



Acid Product Comparisons

Hydrochloric (Muriatic™) acid: This is actually a gas by-product of other chemical processes and pressurized into water as a liquid. It is very corrosive. There is no filtration of inert, hazardous waste contaminants, i.e., lead, arsenic, & TOCs. Inhibitors can be used to reduce the corrosiveness of the product but are used up in 4-6 hours. The inhibitors used are often hazardous. Disposal can be an issue.

Sulfamic granular/pelletized acids: Several companies sell sulfamic in a variety of purities and trade names. All granular/pelleted products on the market except “Unicid” are simple sulfamic acid.

“Unicid” Granular acid: This product is specifically formulated to provide the dissolving capability of hydrochloric/Muriatic (liquid) acids with the safety of sulfamic (granular) acids.

Comparison	Hydrochloric	Sulfamic acid *	“Unicid” Granular
Dissolves Calcium scale	to fast-may erupt	very fast	very fast
Dissolves Iron or Manganese scale	fast-12-20 hrs	no	fast-12-24 hrs
Dissolves Sulfate based scale	slow-24-60 hrs	not at all	slow-24-60 hrs
Product corrosive to casing/ss screen	yes	can be, if salt added	no
Dangerous to work with in field, i.e., skin and breathing fumes	yes	no	no
Corrosive fumes produced on site	yes; HCl gas, corrosive	no	no
Can over foam/spew acid from a well	yes, if high calcium	no	no
Is product totally biodegradable	no, inert ingredients	depends on manf.	yes
Product is totally safe for disposal	no; lead, arsenic, & many TOCs	if pH above 6 depends on manf.	if pH above 6
Product can be shipped/stored without DOT restrictions/CERCLA, for spills & corrosive labels.	no	no	yes

* All granular acid products on the market are sulfamic acid except “Unicid”, which is a formulation product. Several companies market sulfamic acid under a variety of market names: CETCO, Baroid, Johnson (Nu-Well & DW110), CODY Chemical, Swy-Co, & Clear Well Products.