

# WINDOW ON AGRICULTURE

## Office of the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner

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### **HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT INFORMATION ONLINE**

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has a new page on human health risk assessment on it's web site.

“Risk assessment is a process designed to answer questions about how toxic a chemical is, what exposure results from its various uses, what is the likelihood that use will cause harm, and how to characterize that risk. Risk assessment plays a critical role in the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's (DPR) evaluation of the potential human health hazards associated with pesticide exposure. DPR's comprehensive approach assesses potential dietary (food and drinking water), workplace, residential, and ambient air exposures.”

This page has links to many DPR publications dealing with risk assessment. Including publications on general information about the process, setting priorities and initiating risk assessments, and risk assessment components and documents.

The risk assessment information can be found through DPR's main web site at: [www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov) under “Latest News and Information”, or you can go directly to it at: [www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/risk/riskassessment.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/risk/riskassessment.htm).

### **PEST INSECT TRAPS AVAILABLE**

Growers who are interested in placing insect traps for the detection of Glassy-winged Sharpshooter can obtain traps from the

Sonoma County Grape Growers Association

(SCGGA). These traps were given to SCGGA by our department before our move to the new office.

Olive growers can pick up traps for Olive Fruit Fly (OLFF) from our office. OLFF traps should be hung as high as possible at least 12 inches from foliage from October to April.

Grape growers can obtain Vine Mealybug (VMB) traps from either the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) or our office. Both offices are located at 133 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa (Airport area), south of the Airport Cinemas. Farm Advisors Rhonda Smith and Lucia Varela will monitor VMB flights, and will let growers know when the best time will be to place traps. Last year male VMB were found in traps in August and September. Growers will need to screen their own traps for male VMB. Any questionable finds can be brought into the UCCE or our office for further screening.

### **DIRECT MARKETING- FARM MARKET MANAGERS' MEETING**

Our annual farm market managers' meeting was held on January 26, 2004. Market managers from Sebastopol, Sonoma, Oakmont, Santa Rosa Downtown, Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial, Healdsburg, and Windsor markets were all in attendance.

Guest speakers for the annual meeting were Janice Price and Joel Kiff. Mr. Kiff is a member of the California Farm Markets' Advisory Board. Mr. Kiff spoke on current

activities and ideas that the advisory board is working on, such as, value-added products and a survey of those involved with farm markets in California.

Ms. Price is the supervisor of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Direct Marketing Program. Ms. Price discussed current law and regulation changes. There is a law change currently under review that would increase the stall fee charged to each vendor per market day. The current stall fee is \$0.60 per stall per market day; the fee would be increased to one dollar.

Ms. Price discussed issues regarding the direct marketing program addressed by the agricultural commissioners at their semi-annual meeting in November. The agricultural commissioners voted to conduct a survey within their organization of what the agricultural commissioners continued role should be in the direct marketing program.

Our office would like to thank Ms. Price, and Mr. Kiff for speaking at our meeting. Thanks also to the market managers that attended the meeting.

