

Manufacturer pulls methyl iodide fumigant from U.S. market

Registration of the soil fumigant methyl iodide was canceled today by the state Department of Pesticide Regulation at the request of the manufacturer, which unexpectedly pulled the product off the U.S. market.

The action means the chemical, designed largely for use by strawberry growers, no longer can be used in California.

Tokyo-based Arysta LifeScience Corp. decided to pull the product off the U.S. market 15 months after state regulators authorized its use. The company's decision also followed an application season in which only six permits to apply it were issued in California.

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