

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## Key Delta Aqua

### Operation Namu 20260

#### 1. What type of Insecticide is used?

**Key Delta Aqua** is an insecticide used for mosquito control.

It belongs to a class of chemicals called synthetic pyrethroids, which are widely used around the world for public health spraying and mosquito control.

#### 2. What are the ingredients?

The main active ingredient is:

**Deltamethrin.**

Deltamethrin is a man-made version of natural pyrethrum, which is originally derived from chrysanthemum flowers (Tiare matirita).

**Key Delta** is formulated as:

A water-based mixture with ingredients that ensure the spray is spread evenly and works effectively.



#### 3. What is the mix for spraying?

Key Delta is mixed with clean water, following the manufacturer's instructions and Ministry of Health guidelines. Only **trained and authorised Te Marae Ora officers** are allowed to prepare and apply the spray.

The spray is mixed at an **approved strength for public health use**. This means it is strong enough to kill mosquitoes but safe when used correctly.

The standard mix is:

- **50–60 ml of product to 5 litres of clean water.**
- The spray is mixed to **exact measurements** to make sure it is safe and effective.



**Chrysanthemum Flower**  
(*Clis Maori – Tiare Matirita*)

#### 4. What pests does this mixture affect?

At the approved dose, Key Delta is effective against:

- Adult mosquitoes (especially *Aedes aegypti* — dengue mosquito)
- Flies
- Cockroaches
- Ants
- Other small flying and crawling insects

It is not designed to kill larger animals or pets.

#### 5. Does this Insecticide pose a risk to people, animals, bees, or other insects?

**When used as directed:**

**Humans**

- Low risk
- Some people may notice a mild smell or irritation if directly exposed

As a precaution:

- Stay indoors during spraying and open windows afterward to ventilate

**Domestic animals**

- Low risk
- Pets should be kept inside and away from sprayed areas until dry

**Bees and beneficial insects**

- Pyrethroids can affect bees if sprayed on them directly

For this reason, spraying is done early in the morning or late afternoon when bees are less active

## 6. What type of Insecticide is used?

No significant risk when used properly.

- Spraying targets **homes, schools, drains, and high-risk areas, not crops.**
- The insecticide **breaks down quickly** in sunlight and the environment.
- **It does not accumulate** in soil or plants at the public health doses used.



## 7. How long has this Insecticide been used in the Cook Islands?

Deltamethrin-based products like Key Delta have been used in the Cook Islands since **2018**, including for:

- Dengue outbreak responses
- Routine mosquito control
- Emergency public health operations

It is a **well-known and well-studied** insecticide both locally and globally.



## 8. Is this Insecticide used in other countries to control dengue?

**Yes — very widely.**

**Key Delta (deltamethrin)** is used in:

- Pacific Island countries
- Australia and New Zealand
- Southeast Asia
- Africa
- South America

It is recommended by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** for control of:

- Dengue
- Zika
- Chikungunya
- Malaria
- vectors



## Key Messages to the Community

**Key Delta is:**

- ✓ Effective against dengue-carrying mosquitoes
- ✓ Approved for public health use
- ✓ Applied only by trained professionals
- ✓ Safe when used correctly

**Community cooperation protects:**

- Our Children
- Our youth
- Our elders
- Our whole island

**Supplies**

The Insecticide used by TMO is supplied by Key Industries of Auckland, New Zealand — the only approved supplier.

For More information, visit

Te Marae Ora Website: [www.health.gov.ck](http://www.health.gov.ck)

Facebook: Te Marae Ora Ministry of Health Cook Islands