



The
**Co-operative
Difference**



Effective Detergent Rinsing Fact Sheet

The effective cleaning of your dairy plant is an important part of supplying high quality milk to Fonterra.

Just as important as the cleaning is the prevention of any residual cleaning chemicals entering the milk supply. Fonterra and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), need to demonstrate to our customers and markets we are supplying milk and milk products that are free from contaminants.





Effective Detergent Rinsing

All farm dairy detergents must be thoroughly rinsed from the dairy plant prior to the next milking in order to prevent residual chemical contamination of the milk.

The best practice guidelines are outlined in the Milking Plant and Vat Cleaning section of your Dairy Diary or in the Dairy Diary online, which you can access [here](#).

Use Only MPI Approved Detergents and Solutions

Your dairy detergents and chlorine solution must be MPI-approved for use in farm dairies. When using chlorine sanitisers as part of your wash programme, you must ensure that the milking plant is rinsed with potable water to reduce the risk of residues. If you use a 10% sodium hypochlorite product, you should follow the volume guidelines below.

Plant Size	Water Volume	Volume of Sodium Hypochlorite	Standard Measure
20	100L	5ml	1 teaspoon
40	200L	10ml	2 teaspoons
60	300L	15ml	1 tablespoon

Note: Volumes may vary depending on starting water quality. Consult with your detergent supplier or Farm Dairy Assessor for more information. Residual free chlorine levels should be 3-5ppm.

For the approved dairy detergents list refer to MPI's website [here](#).

Chlorate Residues in Milk

Routine residue surveillance testing of milk has identified elevated levels of chlorates in milk collected off-farm. Chlorates are formed as a result of the degradation of chlorine molecules which occurs naturally over time, however the rate of degradation increases as storage temperature increases. Overdosing of chlorine products through water treatment and milking plant sanitisers has been linked to the presence of these residues. Adherence to the recommended use level will reduce the risk of chlorate residues. There is a Chlorates factsheet available [here](#).

Support

Your farm dairy detergent supplier, Farm Dairy Assessor and milking equipment supplier can provide more specific information on the proper volume of water required to achieve an effective rinse in your plant and review your wash programme to ensure it is optimal for achieving a clean plant and residue-free milk.
