Manual Cage Washing and Sanitation – A Quick Guide

Suggested procedures for hand washing caging and equipment, particularly during the annual UW Steam Shutdown period

1. **Dump Debris & Pre-Rinse**

Feed and water is dumped prior to washing. Caging that contains soiled bedding/litter is dumped in a manner that minimizes aerosols. Soiled bedding that is not readily dumped may have to be scraped, and caging is pre-rinsed to remove all visible particulate matter.

**CAUTION:** Personnel performing procedures that produce dust or aerosols must wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

2. **Wash & Scrub**

Hand-washing of caging/equipment is performed in water that is ~110-120°F (domestic hot water temperature) if available*. Fresh water is prepared as often as necessary to maintain desired temperature and when excessively contaminated.

All visible dirt, debris, and scale is removed by a sponge, scrub brush, bottle brush, or suitable material.

Wash water must contain adequate amounts of detergent, and soaps with strong scents is avoided.

3. **Rinse**

All detergents must be rinsed from washed items. Rinsing should take place using water that is ~110-120°F (domestic hot water temperature) if available*. When rising via dipping, fresh rinse water is prepared as often as necessary to maintain desired temperature and when it contains excessive amounts of detergent.

**UW Recommended Sanitizing/disinf ecting agent:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENT</th>
<th>DILUTION</th>
<th>CONTACT TIME</th>
<th>EXPIRES</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlorhexidine</td>
<td>1 oz/gal</td>
<td>1 minute</td>
<td>Make daily</td>
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</table>

* if hot water is not available, cold water will suffice if proper washing and sanitation is correctly done.

4. **Sanitize**

Sanitizing of caging/equipment is achieved using appropriate chemical sanitizing agents, using water that is ~110-120°F (domestic hot water temperature) if available*. Desired temperature must be maintained, and items must remain in contact with the sanitizing agent for the indicated contact time before being thoroughly rinsed.