#### What is First Step?

The First Step line of products are antimicrobial pre-washes for whole fruit, vegetables and leafy greens, used as an alternative to chlorine washes.

# What is First Step comprised of?

First Step is based on a combination of organic acids and hydrogen peroxide.

#### What produce items are First Step effective on?

Commercially successful as a pre-wash for baby carrots, baby corn, cantaloupe, whole peeled onions, scallions, green garlic, watercress, blueberries and many other whole produce items are currently being tested.

### How is First Step packaged and what is the shelf-life?

First Step is offered in both liquid and dry formulas. When stored properly, dry formulations are expected to have a 3 year shelf-life. The liquid formulations should offer a one year shelf-life.

### How is First Step applied?

Dipping system or flume with good agitation throughout.

## Does First Step affect the taste of the produce?

No, it does not impart any aftertaste.

### What concentration level should I use to treat my whole produce?

Quantities of First Step will vary depending on the type/variety of produce being washed and the water source. We can develop specific protocols based on your requirements.

# What factors can affect the end results when using First Step?

- Insufficient agitation
- Improper concentration
- Improper pH

### What pathogens are First Step products effective against?

First Step+ 10 has been experimentally-evaluated by the USDA and has shown a 99.999% or greater reduction against pathogenic bacteria such as:

- Listeria monocytogene
- Salmonella enterica
- E. coli O157:H7