



## AGRICULTURE

*Dependable and accurate agricultural testing services with incredibly fast results.*

Minnesota Valley Testing Laboratories, Inc.

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### Hemp sampling instructions Source: MN Department of Agriculture sampling protocol

#### Sample Volume and Composition

The majority of the samples should be collected in the *interior* of the field, to avoid edge effect. To collect samples, walk the field in such a way to collect a representative sample, depending on the field size and shape. Exact sampling pattern should be similar to that of the inspector.

- Small fields may be inspected in an X pattern: Starting in one corner, walk one transect of the field, collecting 15 samples along the way. Continue walking the “X” pattern, collecting samples at regular intervals along each transect.
- Larger or irregularly-shaped fields may be sampled randomly by walking the perimeter of the field and taking paths into the field at regular intervals, taking 1-2 samples along each path.

Samples will be taken from the **top 2 inches of the female, flowering plants only**. This ensures that the plant material contains the highest concentration of THC and creates consistency across all samples and for all licensees. Fiber varieties or non-flowering fields will require the top 2” of available plant material.



- For all fields, up to 100 acres in size, 30 plants will be sampled. Individual, non-contiguous fields will be sampled separately. Contiguous fields of multiple varieties will be sampled as a single homogeneous sample.
- For fields over 100 acres: the number of samples will be 30 plants + 10 plants per additional 100 acres. The samples will be evenly taken throughout the entire field. All of the plant samples will be mixed together and tested as a single homogenous sample, if the acreage is contiguous.
- For greenhouses and indoor grow sites, 5 randomly selected plants per 1,000 square feet will be sampled, with a minimum sample size of 5 plants.



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- **Equipment Used**
- - Clippers/scissors
- - Sampling Bags (brown paper bags)
- - Chain of Custody Sealing Labels
- - MVTL Chain of Custody form

Cut and place the samples in a brown paper bag. When all cut samples have been collected, the material should be mixed together and submitted as one sample.

THC-A begins to degrade into THC at 185° F. Samples should be kept out of the sun, not in a hot car in order to prevent degradation. Samples should be submitted to the lab as soon as possible. If immediate lab submission is not possible, then the sampler should shake up the plant material in the bags once a day to ensure they are not heating or molding within the bag.