



May 5, 2021

INDUSTRY-WIDE BULLETIN: 21-06

RE: Implementation of New Testing and Decontamination Rules

Dear Marijuana Industry Stakeholders:

This Industry-Wide Bulletin is intended to update Licensees on the implementation of new testing requirements and decontamination rules.

Decontamination: Effective May 1, 2021, MED Rule 4-135(C) allows for repeated attempts at decontamination of Harvest Batches of regulated marijuana flower, wet whole plant, and trim that have failed microbial contaminant testing. All Harvest Batches must pass two retests for the microbial test that failed after undergoing decontamination prior to transfer. The decontaminated batch must also pass water activity and mycotoxin testing prior to transfer.

Mycotoxin testing requirements for decontaminated Harvest Batches will take **effect May 1, 2021**. Mycotoxin testing must occur at a Testing Facility that is certified in Mycotoxin testing of plant material.

Water activity testing requirements for all Harvest Batches, including decontaminated batches, will not take effect until July 1, 2021. Water Activity testing must occur at a Testing Facility that is certified in Water Activity testing.

Water Activity Testing: Effective July 1, 2021, MED Rule 4-120(C)(1) and 4-115(D)(1) will require Harvest Batches of Regulated Marijuana Flower, shake, kief, and trim to be submitted for water activity testing. “Wet whole plant” is exempt from water activity testing requirements.

Pesticides in Concentrate: Effective July 1, 2021, MED Rule 4-120(C)(4)(a) and 4-115(D)(5) will require Production Batches of Regulated Marijuana Concentrate to be tested for pesticides.

Process Validation for New Contaminant Testing Requirements: Marijuana businesses are permitted to submit Test Batches prior to the July 1, 2021 effective date of the new Water Activity and Pesticide testing requirements for the purpose of seeking process validation status. To count towards the achievement of process validation, the Test Batches must be:

- Tested at a Medical or Retail Marijuana Testing Facility that is certified in the test type for which the Test Batch is submitted.



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- Collected in accordance with MED Rule 4-110 and the sampling procedures found in the [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Reference Library](#); and
- Be properly designated in the Inventory Tracking System (Metrc) as submitted for the purpose of process validation.

Please be aware that the information contained in this Industry Bulletin and associated links do not represent legal advice or replace a licensee's responsibility to review and comply with statute and rules, the full set of which can be found on the [MED Rules](#) webpage.