Disinfectant check list

**Chemicals**

- Make sure all chemicals are *stored and handled* as directed on the label. Check the expiry date on the container and do not use after this date as the product may not work.
- Make sure a *competent and trained person* mixes the chemicals, using suitable personal protective equipment (PPE), including goggles.
- *Mix disinfectant in a tank* rather than using a metering device.
- Chose the *right product for the job*. Chlorocresol-based products are most effective in boot dips and glutaraldehyde-based products are most effective for surface cleaning. Hydrogen peroxide/peracetic acid-based products are best for cleaning water lines.

**Buildings**

- *Remove all equipment* such as feeders, drinkers and partitions before cleaning as this will allow better access for cleaning and disinfection.
- *Remove visible debris* before applying disinfectant. Organic matter (muck) blocks the disinfectant meaning there is less of it to work against the bacteria.
- If using a detergent wash programme and disinfectant *always use products that have a similar pH* – alkaline (high pH) and acid (low pH) products used together can neutralise each other, meaning that they are not as effective at eliminating bacteria and detergents can interfere with the action of quaternary ammonium compound (QAC)-based disinfectants. The pH can normally be found on the product label.
- *Consider continuous sanitisation of water*, even if mains water is used, as water lines and drinkers on pig units can become contaminated with a range of bacteria that can cause intestinal infections in growing pigs.
- Remember *to clean and disinfect any walkways, races or other equipment* such as trolleys, transporters or weighers used by the pigs during movement between buildings.

**Vehicles**

- *Ensure all vehicles which have to enter the site are sprayed* with a fast-acting disinfectant product. Pay special attention to wheel arches and pipes of feed lorries.
- *Clean and disinfect scrapers daily* and avoid using the same scraper between different groups of pigs. Ideally, aim to have a separate scraper for each building but if this is not possible scrape from younger pigs to older and deal with any groups of sick pigs last of all.

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