



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

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# CLOSED MIXING SYSTEMS REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016

Effective January 1, 2016, there are new pesticide regulations regarding closed mixing systems. This regulation change affects California Code of Regulations (CCR) sections 6000, 6188, 6742, 6746 and 6793. The regulation eliminates the use of signal words to determine if a pesticide has to be used in conjunction with a closed system. *Instead, **closed system requirements are based on pesticide label statements.*** Closed mixing systems are now divided into two distinct categories: Tier 1 and Tier 2.

Closed mixing systems are engineering controls used to protect workers from **dermal hazard** when mixing pesticides with high acute dermal toxicity. The dermal toxicity of a pesticide is determined by the precautionary statements on the label. When mixing liquid formulations of pesticides for the production of an agricultural commodity, the employer shall ensure that their employees use an appropriate closed mixing system as specified by section 6746 or pesticide product labeling.

### TIER 1 CLOSED MIXING SYSTEM

When:	Mixing liquid pesticide products, including adjuvants
Label dermal statement:	<b><i>"Fatal if absorbed through skin"</i></b> or other comparable language
System design:	Capable of enclosing the pesticide while removing the contents from its original container, preventing the pesticide from contacting handlers. The emptied pesticide container must be rinsed and drained as required by the pesticide product label or section 6684, <u>while still connected to the closed mixing system</u>

### TIER 2 CLOSED MIXING SYSTEM

When:	Mixing liquid pesticide products, excluding adjuvants
Label dermal statement:	<b><i>"<u>May be</u> fatal if absorbed through skin"</i></b> or <b><i>"Corrosive, causes skin damage"</i></b> or other comparable language
System design:	Capable of enclosing the pesticide while removing the contents from its original container, preventing the pesticide from contacting handlers

There are variations between labels due to inert ingredients which may result in similar products requiring a closed system while others do not. **Review all labels prior to employees mixing pesticides and have an approved closed mixing system if necessary.**

If you have any questions, please contact our office for clarification.