



WILBUR-ELLIS®

Ideas to Grow With™

RINSE AND CLEAN PROCEDURE

Crop Input Application Equipment Rinse
and Clean Policy Crop Application

Doc. No. 18.1 Issued: 7/1/18







Introduction

Wilbur-Ellis Company has and continues to drive a culture and workplace that are safe and healthy for all employees. This is a never ending and relentless pursuit for the company as environments, conditions, employees and regulations continue to change and evolve.

Pesticide residues inside and outside the tanks, hoses, nozzles, valves and pumps of mechanized spraying equipment can contaminate operators and possibly lead to crop damage. It is therefore essential that a policy be set in place to guide operators on how to clean all internal and external surfaces of application equipment. As we continue our pursuit of safety excellence, this document will guide Wilbur-Ellis employees on the recommended practices of when and how to clean application equipment

Scope

The Application Equipment Rinse and Clean policy applies to and supports all locations owned, leased, operated or otherwise occupied with Wilbur-Ellis employees, contractors, visitors, and/or guests.

Roles and Responsibilities

Clear roles and responsibilities ensure that everyone understands their part in supporting a safe and healthful workplace. With that in mind, key roles and responsibilities are as follows:

Supervisors Must:

- Ensure the sprayer rinse and clean procedure is followed by all applicators supervisor is responsible for
- Train applicators on the proper rinsing procedure
- Oversee and sign off on all clean and rinse procedures performed by applicators

Wilbur-Ellis Employees Who Operate or Support Sprayer Equipment Must:

- Follow the sprayer rinse and clean procedure on the application equipment they use
- Maintain the log book to keep track of all performed clean and rinse procedures



Considerations for Every Rinse Procedure

1. When performing any rinse procedure PPE is always required
2. Do not leave empty sprayer overnight without rinsing it
3. Clean and rinse procedures are always performed in the field where the material was applied
4. Always try to end the workday with an empty tank
5. If equipment is rinsed at the Wilbur-Ellis facility, treat all rinse water as chemical waste and dispose of it accordingly



When to Rinse and Clean the Sprayer

1. Application equipment should be rinsed and cleaned between jobs when pesticide chemistry is changed
2. Application equipment should be rinsed and cleaned between jobs when target crops are changed
3. Application equipment should be rinsed and cleaned at the end of the day when the jobs are completed
4. Application equipment should be rinsed and when log records are not clear, or when in doubt whether the equipment was cleaned or not
5. Application equipment should be rinsed and cleaned between jobs when switching from conventional to organic fields



Conventional Rinse and Clean Procedure:

1. Wilbur-Ellis policy is that branches that provide application as a service must establish an equipment rinse procedure that is approved by ARM (Agronomy Risk Management)
2. Branches are responsible for communicating the rinse procedure and training all applicators on the proper rinsing procedure
3. Every application equipment must be accompanied with a rinse log documenting the following information:
 - 3.1. Date of rinse procedure
 - 3.2. Name of employee conducting rinse procedure
 - 3.3. Signature of employee acknowledging that he complied with the rinse procedure
 - 3.4. Date and number of last job completed by the equipment





Organic Rinse and Clean Procedure:

1. Wilbur-Ellis policy is that branches that provide application for organic fields as a service must establish an equipment rinse procedure that is approved by ARM (Agronomy Risk Management)
2. Branches are responsible for communicating the rinse procedure and training all applicators on the proper rinsing procedure
3. Equipment that is dedicated for organic applications can use detergent as an organic cleaner. There is no organically approved tank cleaner
4. Last rinse for organic equipment must always be clean water
5. Equipment that is used for conventional and organic applications must be rinsed using the conventional procedure after the application is done and must be rinsed using the organic procedure prior to the organic application
6. Every application equipment must be accompanied with a rinse log documenting the following information:
 - 9.1. Date of rinse procedure
 - 9.2. Name of employee conducting rinse procedure
 - 9.3. Signature of employee acknowledging that he complied with the rinse procedure
 - 9.4. Date and number of last job completed by the equipment

SSC-11[®] as a Tank Cleaner

When using a tank cleaner use **SSC-11** to clean the sprayer, not ammonia or bleach. The use of **SSC-11** will help remove pesticide residues, but is no substitute to a thorough cleaning procedure.

Follow the **SSC-11** use instructions on the label.

What to Do With Sprayer Rinse Water

Protect water sources at all costs when cleaning out sprayers. Do not spray small amounts of residue over and over in the same place, as this may run off into nearby water sources.

1. Apply the first rinse water to the field of your last application
2. Perform second and third rinses in application field away from:
 - a. Ditches, streams, and other water sources.
 - b. Perform rinses over a contained area such as a mix load/pad.
3. See the Wilbur-Ellis Tank Farm Program and Hazardous Waste Management Program for more details on properly disposing of rinse water





For the current document please go to the Agronomy Risk Management Page on WEconnect.

ag.wilburellis.com

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