

Permethrin on a Minimum of 3,000 Utility Poles & Trees per Square Mile

Permethrin, mixed with the synthetic "pheromone" and other secret ingredients, is planned as a "pre-treatment" for, or concurrently with, aerial spraying, to be applied in a "clay matrix", every 30-60 days, 8 feet off the ground, just overhead of passers by and in easy reach of climbing children and animals, to a minimum of 3000 utility poles and trees per square mile.

The USDA admits that the crystalline "silica quartz component of the clay is listed as a possible human carcinogen under California Proposition 65 for inhalation exposure; however, since the material is mixed with liquid diluent, it will not be available for inhalation." But potters know that clay dries fast in the air, and crumbles in little time.

The document claims that the "direct application of this material to trees and poles eliminates the possibility of drift". It also describes the pheromone as "highly volatile", and anyone who's ever smelled head lice shampoo, flea collars, or Raid, knows that permethrin mixes offgas fiercely. The description that the chemicals are formulated in such a way as to provide for a "slow release to the atmosphere", says it all. If the moth can perceive it, then we are exposed to it too.

According to the Mercury News' interview with a CDFA spokesperson, the pesticide "should dry within a week" after application. The USDA claims that "the ability of both formulations to become rainfast once the material is applied reduces any potential for run-off." Simultaneously they want us to think of the clay as the same as what's in that horrid pink stuff for diarrhea. Imagine all that Pepto-Bismol stuck to people's insides, that a good guzzling of water couldn't flush down. Imagine what might happen to wax on a hot, inner city California day, stuck to a pole. Imagine what the full "potential" of their toxic run-off might be, if it wasn't "reduced"...

Permethrin is a neurotoxic, carcinogenic, endocrine disrupting, chromosome damaging insecticide, that is especially deadly to cats.



The CDFA has not made much information about this method available, but this is what the material they are considering looks like in some types of application. It is unclear which application method will be used, but it has been described as "squirted by a person in a van". This is one method offered by the manufacturer, and a CDFA truck applying a similar pesticide mix in another program:

