

Cleaning spray tanks between spray types protects crops, beneficial insects & spray performance by reducing harmful residue cross-contamination risks



protects the establishment and performance of biological control agents



Even very small tank residues can harm beneficial insects

Spray Tank Clean-Out Procedure

1 Initial Flush (In-Field)

- Drain all remaining chemicals in the field just treated
- Rinse the inside and outside of the tank with clean water
- Partially refill with clean water (at least 1/10 of tank capacity)
 - flush booms/nozzles for 5 minutes or until the tank is empty

2 Wash with Cleaning Agent (Second Rinse)

Half fill the tank with clean water and add the recommended cleaning agent. Check the chemical label or speak to an agronomist about the best cleaning agent for the chemical you are decontaminating

Agitate: Fill the tank completely and agitate for 10–15 minutes

Circulate: Run the pump to push the solution through hoses, booms, and nozzles

Soak: Top-up the tank (if needed) and leave the solution in the system to soak – it may take several hours or overnight to draw residues out of plastic components

Flush: Spray the cleaning solution out of the spray tank via the boom, lines and nozzles onto a suitable disposal area

Wash components: Remove nozzles, screens, filters and diaphragms etc. and wash them separately with fresh cleaning solution

3 Final Flush (Third Rinse)

Rinse the full system again with clean water and flush for 5 minutes

NEVER mix chlorine (bleach) and ammonia, as this can produce toxic gas

DO NOT leave plastic nozzles in chlorine (bleach) solutions for more than 30 minutes, as some nozzles may become brittle

INSPECT all hoses annually for external and internal damage and cracking. Internal surfaces of old or perished hoses hold significant levels of pesticide residues, so should be replaced immediately

ALWAYS use personal protective equipment appropriate for the products used

Why This Matters

- ✓ Prevents accidental exposure of plants to pesticide residues
- ✓ Protects beneficial insects and ensures strong establishment
- ✓ Maintains the integrity of your IPM program

Always clean the sprayer thoroughly before entering any berry blocks

*Produced with thanks to
Cezar Moraes from IPM
experts Biological Services*



BIOLOGICAL
SERVICES

biologicalservices.com.au