

2024 Emergency Use (Section 18) of Kasumin® 2L Approved for Prevention of Almond Bacterial Blast

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Bacterial blast, caused by *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *syringae*, can be devastating to almond yields in years where cold, wet weather coincides with almond bloom. Grower reports of past crop loss supported a Section 18 emergency request for the use of Kasumin® 2L (active ingredient kasugamycin) on almonds during bloom, which has been approved by DPR and EPA **ONLY** during the 2024 bloom season (Feb 2-Apr 15).

The [Section 18 Emergency Use Authorization for Kasumin® 2L](#) applies to counties where crop loss data has been reported: Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, Fresno, Glenn, Madera, Merced, Placer, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, and Yuba counties. This emergency approval allows for up to two applications of Kasumin® 2L for bacterial blast before petal fall when wet, near-freezing or freezing conditions are predicted. Kasumin® 2L can be applied only from the ground by airblast sprayer and should be used at a rate of 64 fluid ounces (0.084 pounds of active ingredient) in at least 100 gallons of water per acre. If you are interested in using Kasumin® 2L during bloom, please contact your local [Agricultural Commissioner's office](#), talk with your PCA, and carefully follow the label; the label is the law.

Pseudomonas syringae pv. *syringae* is ubiquitous in orchards, so bacterial blast can develop whenever environmental conditions are right (freezing or near-freezing and wet). In the past, copper sprays were used to protect trees from bacterial blast. However, copper resistance is common in *P. syringae* populations throughout the state, and in many orchards copper sprays are no longer effective for controlling bacterial blast. Kasumin® 2L has been shown to be effective, and there is no documented resistance to kasugamycin in *P. syringae*, but the material is expensive. Given tight farming budgets, growers and PCAs will have to weigh disease risk against the anticipated cost-benefit of employing Kasumin® 2L.

For more information, check out the many articles on [bacterial blast](#) at [sacvalleyorchards.com](#).

Please note: mention of a pesticide does not constitute a pesticide recommendation.



Bacterial blast in almond (Chico, 2017), photo by Dani Lightle