer reviewed, epidemiology study of the populations sprayed in the fall of 2007 in order to ascertain that materials applied to control or eradicate the LBAM are safe before exposing this community to further unknown threats, and

Be it finally resolved that GSCFT 2030 favors modern Integrated Pest Management Programs relying upon least-toxic environmentally safe compounds and application methods when and if pest control is scientifically proven necessary in order to safeguard our community from real threats to our food supply and economy.

