

## Red-Lined Tracked Changes, Microbial-Based Cleaning Products Criteria

---

On November 11, 2021, Green Seal issued updated editions of the following standards.

- GS-8 Standard, General Purpose Cleaning Products for Household Use
- GS-37 Standard, General Purpose Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use
- GS-48 Standard, Laundry Care Products for Household Use
- GS-51 Standard, Laundry Care Products for Industrial and Institutional Use
- GS-52 Standard, Specialty Cleaning Products for Household Use
- GS-53 Standard, Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use

The following text was revised in each of the above standards:

- Section 1.0, Standard Scope

Existing criteria was revised and new criteria was added to the following section of each of the above standards:

- Annex for Microorganisms
- 

### Guide to the Red-Lined Tracked Changes

Text in the boxes below show the details of the revisions.

The **red text** shows text has been added. The text ~~with strikethrough lines~~ has been deleted.

#### Revisions to the Standard Scope

The revision detailed below, deleting the phrase regarding microorganisms, has the following effect: Spray-applied microbial-based cleaning products are now eligible for Green Seal certification.

This standard does not include products that contain *enzymes* ~~or microorganisms that~~ **and** are sold in, **or designed for use in, spray packaging.**

#### Revision to Criteria within Microorganisms Annexes – Product Label and User Information

In each Microorganisms Annex of the six standards listed above, Criterion G has been re-named. Six of the eight label statements have been deleted from this criterion and are therefore no longer required for any microbial-based cleaning product. One label statement is still required but only for microbial-based cleaning products that are spray-applied.

**G. Product Label and User Information.** The ingredient line on the product label shall include the microbial *ingredient(s)*. Acceptable terms include “microorganisms,” “bacterial cultures,” or equivalent language approved by the certification program. The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold in *spray packaging*,<sup>1</sup> the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

---

<sup>1</sup> Or designed for use in *spray packaging*

## Previous Text of the Microorganisms Annex, Criterion G

~~**G. — Labeling Requirements.** Products containing *microorganisms* shall include the following on the label:~~

~~A declaration that the product contains *microorganisms*~~

~~A statement that immune-compromised individuals should avoid exposure to products containing *microorganisms* from both direct use and incidental contact during or shortly after application to these products, especially when the treated areas are still wet~~

~~Contact with open cuts or sores should be avoided~~

~~Users should wash their hands after using the product~~

~~Instructions that *microorganisms* may not be effective in the presence of *antimicrobial agents* such as chlorine bleach~~

~~Instructions that the product shall not be used on food-contact surfaces~~

~~Instructions that products containing *microorganisms* should not be sprayed directly into the air.~~

## New Criteria Now Included in Microorganisms Annexes – Product Label and User Information

In each Microorganisms Annex of the six standards listed above, Criterion H has been added.

**H. Additional Requirements for Products in Spray Packaging.** Products that are sold in *spray packaging*<sup>2</sup> shall not be formulated with any fungal or mold species. Yeast species are acceptable. Additionally, at least one of the following requirements shall be met:

Microbial species in the product shall only be those that are listed on the European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS) List.

The product shall undergo inhalation exposure testing. The total airborne concentration of microorganisms shall not be above 10,000 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>. Testing parameters shall be in alignment with the A.I.S.E. Spray Protocol (2020).<sup>3</sup>

---

### Additional Information

All previous editions of Green Seal standards and all revision documents including Revision Proposals and stakeholder comments can be found on Green Seal's Library of Standard Documents. For more information, please contact [standards@greenseal.org](mailto:standards@greenseal.org).

---

<sup>2</sup> Or designed for use in *spray packaging*

<sup>3</sup> Spray Protocol," <https://www.aise.eu/our-activities/standards-and-industry-guidelines/safe-handling-of-enzymes.aspx>