January 13, 2020

Director
Morrow County Health Department
619 West Marion Rd.
Mt. Gilead, OH 43338

Dear: Director

We are writing to inform you about our gypsy moth treatment project planned for your area in mid-June. Gypsy moth caterpillars feed on the leaves of over 300 species of trees and shrubs with oak being the preferred. At high populations, they may completely strip trees of their leaves in the spring. Repeated damage will weaken and eventually kill the trees. Each year the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) conducts an extensive trapping program to detect growing populations of gypsy moth. ODA has recently completed an analysis of gypsy moth population data across Ohio and has determined that a control treatment is needed in your area.

The purpose of this letter is to inform your department that this project is proposed and supply you with informational material so that your staff is well informed to answer any questions from the public. Copies of the fact sheets, insecticide label, MSDS, and a map of the treatment area(s) are enclosed for your reference.

Additional information about the gypsy moth and the ODA Gypsy Moth Management Program is available on our website www.agri.ohio.gov.

PRODUCT TO BE USED: Disparlure, commercial name Splat GM Organic, is a product that mimics the gypsy moth pheromone. When applied to tree tops, the product disrupts the male moth’s ability to find the female moth and mate. This application will occur near mid-June at the beginning of gypsy moth mating season. Splat is not harmful to humans, honey bees, or animals and is a certified organic material.

Gypsy moth treatments are conducted by airplanes that fly 50 - 100 feet above the tree tops to distribute product to specifically control gypsy moth populations. The treatments are not harmful to humans, animals, honey bees, or plants.

The public is invited to attend an Open House to discuss the treatments planned for your area:

- February 19, 2020 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Village of Sparta Building, 6605 State Route 229, Sparta, OH.

If they cannot attend the open house but would like to make a public comment they can do so by mail at the address listed above, or by e-mail: plantpest@agri.ohio.gov. The official public comment period is active until February 29, 2020.

Prior to the treatment occurring, ODA will supply more specific information about the timing via social media, postcards, news releases and signage placed in the neighborhoods where the treatments will occur. Additionally, starting in May a pre-recorded message updated each day with information on treatment timing will be available by calling (614) 387-0907.

(cont.)
Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (614) 728-6400 or by email at adkins@agri.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

David Adkins, Agricultural Inspection Manager

Block: Chesterville MD

Enclosures: