July 7, 1987

To: County Directors  
Cooperative Extension

From: M.W. Stimmann  
Statewide Pesticide Coordinator

Re: Endangered Species Act and Community Right-to-Know Act

ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Environmental Protection Agency, under its label improvement program is in the process of prohibiting or severely restricting the use of a large number of pesticides in counties where federally listed rare and endangered species are thought to occur.

At least 68 pesticides will be prohibited in all or part of one or more of 56 counties of the state.

Under the federal plan, Cooperative Extension is required to provide growers with EPA produced maps of the species ranges as well as information on alternative pesticides that can be used by affected growers.

To date, maps have not been issued by the EPA. One draft map of Merced county was issued, but the species ranges are inaccurate.

Because of concern over the serious impact of this program, several groups, including the Western States Pesticide Coordinators, have asked the EPA to re-think their approach to the problem.

EPA has not given any indication that they will change their plans.

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

The ASCS has sent a notice concerning the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know act of 1986 to CE offices. This act is also known as the Superfund Act (SARA).
According to the ASCS notice, farmers with questions concerning SARA should contact their county Extension Service for more information or a copy of the Federal Register/April 22, 1987 CFR Parts 300 and 355. CFR 300 and 355 are more than 30 pages of minute type.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has informed me that two California laws supersede the federal law. These laws are AB 2185 and AB 2187. According to CDFA, growers with questions concerning either SARA or these laws should be referred to the local County Agricultural Commissioner.

cc. Lewis
   Siebert
   Toscano