

# ECOMIX C FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## **Regeneration**

### **How often do I regenerate an Ecomix C system?**

Treat an Ecomix C system just like a water softener. Ecomix C units are regenerated when the capacity is exhausted. The unit's volume capacity should be calculated using raw water hardness and the number of bags of Ecomix C (.88 cu. ft.). One bag of Ecomix C has a softening capacity of 11,500 grains.

$$\text{Volume Capacity, gal} = \frac{\text{\# of bags of Ecomix} \times 11,500}{\text{Raw Water Hardness, gpg}}$$

### **Can I regenerate with untreated water?**

Regenerating with untreated or raw water will not affect the performance of Ecomix C.

### **Why is the softening capacity of Ecomix C so low compared to cation softening resin?**

The softening capacity is not lower. The capacity of the cation resin component of Ecomix C is rated lower because a bag of Ecomix C contains more than just cation resin. Cation softening resin is only one of the five components in Ecomix C.

### **What happens if you increase the salt dosage to 8–10 pounds on the Ecomix C?**

If you increase salt dosage it will influence on the treated water hardness — it will be lower.

Also you could obtain higher exchange capacity, approximately 15,000 grains per cubic foot.

### **What happens if I operate the Ecomix C system without that first regeneration?**

The system will not remove the contaminants properly. There are 5 components in one bag of Ecomix C. In order for the system to operate properly these components need to be "layered". When Ecomix C is regenerated the mixture self-classifies into layers making it ready for use.

### **Should I use resin cleaners or salt with resin cleaners when I regenerate an Ecomix C system?**

No, resin cleaners should not be used with Ecomix C. There are several reported cases where Ecomix C efficiency was severely impaired after usage of resin cleaners. Regular softener salt and proper regeneration sequencing will keep Ecomix C clean.

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## **Installation**

### **My tank holds a cube and a half of media. Can I use half a bag of Ecomix C and save the other half for another installation?**

Each bag contains 5 separate components in specific amounts. Ecomix C components are thoroughly mixed during production and there should be no problem using half a bag. If you intend to use just half it is important to shake the bag before loading the vessel. To avoid the trouble, you can order Ecomix C in full AND half bags. Specify packaging when ordering from your supplier.

### **Why is a top basket distributor necessary?**

This distributor is necessary in order to prevent Ecomix C from being lost during the backwashing sequence of regeneration.

## **Iron and Manganese**

### **Is it true that Ecomix C will remove all types of iron, including ferric?**

Ecomix C will not remove ferric or oxidized iron efficiently. In applications where ferric iron is present we recommend placement of a filter ahead of the Ecomix C system to trap ferric iron particulate.

### **Is it possible to use Ecomix C when iron content in water is higher than the limit of 15 ppm?**

There are Ecomix C units in operation which successfully remove iron in greater concentrations. However, prior to doing so you should contact your water treatment specialist with a complete water analysis.

### **Can I use Ecomix C if there is aeration or oxidant dosing ahead of the unit?**

We do not recommend installation of oxidation and or aeration ahead of the Ecomix C system. If you have to use aeration or oxidant dosing for any reason we strongly recommend pretreatment with a multimedia sediment filter and an activated carbon filter to remove residual active chlorine.

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## **Can I use Ecomix C in cases with high iron, tannins or manganese when hardness is low?**

Ecomix C will operate successfully under these conditions. However, raw water hardness must be used to program the control valve and you must set the “Day Override” to 3 or 4 days. Be sure to contact your water treatment specialist if you have questions.

## **Is the Ferrosorb an ion exchange based product that is also regenerated by salt?**

Ferrosorb is regenerated due to surface scouring mechanism during backwash. This is the reason why we always draw attention on the proper backwash flow rate.

## **Tannins, TOC, Color**

### **Can I use Ecomix C to just remove organic color and tannins?**

Ecomix C should not be used if organic matter reduction is the only purpose of treatment. But Ecomix C can be used to reduce organic matter (color) and to soften water from well or municipal supply. The unit’s capacity should still be rated based on raw water hardness.

### **I have customers who use surface water (lake, rivers, canals, ponds) rather than well water. Can I use Ecomix C for this application?**

Ecomix C is intended for use on well water not surface water treatment. Surface water may be microbiologically contaminated, have high levels of TOC (total organic carbons), tannins and color that often exceed Ecomix C limitations. Surface water can be treated with Ecomix C only after chlorination and sediment filtration followed by activated carbon filter.

### **My application is a well that is close to surface water (lake, rivers, canals, ponds).**

Water in shallow wells close to surface water might be a mixture of well and surface water and may have higher than normal TOC and color. It could be microbiologically contaminated. In these situations, Ecomix C is applicable but additional treatment may be required.

We recommend paying attention to the color of the water and doing a tannin test. You must strictly follow the test instructions. For example, commonly used LaMotte test kits require a 30-minute wait before the results are indicated. Once complete, please send the water analysis and the tannin test results with a picture of the water in a white bucket to your water treatment specialist.

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## **H<sub>2</sub>S, Sulfur, Hydrogen Sulfide, Rotten Egg Odor**

### **Is Ecomix C sensitive to H<sub>2</sub>S?**

Ecomix C is not sensitive to hydrogen sulfide content in well water and its efficiency will not be affected.

### **Will Ecomix C reduce H<sub>2</sub>S?**

Sometimes Ecomix C may slightly reduce the rotten odor of H<sub>2</sub>S but it is not recommended as a solution.

## **General Questions**

### **How many years does Ecomix C last?**

In most applications with proper operation, Ecomix C will last 5 or more years before it has to be replaced.

### **Is Ecomix C sensitive to active chlorine, pH level or TDS?**

Ecomix C shows stable operation with active chlorine levels below 1 ppm and pH in the range of 5 to 9. Ecomix C is not affected by the anion composition of the water and is stable with feed water TDS below 4,000 ppm.

### **Can I use Ecomix C if it was accidentally frozen during storage?**

Freezing of Ecomix C should be avoided as it may cause damage to its components. To avoid freezing, Ecomix C should be stored in a dry room protected from sunlight at temperatures of 35–80 °F (2–27 °C). If it does freeze, Ecomix C should be thawed out slowly at room temperature before loading and use. Do not treat frozen Ecomix C with heat or steam.