



Understanding Sanitizer Labels: Trainer Lesson Plan

Learning Objective: Explain the importance of selecting the right sanitizer for the application(s). Explain the importance of using sanitizer products correctly in direct contact with covered produce and food-contact surfaces.

Outcome(s): After reading the sanitizer labels and talking about them as a group, trainees will understand how to assess correct uses and practices for 5 common EPA-labeled sanitizers and how to select the correct sanitizer for a variety of applications.

Recommended Materials:

Trainer will print and distribute copies of each of the 5 sanitizer labels linked below to trainees. If possible, trainer should also demonstrate to the group the Produce Safety Alliance searchable web tool using a computer monitor and/or projector.

Background Info for Trainer:

Read through the Produce Safety Alliance 2018 article titled [Introduction to Selecting an EPA-Labeled Sanitizer](#) and understand the 4 key elements of a sanitizer label:

1. EPA registration number
2. Labeled use(s) for the sanitizer
3. Instructions for use
4. Efficacy statement listing organisms the sanitizer is labeled to treat

If desired, watch the [Basic Tutorial video](#) on [PSA's searchable Web Tool for Sanitizers](#).

Download and print 5 copies of each of the labels of the five sanitizers listed below. Up-to-date versions can be found using the [PSA's searchable tool](#). Search for each of the sanitizers by name in the search bar, then click the hyperlinked name of the sanitizer in the "Product Name" column of the chart to download a PDF version of the sanitizer label.

- Sanidate 12.0
- Victory
- Tsunami 100
- Sanidate 5.0
- Accutab

Instructional Delivery:

Opening Activities/Motivation: It's essential that people use sanitizer products correctly for them to work and for the safety of workers and consumers to be protected.

Activity 1: Divide the group into pairs (if applicable). Distribute one of each of the printed sanitizer labels to each pair of trainees. Give them 10 minutes to read through the materials and prepare to share back two things:

- 1) the EPA registration number for each product, and
- 2) the labeled use(s) for each product. Call on each pair to share back these two pieces of info (one sanitizer product per pair).

Activity 2: Scenarios

Instructor will read the following scenarios to the large group, and pairs of trainees will have 3-4 minutes to discuss and select one sanitizer that fits the needs described in each scenario.

1. You are looking for a general sanitizer that can serve multiple needs in your wash/pack systems, including as a sanitizer in your dunk tank water for washing lettuces and sanitizing packhouse tables at the end of a packout. (*Acceptable answers: Sanidate 5.0, Tsunami 100*)
2. Your farm is certified organic and you are looking for a sanitizer to put in your wash water (dunk tank or single pass spray water) for vegetables that will increase the shelf life of your produce. (*Acceptable answers: Victory, Tsunami 100*)
3. Your farm uses canal water for your irrigation and you are looking for a sanitizer that is safe to run through your drip irrigation system. (*Acceptable answers: Sanidate 12.0, Sanidate 5.0*)

Activity 3 (if possible): Briefly introduce the PSA's searchable sanitizer comparison tool to the group: <https://resources.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/sanitizer/>. Explain how to search and compare allowable uses, OMRI certification, and purchasable quantity for dozens of sanitizer products.

Assesment/Evaluation:

Key Takeaways: Understanding the correct application and usage of sanitizers is essential for maintaining produce safety, as well as worker safety. There are many different EPA-labeled sanitizer products on the market that will fit the various needs and contexts of food producers. When selecting a sanitizer, it is important to read through its labeled uses, instructions, and dilution rate before use. If desired, use the Produce Safety Alliance searchable sanitizer comparison tool to assist you in selecting the appropriate sanitizer for your needs.