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Aquamira, a water treatment product

Taky

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Description :

A short review of this great water disinfection product.

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I found this product while searching an optimum water purifying system on the web. I have tried most of the chemical products, from chlorine pills to iodine drops and many others and while I have rarely fallen sick, drinking pure spring water as not always been the refreshing experience I expected. This new comer onto the market promised something different, and by a rare stroke of luck the product is available in New Zealand, so the following are my personal conclusions after a few months of testing in a wide range of situations.

The advantages I have found are:

- ▶ Relatively cheap: about US\$14 for some 120l of drinkable water. Cheaper and safer than bottled water!
- ▶ Quite fast 15-20 min with clear water.
- ▶ Kills efficiently ALL the nasties, and has all the right endorsements to prove it.
- ▶ Easy and convenient to use
- ▶ No taste, at least nothing I could detect under normal usage (maybe a really slight and remote after taste over 10 drops/l).
- ▶ Since you use 7 drops per litter, you can treat any volume in between (is difficult to cut a pill accurately).
- ▶ The little bottles are extremely well designed.
- ▶ can be used over long periods of time, unlike iodine.
- ▶ Doesn't increase your body smell like chlorine does (specially for hunters)
- ▶ The reaction changes colour, so you have visual confirmation of the product activity.

The cons.

- ▶ Is a two step process, with a few min to wait in between: not as easy as the pill thing.
- ▶ The bottles are white, so you don't see how much is left (or comes on each bottle!)
- ▶ Takes a bit more space and weight than some pills.
- ▶ You need two bottles, so you better don't forget or loose one of them.

[Ready to use] **Ready to use** This is nearly ready to be used

The normal procedure when you find a suitable source of water, is to stop and mix the required amount from each bottle on the supplied mixing cap (7 drops of each per litter, up to 14 if is really dirty). Then go to fill your container trying to reduce sediments (you can use a muslin filter to reduce those). After 5 min the mix will have turn nicely yellow and is time to treat the water. After a rest and maybe a snack (15 to 30 min depending on temperature and sediments) the water is ready for consumption...



Easy to measure Drops are easy to measure

Normally, for daily trips I carry my water from home to avoid using purification systems and forced myself to drink the plastic/chlorine/always too warm tasting liquid. This last months I've been safely enjoying fresh and crisp water from all the little streams this country is blessed with.

Aquamira, a water treatment product



Mix the two parts Four drops of each for this bottle

Then I travelled to South East Asia and spend a few weeks rafting and trekking by myself on remote areas. Some rivers were clean, most had indigenous villages along the banks and there is no need to explain what that means: when it smells dead it can't be good for your health... All my water was either boiled or treated with Aquamira, and I have no diarrhoea or other stomach complaints to report. Comparing my experience to other less fortunate travellers encountered along the way, I'm pretty confident the product does what is supposed to.

This last week I found that the bottles are susceptible to DEET (insect repellent), so take the adequate precautions.

Another point to take care about is to screw the caps correctly. From the four bottles I've used so far, one went sideways and split the dripping end. No leaks, but concerning on the situation I was.

The product web site: [Aquamira](#)