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JOE GAGNON

Even though I've written about and discussed Tang Breakfast Drink before, the "Tang recipe" is still the most requested piece of information from readers. I've noticed that other publications run stories to inform consumers about how to clean out a dishwasher. I say, more power to them.

To understand why a dishwasher needs to be cleaned out on occasion means reflecting on what the homeowner does wrong while using this appliance. Yes, you could be using the dishwasher incorrectly and you don't even know it.

Look at your dishwasher. When you turn it on, this square metal box fills with about 4 inches of hot water in the bottom of

it. Wash arms inside the dishwasher spray water once the motor starts. Folks, you now know how a dishwasher works. Easy to understand, isn't it?

In the above paragraph I used the words hot water and this is the biggest clue I could give you on what homeowners do wrong when using the dishwasher. You must remember that water heated to 140 degrees washes the dishes properly and also dissolves the detergent properly. (This fact is critical in proper dishwashing and many consumers do not know this little secret.)

Always turn on the hot water faucet at the kitchen sink for one minute, just before you turn on the dishwasher. This is the only way that you can be sure the dishwasher is filling with hot water. If you don't do this, when you start the dishwasher, the water line is filled with cold water which is leading from the hot water heater to the kitchen sink.

This is the whole secret to proper dishwasher use and getting clean dishes out of it. Now if

you have used the dishwasher like I have described above, you don't have to read any further. If you haven't, your dishwasher is very sick and needs a shot of orange powdered Tang Breakfast Drink.

The impellers are attached to the motor, but you can't see them. They are responsible for sending strong water pressure to those spray arms. Without that needed pressure, you are not getting clean dishes.

If you have not used real hot water in the dishwasher for several years, the undissolved detergent has coated the impellers and they are not moving water like they should. They need to be cleaned using the Tang.

Turn on the hot water at the faucet and let it run until the water reaches maximum hot water temperature. Turn on the dishwasher and let it run for five minutes and then shut it off. Open the door and empty the whole container of Tang Breakfast Drink directly into the water in the bottom of the dishwasher. Close the door and turn

on the machine and let it go through the remainder of the cycle.

Your dishwasher is now clean, cleaner than ever and I guarantee you that the dishes will be cleaner than ever.

This "prescription" was discovered back in the mid 1960s when a service technician broke a glass jar of Tang on a kitchen counter and the contents fell onto the open door of the dishwasher. After cleaning the broken glass, the dishwasher was operated with most of the Tang left inside. The customer thought that first of all, it smelled better and next she thought, the dishes came out cleaner. After I purchased about \$20 worth of Tang, I experimented in other homes on my block. I was amazed to see the results and I still have many people who tell me how great it worked for them.

Joe Gagnon can be heard Saturday and Sunday on 780 WJZ. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His phone number is (313) 873-9789.

Winners from page C1

Ed Orzel of Westland said a blue joy planted a seed last fall behind his home, pulled from a sunflower planted at his daughter's home next door. And how does he know that? "I saw him do it," Orzel said.

Orzel's daughter entered his sunflower into the contest after she read about it in the Observer.

Orzel didn't use fertilizer for his 17-inch sunflower head, instead the plant received plenty of sun in the open yard and water. The flower's location

helps it get sun almost all day until the evening. "I used cut grass and compost on it," Orzel said. "I've had big sunflowers before, but nothing like this," Orzel said. The Orzels also grow tomatoes, flowers and herbs.

Orzel wishes the original planter of the flower would return.

"Where's that blue joy? He ought to see that sunflower now," Orzel said.

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