



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 3/2/2010  
Agenda Placement: 7L

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** David Whitmer - Agricultural Commissioner  
Agricultural Commissioner  
**REPORT BY:** Greg Clark, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer - 253-6169  
**SUBJECT:** Approval of Professional Services Agreement

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Agricultural Commissioner requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Mochizuki & Associates for a maximum of \$112,000 for the term March 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, providing specialized services to manage and monitor the grower implemented official control of European Grapevine Moth in Napa County.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Approval of the requested action will allow the Agricultural Commissioner to utilize the specialized viticultural knowledge and services of Mochizuki & Associates to manage and monitor the grower implemented official control program used to suppress European Grapevine Moth populations in Napa County.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	The Agricultural Commissioner has received from the California Department of Food and Agriculture, a Letter of Intent to reimburse the County for all costs incurred for its European Grapevine Moth Program, including the costs of entering into a Professional Services Agreement with and utilizing the services of a grower liaison. A workplan has been submitted to CDFA, who will then prepare a contract for services that the Agricultural Commissioner will in

the near future bring to back the Board for requested approval.

The Professional Services Agreement describes the terms and conditions of the agreement and compensation, which cannot exceed \$7,000 per month or \$84,000 per year. The amount of payment for the remainder of fiscal year 2009/10 will be no more than \$28,000 and no more than \$84,000 for FY2010/2011.

Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Mandatory

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: The term of the Professional Services Agreement is through fiscal year 2010/2011. The expenditure and anticipated reimbursement revenue will be included in the Agricultural Commissioner's proposed budget for FY2010/2011.

Consequences if not approved: The Agricultural Commissioner will not be able to use the specialized viticultural knowledge and services to monitor and manage grower pesticide applications to control and eradicate European Grapevine Moth. The coordination, collection and dissemination of information is of paramount importance in order to mitigate the threat that this invasive pest poses to the economy, environment, and well being of the industry and citizens of Napa County.

Additional Information:

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The Agricultural Commissioner is requesting that the Chair be authorized to sign a Professional Services Agreement with Mochizuki & Associates to provide specialized services as a grower liaison, including managing and monitoring grower participation in the official control program to control and suppress European Grapevine Moth (*Lobesia botrana*) populations in Napa County. Mochizuki & Associates brings extensive knowledge and experience related to all aspects of winegrape production in Napa County, including pest management, and is respected for providing quality service to its clientele.

European Grapevine Moth was found in September 2009 in an Oakville vineyard, which was the first time the invasive pest was in the United States. The pest is known to infest the major growing regions of Europe, Mediterranean, and Chile. It's primary and preferred host are grapevines, but other agricultural, ornamental and native plants can be hosts. Since September 2009 the moth has been found on approximately 30 properties, primarily in the Oakville/Rutherford area, between St. Helena and Yountville. In addition, another smaller area of infestation is in Coombsville. Agricultural Commissioner and California Department of Food and Agriculture personnel are placing traps at the rate of 25 traps per square mile throughout the crop production areas of the County in order to identify the extent of infestation countywide.

A Technical Working Group established by the United States Department of Agriculture has and continues to make recommendations based upon available information. One preliminary recommendation is that growers within the areas of known infestation make every effort to control European Grapevine Moth starting with the emergence of the first generation which is scheduled to occur mid-March and in close association with budbreak or commencement of this season's plant growth. U.C. Cooperative Extension has developed pest management guidelines that recommend growers use one or more pesticides that are properly registered for use on winegrapes keeping in mind the sustainability of farming practices in our County. Several of the materials recommended are registered for use on winegrapes farmed organically and also minimize adverse impacts to beneficial organisms important in controlling other pests.

The Agricultural Commissioner has and will continue to educate growers of the serious risks the moth poses to the economy and environment. Of particular importance is that all growers follow and monitor the development of European Grapevine Moth throughout the growing season and apply the appropriate treatments so efforts to control and suppress the moth are on an area wide basis. The Agricultural Commissioner has determined that a grower liaison would be instrumental in ensuring the establishment and success of an area wide program. Furthermore, the Agricultural Commissioner has determined that Mochizuki & Associates is uniquely qualified to serve as the grower liaison.

#### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi