

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**
(CIs 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

Facebook: Te Marae Ora Ministry of Health Cook Islands