

Disposal of Virkon® Aquatic

Virkon® Aquatic is a patented, formulated disinfectant product specially developed for use in biosecurity programmes in fish farms and for disinfection of angling equipment, fish transporters, aquaria and diving equipment. Its formulation allows maximum efficacy against pathogens while maintaining safety for users and the environment.

The principal active ingredients within the patented formula are potassium monopersulphonate and the fruit acids malic and fumaric acid. These materials and the other minor constituents break down in the environment to simple compounds meeting all EU requirements. There are no long term residues and no persistence in the environment.

The manufacturers however, in order to avoid any possible adverse effects on the environment due to high concentrations being released before breaking down, have produced the following guidelines.

Users may wish to dispose of Virkon® Aquatic in the following situations.:

- a. Virkon® Aquatic powder which may have gone beyond expiry date or become damp and hard needs to be disposed of.
- b. Virkon® Aquatic Solutions of 1:100 or 1:200 used in foot-baths or angling equipment disinfection tanks, which have expired, lost their indicator colour or been diluted by rainfall need to be disposed of.
- c. Fish transport tanks, aquaria or well-boats, disinfected after use to prevent transfer of viruses, need to be rinsed out.
- d. Water from tanks or raceways, which has been sanitized at 2-4ppm Virkon® Aquatic may need to be returned to the water system.

Like all concentrated disinfectants Virkon® Aquatic powder, undiluted, is considered a hazardous waste under EU regulations and must be disposed of by an approved contract waste disposal agent. Generally, however, residual amounts will be small, and so it is probably more effective and less expensive to make such powders up as a 1:100 solution and dispose of as described below.

Virkon® Aquatic 1:100 solution represents no risk to municipal sewage works and so small quantities can be disposed of safely down foul sewer drains. Such solutions are also rapidly broken down on land so surplus solutions may be poured or sprayed onto dirt roads or waste land at a rate not exceeding 2 litres per square metre.

Virkon® Aquatic also breaks down rapidly in water and sediments and so can be disposed of into running water provided there is a dilution factor of one litre disinfectant to 20cubic metres of flowing water.

Diluting 1:100 Virkon® Aquatic solutions with fresh water before disposal greatly reduces the impact when disposing by any of these routes. Very dilute (2-4ppm) solutions used in in-water sanitization applications are unlikely to have any impact and can be released into foul sewers, water bodies or onto land.

Where very large volumes of concentrated disinfectant are to be disposed of then users should contact Bradan for further advice.

