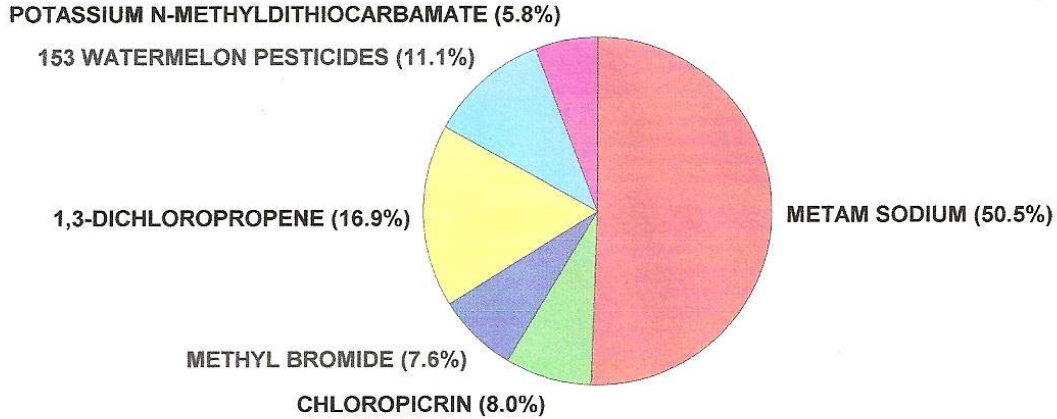


WATERMELON

The third crop we studied was watermelons. One hundred fifty-eight pesticides were used on watermelons. But, five highly toxic fumigants, designed to kill all soil life, accounted for 88.9% of use, or 65 of the 73 pounds used per acre. One chemical, Metam sodium accounted for more than half of all pesticides applied.



2004 Watermelon Pesticides, Most Used

METAM-SODIUM--Fumigant, nerve poison, causes multiple birth defects.	499,392.02
1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE- Fumigant, Carcinogen, Biocide, ground water contaminant, toxic to fish.	167,133.90
CHLOROPICRIN--Tear Gas, fumigant, biocide, causes multiple birth defects, highly toxic to fish.	80,867.51
METHYL BROMIDE--Fumigant, biocide, ozone destroyer, causes multiple birth defects.	75,229.25
POTASSIUM N-METHYLDITHIOCARBAMATE--Fumigant, insecticide, carcinogen, nerve poison, causes birth defects. Toxic to fish.	57,661.26
SULFUR--Fungicide, causes birth defects.	47,288.66
CYCLOATE--Herbicide, cholinesterase inhibitor, possible ground water contaminant, causes birth defects.	15,217.68
151 OTHER WATERMELON CHEMICALS	47,242.86
Total pounds of Pesticides used on California Watermelon	990,033.14
Acreage of Chemical Watermelons Harvested in California	13,500.00
Average pounds of Pesticides per acre	73.00
Acreage of Organic Watermelon Harvested in California	539.70