FARM NAME ________________________________

Doc.No. 2.69
Title: **Policy for Washing Winter Squash Using Sanidate 5.0***
Effective Date: ____________________
Reviewed by: _______________ GAP Coordinator, Date: __________

The use of hydrogen peroxide/ peroxyacetic acid (Sanidate) has been incorporated into postharvest washing of fruits and vegetables as an alternative to chlorine. This material has proven to sanitize while extending the holding capacity/shelf life of winter squash and pie pumpkins as well as other vegetables. The procedure is as follows:

1. After a curing period in the field (see SOP 2.62) harvested squash should be first washed(dipped) and scrubbed with potable water to remove any soil or debris from the field. Produce should then be sprayed with potable water to remove any remaining film and reduce turbidity of the sanitizing tank mixture.

2. The produce should then be dipped into a pre-cleaned water vat, tank or container that has been prepared with potable water plus Sanidate 5.0 to make the desired concentration. *(For example, Squash requires a 24-30 ppm PAA concentration. This is equal to .325 oz. or 1.95 tsp/5 gal of water. **Note:** Since winter squash is hard shelled like pumpkin, use the 40-60 ppm recommendation for winter squash. This is equal to .72 oz. or 4.35 tsp/5 gal of water.)*

3. Soak in the mixture for 30-45 seconds. When produce comes out, allow to drain and dry before packing (A fan may help to speed the process.) There is no need to rinse.

4. Use test strips to test for PAA concentration of the tank mix. PAA will not dissipate as fast as chlorine so concentration should remain constant even when organic material is introduced unless the solution becomes turbid.

5. Used dip tank water using Sanidate may be disposed in any suitable drain/septic system or dry sink/gravel catch. **Do not dispose into or close to open source water such as streams or ponds.**

6. Follow all label instructions for personal protective equipment.

1 Sanidate 5.0 Specimen Label, Biosafe Systems

### Biosafe Systems, Produce Specific Rates and Usage

**Volume of sanitizer needed**

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\text{Volume of sanitizer needed} = \frac{60 \text{ ppm} \times 5 \text{ gal wash water}}{5.3\% \text{ PAA in sanitizer} \times 10,000}
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\text{Volume of sanitizer needed} = \frac{300 \text{ ppm} \times gals}{53,000 \text{ ppm}} = 0.0057 \text{ gals}
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Now convert the amount of sanitizing product needed to teaspoons

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\text{Volume of sanitizer needed} = 0.0057 \text{ gals} \times \frac{768 \text{ tsp}}{1 \text{ gal}} = 4.35 \text{ tsp}
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*Cornell Cooperative Extension*