

Hand Washing and Glove Usage



The Mango Industry Food Safety Training Kit Packinghouse







Hand Washing



Let's talk about the single most important practice for keeping mangos safe: hand washing. Hand washing is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of illness and infections.

During the day, our hands come into contact with objects that are not always clean, which means our hands can become contaminated with microbes. If we do not wash our hands, the dirt and microbes from those objects can easily be transfered to the mangos if we touch them without washing our hands. For this reason, you must keep your hands clean at all times.

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Hand Washing





The Importance of Hand Washing



In this image, you can see a hand washing station. Some packinghouses have hand washing stations simpler than others, but they are all effective on the job. The rule is simple: A good hand washing can reduce the amount of microbes present on your hands.

It doesn't matter what kind of hand washing station is utilized by the packinghouse. What is important is that you wash your hands correctly with the procedure you will learn in this lesson.

Hand washing is like job insurance because it helps reduce the risk of mango contamination.

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The Importance of Hand Washing





When Should I Wash my Hands?







To help minimize the potential risk of mango contamination you must wash your hands BEFORE:

- Starting work.
- O Putting on gloves, if applicable.

You must also wash your hands AFTER you do any of the following activities:

- Using the bathroom. This is the most important handwashing opportunity. You must wash your hands after using the restroom!
- Taking a break or eating.
- Touching your nose or face.
- Coughing or sneezing on your hands.

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The Three Areas of Personal Hygiene









Proper Hand Washing Procedure



There is a standard proper procedure for hand washing. All employees on the packinghouse should follow it. Rapidly wetting your hands or washing them without soap is not enough to remove microbes or chemical products from your hands. The following are the five basic steps for thorough hand washing:

Step 1: Wet your hands with clean water.

Step 2: Apply soap.

Step 3: Scrub your hands and forearms for approximately 10 to 15 seconds.

Step 4: Rinse your hands with water to eliminate all the soap.

Step 5: Dry your hands using a disposable paper towel.

If there are no soap or paper towels in the hand washing station, immediately inform your supervisor, so that the matter can be taken care of.

Notes:			



Proper Hand Washing Procedure













Step 1. Wet Your Hands with Water



Let's review in detail each of the steps to wash our hands properly.

First, wet your hands with clean water.

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Step 1. Wet Your Hands with Water





Step 2. Apply Soap



Next, apply a good amount of soap or detergent on your hands.

Soap helps to loosen dirt and microbes stuck to the skin.

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Step 2. Apply Soap





Step 3. Scrub for 10 to 15 Seconds



Scrub your hands and forearms vigorously for 10 to 15 seconds.

Be sure to remove any dirt that is underneath your fingernails and scrub your hands, arms, and the areas between your fingers well.

Make sure you create sufficient friction while scrubbing, since friction is probably the most important factor in eliminating bacteria and dirt from your hands.

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Step 3. Scrub for 10 to 15 Seconds





Step 4. Rinse Your Hands



Next, rinse your hands with clean water, making sure to remove all the soap from your hands.

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Step 4. Rinse Your Hands





Step 5. Dry Your Hands with a Disposable Paper Towel



Dry your hands using a disposable paper towel or any other approved drying method such as a warm air dryer or a continuous supply of clean towels.

You must not dry your hands on your clothes, protective clothing, or work rags, which can cause you to recontaminate your hands.

Always throw away the disposable paper towel in the trash can.

These five steps will help you to ensure you wash your hands properly. If you find them difficult to remember, check the posters placed next to the farm's hand washing stations, which demonstrate the correct procedure to wash your hands.

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Step 5. Dry Your Hands with a Disposable Paper Towel



Hand Sanitizer



Some packinghouses may require the use of hand sanitizers or gel antiseptics after you have washed your hands. Review your company's policy to see if this is necessary.

Hand sanitizers are liquids and gels that reduce the microbes present on clean hands. Hand sanitizers should only be used AFTER you have washed your hands and NOT in place of hand washing.

It is prohibited to use a hand sanitizer you brought from home, and you must always keep in mind that hand sanitizers are NOT to be used in place of proper hand washing.

[**Note:** The use of hand sanitizer is not necessarily a food safety requirement on a packinghouse; it is optional and its use depends on each individual operation.]

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Hand Sanitizer



Glove Usage



Some packinghouses require employees who perform specific tasks to wear gloves. Only use gloves provided by the packinghouse.

Gloves are used to protect mangos from contamination, not to protect your hands from the mangos.

Gloves sometimes give a false sense of security because some people believe that, if you wear gloves while working, it is not necessary to wash your hands.

THAT IS NOT TRUE! Gloves are like your hands. They stay clean until they touch other contaminated surfaces or objects. Therefore, it is very important to wash your hands before putting on gloves.

The general glove usage rule is simple: ALWAYS wash your hands before putting on a new pair of gloves.

[Note: The use of gloves is NOT necessarily a food safety requirement on the packinghouse; it is optional, and its use depends of each individual operation.]

Notes:			



Glove Usage





Glove Usage Recommendations



The following list includes recommendations for correct glove usage:

- Use gloves only for the assigned job and use only the correct size.
- Use gloves on both of your hands.
- O Remove gloves whenever you leave your workstation.
- Change your gloves whenever you touch something dirty or contaminated.
- O Put on new gloves whenever they break, tear, or get dirty.
- O Do not enter the restroom wearing gloves.
- O Remove your gloves to eat, drink, or smoke.
- O Do not blow on or roll your gloves to help you put them on.
- Throw away used gloves in a trash can, not on the floor or outside the bathroom.
- Remember that gloves are NOT a substitute for hand washing. If there are no gloves or utensils available in your work area, inform your supervisor immediately.
- It is also important to tell your supervisor if your glove or a piece of your glove falls into the mangos with which you are working.

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Glove Usage Recommendations









To conclude this section of the training, we will review some examples of situations that we learned today and that could happen in a mango packinghouse.

[The purpose of this activity is to demonstrate appropriate personal hygiene practices to be followed in the mango industry.]

What is wrong in the picture on the top?

Why?

[Allow participants to answer both questions.]

The employee is handling mangos with a torn glove. Always wear whole gloves when handling mangos.

In the picture on the bottom, we can see the same person is now working correctly with whole gloves.

Notes:					













What is wrong in the picture on the top?

Why?

[Allow participants to answer both questions.]

The employee is not wearing any gloves. Always wear gloves whenever you are handling mangos.

In the photograph on the bottom, we can see the same employee is now working correctly with gloves on both hands.

This is the end of our discussion about hand washing and proper glove usage.

Do you have any questions?

[If you have the GloGerm™ or GlitterBug® cream, proceed to the hand washing activity on the next page. If the cream is not available, it is important to modify this activity to only show the correct procedure at a hand washing station.]

Thank you for your participation. Please remember to sign the attendance sheet.

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Hand Washing Activity



The objective of this activity is to demonstrate the correct hand washing procedure.

1. Have GloGermTM or GlitterBug® cream and an ultraviolet light ready prior to this activity.

You can order the GloGermTM or GlitterBug® kit at:

- GloGermTM Company http://www.glogerm.com 800-842-6622
- OlitterBug® Brevis Co. http://www.glitterbug.com 801-466-6677
- 2. Before starting the training session, make sure there is a hand washing station near the training location. The hand washing station must have running water and be well stocked with liquid soap, paper towels, and a trash can.
- 3. Take the participants to the hand washing station.
- **4.** Ask the participants if there are any volunteers to apply the GloGermTM or GlitterBug® cream to their hands and then apply the cream.
- 5. Place your hands and the volunteer's under the UV lamp and ask the other participants to observe. To see the effect of the cream under the UV lamp, dim the light in the room.
- 6. Ask volunteers to only rinse their hands instead of washing them properly.
- 7. Wash your hands using the appropriate hand washing procedure.
- 8. Place your hands under the UV lamp and show the participants that your hands do not glow. Now ask the volunteers to place their hands under the UV lamp and allow the group to observe how they glow.
- 9. Ask the participants what they think happened and why they think their hands still glow and yours don't.

If the cream is not available, it is important to modify this activity to show only the correct procedure at a hand washing station. The instructor must first demonstrate the procedure and then ask each of the participants to wash their hands properly before returning to work.

Notes:			



Hand Washing Activity

