



GROWER BRIEF

New Tank Mixing Guidance

March 2023

PMRA's new tank mixing guidance were published in December 2022, and this has been an evolving issue over the past few weeks. Here is where the new tank mixing guidance stands.

What we know

- PMRA issued new guidance on tank mixing in December 2022 in response to a proposal from the summer of 2020.
- The new guidance confirmed the stance PMRA took in the proposed document that a previous blanket policy permitting unlabelled tank mixes, which was issued in 2009, is not in line with the *Pest Control Products Act*.
- The new interpretation for tank mixing is: “if a label contains no guidance related to tank mixing, then tank mixes are not permitted” – i.e. tank mix information **MUST** be provided on the label for tank mixes to be allowed.
- This can be done in two different ways:
 1. The addition of a general statement to the label that broadly allows tank mixing (this is a short paragraph).
OR
 2. The addition of specific tank-mix partners to the label (i.e. this product can be tank mixed with product X at this rate, etc.).
- Registrants have been given two years to update their materials and labels to conform with the new guidance accordingly.
- CropLife Canada has said its members want to make labels flexible in terms of tank mixing but need some time to update labels with PMRA.

What we are working on

The new guidance provides a timeline for implementation for registrants, that now includes growers.

- OFVGA & FVGC met with PMRA and growers will now be included in the two-year transition period to the new tank mixing guidance.
- The updated guidance documents will reflect that change.

The bottom line

- Unlabelled tank mixes will continue to be permitted through December 2024.
- Starting in 2025, labels will have to either have the general tank mixing statement or specific tank-mix partners listed for tank mixing to be permitted.
- It is up to registrants to add new tank mixing statements to product labels by the end of the transition period (December 2024).

The OFVGA has taken the lead on this with the Crop Protection Committee, any questions can be directed to Chris Duyvelshoff, Crop Protection Advisor at Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association Office: 519-763-6160 x119.

