

Aerial_Spraying_fernandez_6-7-07.txt

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2007 7:43 AM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: Aerial Spraying

for Board Meeting...

-----Original Message-----

From: anna fernandez [mailto:annablom@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2007 7:58 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: Aerial Spraying

Greetings Henry Jennings,
I am writing to tell you that I am very much against aerial spraying. I don't believe there is a way to eliminate drift when pesticides, insecticides and herbicides are sprayed from above. I believe these chemicals should only be used as a last resort and that aerial spraying should be against the law.

I know people whose health is greatly affected by the spraying of blueberries on the Blue Hill Peninsula and the victims have no choice but to be exposed. Those of us not living near blueberry fields are also affected, more on a long term basis through the contaminated water supply from these chemicals. The negative effect of these chemicals on the environment is a sure thing as well.

Please work for the basic rights of people to be free from being poisoned.

Thank you,
Anna Fernandez

Pi npoint customers who are looking for what you sell.
<http://searchmarketing.yahoo.com/>

From: Jennings, Henry
Sent: Friday, June 15, 2007 10:18 AM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: FW: concerns

-----Original Message-----

From: Haydee [mailto:haydeesf@verizon.net]
Sent: Friday, June 15, 2007 8:55 AM
To: Jennings, Henry
Subject: concerns

Dear Mr. Jennings,
I have been a Blue Hill resident for over twenty years. I have a thirteen year old son and we have both suffered unexplained chronic health problems: an asthmatic chronic cough, rashes, large benign tumors, fatigue. I buy all my food organically grown if possible to avoid possible toxins that could be contributing to these ills. I recently found out that blueberry spraying around the organic farm that is our main source of meat and produce (King Hill Farm, Penobscot) could have been drifting onto our food and livestock.

In addition, we live right next to a formerly sprayed blueberry field. I've had the water tested. And I have a reverse osmosis water filter.

I don't know if there is a connection between these things and our health problems.

I am also concerned for friends and community members. An alternative to the spraying of toxins must be found. Please do what you can to address this concern. I thank you in advance for this.

Sincerely, Haydee Foreman

Haydee S. Foreman
The Style Coach
helping you look your best
207.374.5718
207.266.3872
PO Box 1654
Blue Hill, ME 04614 USA
www.mainstylecoach.com

From: cathm@prexar.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 4:23 PM
To: Jennings, Henry
Cc: AF-Pesticides Internet; Fish, Gary
Subject: Letter to the MBPC (for June 22 meeting)

Please forward this letter to the MPBC. Thanks!

To the Maine Board of Pesticide Control:

I am writing to express my extreme dismay and concern about the current situation of pesticide spraying by the blueberry industry in Maine, in particular the Allen Blueberry Company of Ellsworth. I have had many disappointing incidents regarding the lack of notification (and the notification system in general) of the people of Stockton Springs where I live.

For the most part, people are unaware of the spraying being done all around us. I have learned that many of these chemicals are known endocrine disruptors and can cause or exacerbate many health problems.

MPBC should demand better notification of the public. At the very least, notices in local newspapers, town offices, libraries, general stores, parks, schools, etc. could alert people to the simple fact that this happens, since most people are shocked to learn of this after the fact.

Recently, Allen sprayed Fletcher Hill in Stockton Springs WITHOUT notifying the daycare just below the hill even though they are on the list of people to call. They called me on the night before Memorial Day to say they would spray the next day (on a holiday when everyone is outside and at the cemetery just below the hill) and then, the woman who called didn't even know what chemical would be sprayed! Well, we cancelled our plans for an outdoor party and then they didn't even spray until the following day and didn't let us know.

This situation is appalling and out of hand. The secrecy of this system must be addressed. Many of us believe that the toxic spraying should be stopped altogether, but at the very least we the people deserve to be informed in a public forum.

Pesticides are linked to childhood leukemia, Parkinsons Disease, breast cancer, nerve disorders and more and the cavalier manner in which these

companies are poisoning people, wildlife, water, and land must be addressed. You have the power to make a difference. Please do so. Place ads in newspapers at least informing the public that this is happening and what they need to do to be informed. Thank you for doing the right thing.

Cathy Melio

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JUN 19 2007

Monday, June 18, 2007

To all concerned at the Maine Board of Pesticides Control,

I am writing to weigh in on the issue of the aerial spraying of herbicides, pesticides + fungicides on blueberry fields in Maine. I own 20 acres of blueberries which I choose to manage organically. I respect other farmers' needs to use chemicals to manage their own fields but I feel it is essential that there be monitoring of this spraying as well as public notification of when the spraying is due to occur. Since aerial spraying can result in the drift of pesticides onto other landowner's property up to 1 mile, we citizens need to be allowed to find out when spraying is happening so we can take measures to protect ourselves + our families. I see this as a public health issue that needs addressing by your board.

Please strongly consider monitoring the spraying that occurs in our backyards and allow public notification to occur so that we citizens of Maine may protect ourselves from the effects of pesticides.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Allison Watt

Allison Watt
organic blueberry farmer
59 River Road
Brookton, ME 04616

JUN - 8 7
JUN - 7

*389 muskrat farm road
stockton springs, me 04981*

June 6, 2007

Maine Board of Pesticide Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 043333

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my opposition to the practice of aerial spraying of pesticide, fungicide and herbicide spraying in Maine. I believe that ALL aerial application of harmful chemicals (including known carcinogens) is a danger to our water supply, to our children and to myself.

I am therefore urging the Board to take these concerns seriously and to work to end aerial spraying in Maine.

Very truly yours,



Joan Federman

Amy Hutchinson
5-11-07
PO Box 145
Penobscot, Maine 04476

Dear Mr. Jennings and Board of Pesticides Control,

Thank you to Mr. Jennings for answering my questions concerning the posting requirements for pesticide applications on commercial blueberry fields. I was shocked to learn that posting by the growers is voluntary and not mandatory. While I understand that this is concerning private property, I live in an area where homes and blueberry fields are nestled closely together. Residents have the right to be notified when toxic chemicals are sprayed in their neighborhoods. This way, people can make the choice to close their windows, not walk or ride bicycles near the fields and be extra vigilant about children and pets wandering into the area. Many people are not aware that strong and dangerous chemicals are being used right next to their homes while they are away at work.

It is my opinion that the regulations in place concerning the blueberry industry are far from acceptable. They are allowed to drop harmful pesticides from helicopters in residential neighborhoods where they have the potential to drift -into people's homes, onto organic gardens, and into open car windows as people drive by. Blueberry growers are still being allowed to use the worst of the worst chemicals available- chemicals that are proven to leach into our drinking water and eventually find their way to the ocean and chemicals such as organophosphates, which should be phased out immediately. The Board of Pesticides control has a slogan: "Think First, Spray Last". It is time for the State of Maine to live up to those words and protect it's citizens. I urge the board to make it mandatory for growers to post pesticide application information in their fields, to cease aerial spraying immediately, and to use safer alternatives to control pests.

Sincerely, Amy Hutchinson, Maine Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (207) 326-9240