



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Agriculture

635 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-2532



April 12, 2005

TO: Residents in the Dowty Rd. and Hwy. 224 area, Eagle Creek, Clackamas Co.
Kathleen J.R. Johnson
FROM: Kathleen J.R. Johnson, Supervisor, Insect Pest Prevention and Management

SUBJECT: Gypsy Moth Aerial Spray Notice

A gypsy moth infestation has been found in the Eagle Creek area of Clackamas County. Traps placed in 2003 and 2004 during a statewide survey have caught three moths, two on Dowty Rd. and one on Burnett Rd. The likely source of these gypsy moths is from imported nursery stock at a nursery in the immediate area. Gypsy moth egg masses and a pupal case were found on plants imported from Canada in 2003. These finds indicate a viable reproducing population is present in the area. We are proposing to eradicate this gypsy moth infestation from your area before it has time to spread. Three applications of the biological insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk) will be applied by helicopter on approximately 268 acres in late April and May 2005 (see map). Information about gypsy moth, the spray program, Btk and your health, precautions during the spray program, follow-up monitoring and resources for additional information are provided in this notice.

Gypsy moth is not welcome in Oregon. Accidentally introduced into the U.S. from Europe in 1869, it now infests all or part of 18 states, mostly in the northeastern U.S., where it defoliates about 3 million acres of woodlands per year. Gypsy moth has the potential to impact Oregon's home and property owners, businesses, agricultural commodities, watersheds, forestlands, urban and suburban environments, recreational opportunities, tourism and wildlife.

Facts About the Spray Program:

The eradication area covers approximately 268 acres in the Eagle Creek area, Clackamas Co. (see map). Three aerial applications of Btk are planned at about 7 to 14 day intervals beginning in late April 2005. Spraying will be done by helicopter, and start approximately one-half hour before sunrise weather permitting. Only a small amount of Btk (0.5 gallons) will be applied per acre. It is likely that a small buffer area surrounding this eradication area will receive some Btk, but in quantities much less than the eradication area. Spraying should be completed in less than two hours unless delayed by weather or other factors. This same application procedure has been used in many successful gypsy moth eradication programs in both urban and rural areas of Oregon as well as other states. The tentative treatment schedule is as follows:

Tentative Spray Schedule:

1st Application April 26

2nd Application May 5

3rd Application May 18

This schedule is subject to change depending on weather and operational conditions. During the spray project, the following local radio and TV stations will be informed of specific spray dates and any changes in the spray schedule: KEX-AM (1190), KXL-AM (750); Portland TV stations- KATU, KOIN, KGW and KPTV. Current spray schedule information can also be obtained by calling 1-800-525-0137.

Facts About Btk:

Btk is a naturally occurring bacterium commonly found in soil. Btk is toxic only to susceptible caterpillars of butterflies and moths. Btk has an excellent safety record. It is not toxic to other insects, birds, fish, or mammals including healthy humans, pets and livestock. It can be applied over water without endangering aquatic life. Ingestion of leaves treated with Btk suppresses the caterpillars' appetites and slows movement. Caterpillars generally die within several days. This is the same insecticide that has been used in gypsy moth eradication programs in many urban and rural areas in Oregon including: Portland, Gresham, Beaverton, West Linn, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego, Carver, Salem, Aumsville, Corvallis, Philomath, Eugene, Springfield, Veneta, Lane County, Douglas County, Cave Junction, Jacksonville and Ashland. The Btk product we

propose to use will be Foray® 48B. Foray® 48B is water-based and formulated for aerial application. Foray® 48B is the only Btk formulation with an extensive record of public health studies from similar eradication programs in Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and New Zealand.

B.t.k. will not adversely affect livestock if they are sprayed, come in contact with, or eat treated grass or foliage. The greatest concern is that livestock, particularly horses, will be startled by the noise and presence of a low-flying helicopter, possibly resulting in injury. All precautions will be taken to minimize impacts on livestock during each spray application. We recommend that you take steps to consider the safety of your animals which may include confining your animals in a secure area prior to, and during, each application. Each application should take no more than two hours to complete unless weather or other operational factors intervene. If you have specific concerns about livestock, please contact us ahead of time at the one of the numbers below.

Environmental Assessment:

An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to assess possible environmental impacts of the proposed program and fulfill federal requirements for cooperative state-federal gypsy moth eradication programs. A copy of the final EA is available under Gypsy Moth at ODA's Plant Division Web site: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/>. To request a copy, please contact the address below:

Kathleen J.R. Johnson
Oregon Department of Agriculture, Plant Division
635 Capitol Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301-2532
phone: 1-800-525-0137; fax: (503) 986-4786; email: gypsymoth@oda.state.or.us

What should I do during the spraying? – Oregon Health Services

Even though the spray is considered safe for humans, we recommend that people stay indoors during spraying, unless it is essential to be outdoors. This is general advice for the public. If you or someone in your home has a medical problem that they believe may be made worse by the spraying, talk to your health care provider.

To avoid exposure, we recommend:

1. Staying indoors during and for at least 30 minutes after spraying to allow droplets to settle.
2. Waiting until the spray has dried before touching grass or shrubs. Cover playground equipment, sandboxes, benches, and lawn chairs before the spray or hose them off afterward.
3. Washing exposed skin with soap and water if direct contact with the spray droplets occurs. If the material should get into your eyes, flush with water for 15 minutes.

What about people with weakened immune systems and people with allergies?

Although we don't have evidence that Btk will affect any given group of people, individuals with leukemia, AIDS, or any other physician-diagnosed causes of severe immune disorders, may consider leaving the spray area during the actual spraying. If you or someone in your home has one of these conditions, ask your doctor for advice about avoiding exposure before the spray project begins.

The Btk product contains residues of grains and other foods used to help the bacteria grow. If you have serious allergies to foods or food preservatives, your health care provider may consult with Oregon Health Services (OHS), 503-731-4025, or the manufacturer of Foray® 48B, about the exact ingredients (Valent BioSciences, 847-968-4700, after hours 877-315-9819).

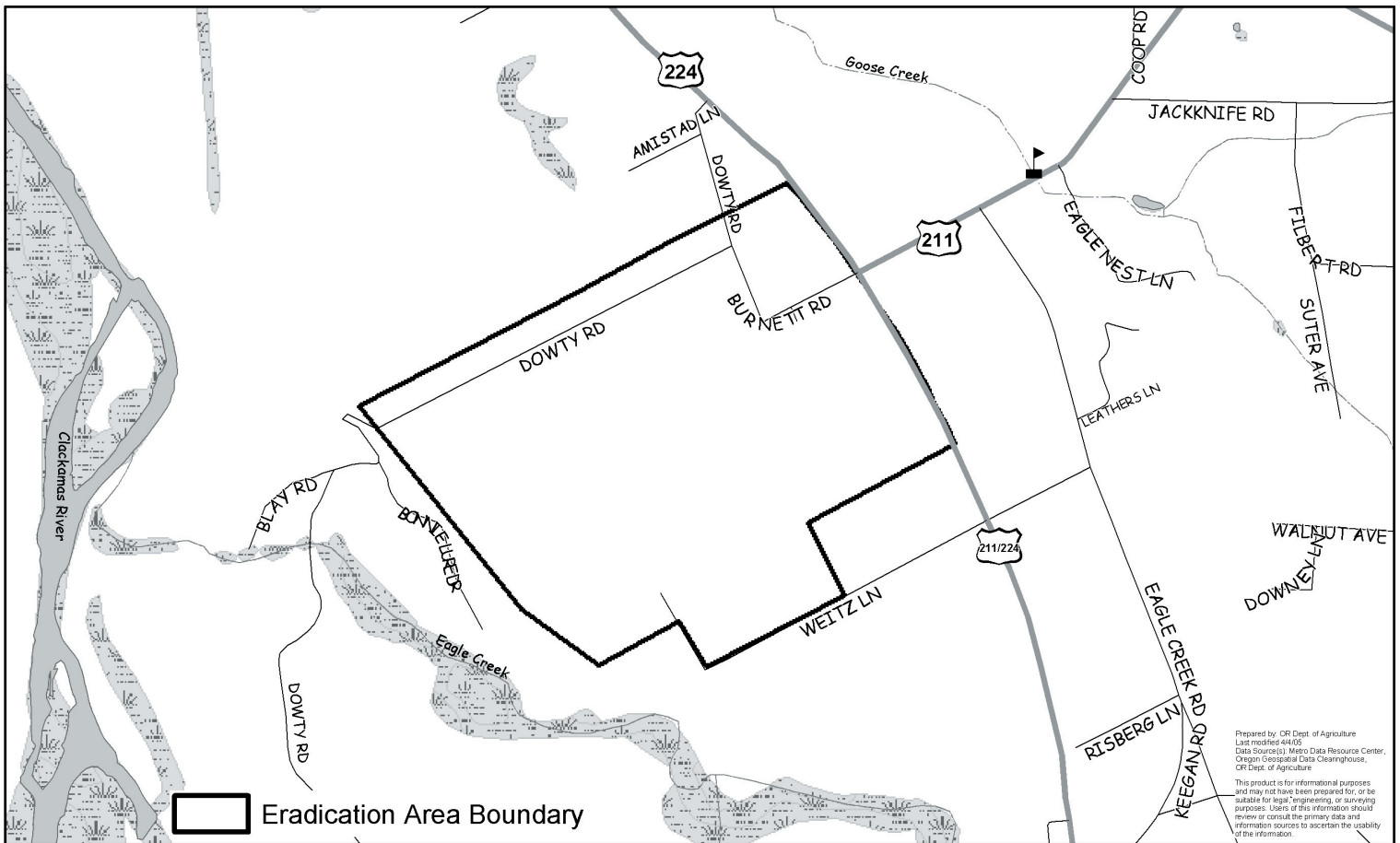
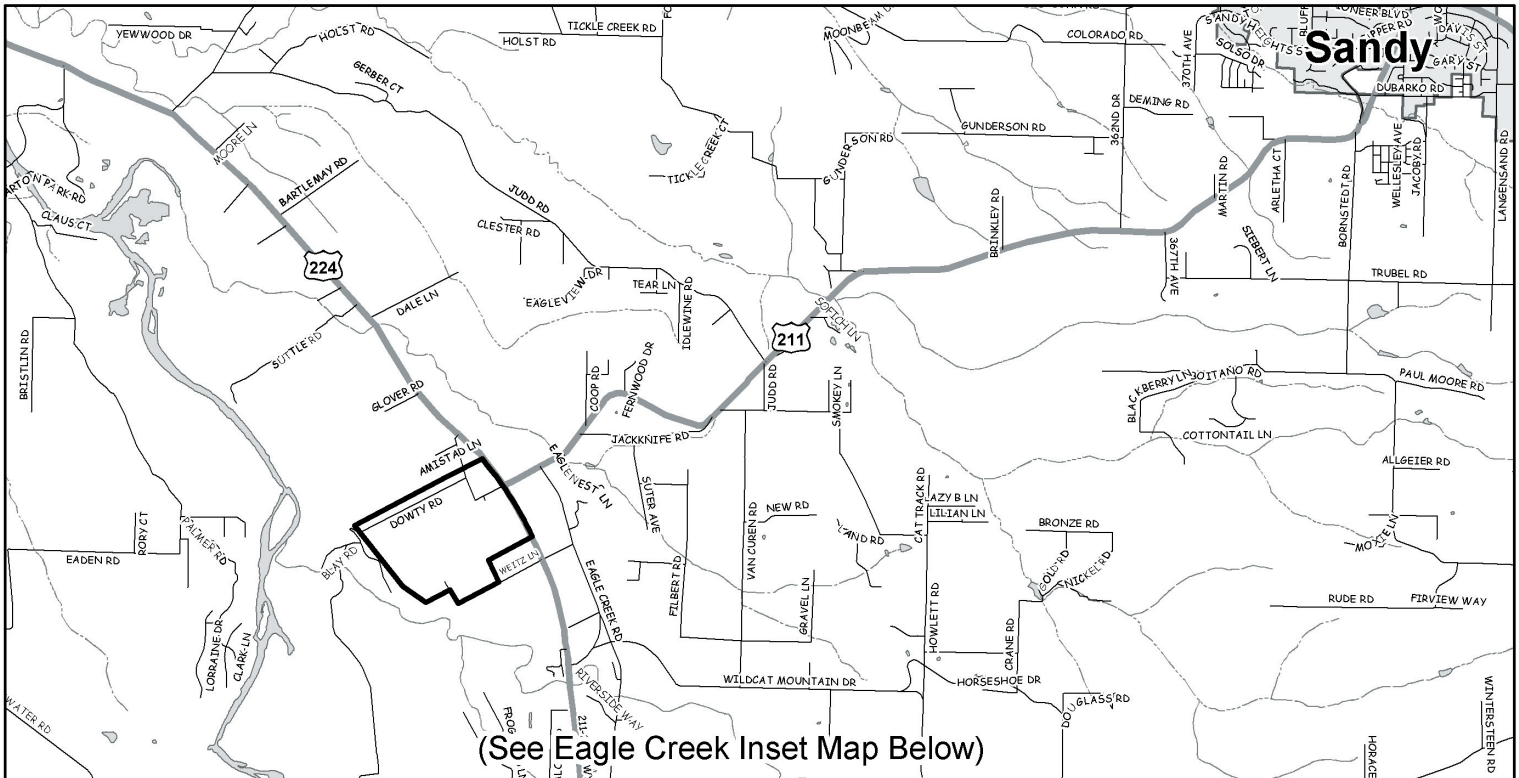
Removing Spray Residues:

Foray® 48B is formulated to stick to leaves when dry. There is nothing in Foray® 48B that should cause permanent damage to finishes on cars, buildings, play equipment, or lawn furniture. Spray residue is easiest to remove from any surface before it is completely dry. Once dry, it is important to "re-wet" the droplets by soaking them with water and for cars, a car wash detergent. Allow enough time for this re-wetting to occur. The time required will depend on how long the droplets have been on the surface, whether the surface has been directly in the hot sun, etc. Using a soft cloth or sponge, the droplets will then be easily removed. Repeat this simple process if some droplets remain. This process has proven very effective and has been used by property owners in many areas where Foray® 48B has been applied.

2005 Gypsy Moth Eradication Program Eagle Creek, Clackamas County

268 acre eradication area

It is likely that a small buffer area surrounding the eradication area will receive some B.t.k. but in quantities much less than inside the eradication area.





Oregon
Department
of Agriculture
635 Capitol St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301-2532



Gypsy Moth Aerial Spray Program Notice

For Further Information:

- If you have been exposed to Btk and have concerns or questions about possible health effects, wash the affected area and contact the Oregon Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.
- The Btk product contains residues of grains and other foods used to help the bacteria grow. If you have serious allergies to food or food preservatives, your health care provider may consult with Oregon Health Services (OHS), 503-731-4025, or the manufacturer, Valent BioSciences, 847-968-4700 (after hours 877-315-9819) regarding the ingredients of Foray[®] 48B. Questions and answers concerning gypsy moth spraying and your health can be found at OHS's Web site: <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/publichealth/pesticide/btkfacts.cfm>.
- For more information about Btk, contact the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC), based at Oregon State University at 1-800-858-7378, or visit their Web site at: <http://npic.orst.edu>. A pesticide fact sheet for Btk can be found on their Web site at: <http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/BTgen.pdf>
- For more information on spray times, dates, locations, gypsy moth, Btk (including studies on Btk and human health) or post-treatment trapping programs, visit the ODA Plant Division Web site <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/> or call the Oregon Department of Agriculture at 1-800-525-0137 or 503-986-4636, or by email: gypsymoth@oda.state.or.us