

Rob Scherzinger

My name is Rob Scherzinger. I am with Aspen Helicopters in Oxnard, CA. We do aerial pesticide spraying.

In reference to 'Spray Days California' I would like to add my comment. California agriculture is our gift to the world. The farmers are hard working, responsible land stewards and they do not spray pesticides unnecessarily. It's an expensive necessity and nobody wants to do it...but that's how we feed so many people. The media has made farming very difficult because they paint us as 'gleefully spraying pesticides whenever and wherever we feel like it. In Ventura County, our primary summer target crop is avocados. Last year our company was not able to spray a lot of our customers for thrips for various reasons. Most of the growers that did not get sprayed had 30%-40% crop loss due to thrip damage. The point is, pesticides are a valuable tool in order to produce our avocados. Every year it becomes more difficult us to farm. Many of our farmers are giving up.

I understand the spot that the public and the media has put DPR in. Please do the best you can to help us farm-responsibly. We do not want to ruin California Agriculture. Help us please. Thank you
Rob Scherzinger, Past Chair, California Ag Aircraft Assoc.

Aspen Helicopters