

## Processing & Sanitation Issues Unique to Very Small Establishments

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## Very Small Plant vs. Large Plant

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- Less personnel
  - Less scientific expertise
    - More reliance on sales and product support
      - Lack of scientific knowledge of “whys”
  - Wider variety of products
    - Larger number of ingredients
    - Broader combination of ingredients
  - Less automation
    - More manual operation
      - More opportunity for cross contamination
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## Sanitation

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- Commercial vs household chemicals
  - Limited experience in sanitation
  - Limited knowledge
    - Cleaners
      - What works best in what situation
    - Water
      - How minerals in water impact cleaning ability
    - Sanitizers
      - How to choose a sanitizer
        - Need for sanitizer rotation
        - How pH impacts sanitizer effectiveness
    - Biofilms
      - How they are formed
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## Processing

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- Fewer employees
    - Difficult to attend training programs
      - Need more follow up assistance after training
    - Less time
      - Develop HACCP plans
        - Have consultant develop plan
      - Limited review of data collected
        - Same person may record data and review data
      - Train any new employees
  - More dependent on inspectors to provide regulatory information
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## Processing

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- Less expertise
    - Limited knowledge of WHY processed in a specific manner
      - Rely heavily on safe harbors
    - Little or no knowledge regarding specific pathogens and their control
      - Very difficult to conduct scientific hazard analysis
      - Have no idea where to turn for validation information
      - Have no idea how to conduct a validation procedure for product(s)
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## Summary

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- Limited number of employees
    - Time, focus, expertise
  - Sanitation
    - Knowledge and application
  - Processing
    - Expertise
    - Need a lot of assistance with HACCP related issues
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