

Preparing Sanitizer Solution for Pump Sprayer Used to Clean Produce Washing Equipment



Save time and adequately sanitize hard to reach places on food equipment by using a handheld / backpack sprayer.

Materials and Tools

- 2 gallon handheld / backpack pump sprayer
- Potable water
- Sanitizer specific for food contact surfaces (Sanidate, bleach, or equivalent)
- Measuring cup or tablespoon
- Single-use gloves
- Eye protection
- pH test strips
- Chlorine test strips

SaniDate

SaniDate 5.0 is an effective sanitizer against Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus and Escherichia coli O157:H7. SaniDate 5.0 is for use in circulation cleaning and institutional/ industrial sanitizing of pre-cleaned, hard, non-porous food contact surfaces and equipment.

Surface Disinfection with SaniDate

1. Use SaniDate 5.0 as a disinfectant at a rate of 0.5 fl. oz. (1 tablespoon) in 1 gallon of water (227 ppm of active peroxyacetic acid).
2. Apply solution with pump sprayer.
3. Treated surfaces must remain wet for ten (10) minutes.
4. Allow equipment to drain dry before using. DO NOT RINSE.
5. Disposal - discharge cleaning water in accordance to local or state regulations. In NY it is discharged into vegetative non crop field away from creeks, ditches, and septic areas
6. Rinse out sprayer with potable water after use.

Bleach

Chlorine Bleach (sodium hypochlorite) is an effective method for killing undesirable microorganisms. Be sure to use food grade bleach.

Surface Disinfection with SaniDate

1. Use food safe bleach as a disinfectant at a rate of 0.5 fl oz (1 tablespoon) in 1 gallon of room temperature water.
2. A range of 50-100 ppm is recommended for food contact surfaces. Chlorine is most effective in killing microorganisms at pH between 6.0 and 7.5. Check pH and concentrations with test strips.**
3. Apply solution with pump sprayer.
4. Treated surfaces must remain wet for two (2) minutes.
5. Allow equipment to air dry before using. DO NOT RINSE.
6. Remaining bleach solution can be disposed of down the sink, as long as the bleach is diluted with running water.
7. Rinse out backpack sprayer with potable water after use.

*** Sanitizing Solutions gradually lose effectiveness over time. As the solution is continually exposed to air or organic materials, reactions cause some of the chemical to dissipate. Check whether a sanitizing solution is effective by using a chlorine test strip.*

For more information:

Robert Hadad, Extension Vegetable Specialist, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program, 585-739-4065, rgh26@cornell.edu

Project assistance provided by Kurt Forman, organic vegetable grower