



Quality postharvest products and service

REMOVING SURROUND® RESIDUES FROM BLUEBERRIES AND POME FRUIT

Surround® crop protectant (Engelhard Corporation) is a kaolin- (also called china or porcelain clay) based product used for sunburn and insect damage protection in selected crops, mostly apples, pears and blueberries. The aerial-spray application of the product leaves white residues on the fruit, which in some instances are difficult to clean.

DECCO's food-grade fruit and vegetable cleaners can assist the packer in removing these residues effectively. For best results, use listed DECCO cleaners, following recommended application methods.

- 1. DECCO Fruit & Vegetable Kleen® 241 (DECCO FVK 241), a neutral cleaner**
- 2. DECCO Fruit & Vegetable Kleen® 440 (DECCO FVK 440), an alkaline cleaner**
- 3. DECCO APL Kleen® 246, an acid cleaner**

For Blueberries

Dilute one part of DECCO FVK 241 with 80 parts of fresh water. Dip the berries for 1–3 minutes* (depending on the severity of the Surround residue) into the tank solution, followed by a fresh-water rinse.

Do not use alkaline or acid cleaners on blueberries; they may cause discoloration or peeling.

For Apples and Pears**

In a two-step process, use DECCO acidic products to remove clay layer, and alkaline products after the acidic products to remove sticker layer.

If tanks and flumes are not used for the application of the acidic products, then two soap bars spaced far enough apart to allow complete coverage of cleaner on fruit must be used.

1. Dilute one part of acidic DECCO APL 246 with 100 parts of fresh water. This will remove the clay layer. Applied on soap bar #1 or in dump tank.
2. Dilute one part of alkaline DECCO FVK 440 with 100 parts of fresh water. This will remove the sticker base. Applied on soap bar #2 if using 2 soap bars.
3. Follow with a multistep rinse of at least two bars. One hot and one cold recommended.
4. Complete process with a Peraclean® 5% sanitizer bar.

Note: With the extreme pH ranges being used, care needs to be exercised to not damage the fruit. It is recommended to test sample runs of fruit before committing to a full-line run.

Always read and follow label and MSDS directions prior to using any chemical product.

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*The cleaning action will depend on soaking time/Surround residue and may vary. **DECCO APL 246 is not compatible with pear-floating agents and has to be used separately. DECCO alkaline cleaner FVK 440 can be mixed with sodium silicate solution to enhance the wetting activity. Fruit and Vegetable Kleen and APL Kleen are registered trademarks of DECCO US Post-Harvest, Inc. Surround is a registered trademark of Engelhard Corporation. ©2011 Decco US Post-Harvest, Inc.