HEMP HARVEST SAMPLING, TESTING & TIMING

REQUIRED PRE-HARVEST NOTIFICATION

A licensee shall provide a pre-harvest notice to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship via a form published by the department at least 30 days prior to the expected harvest date.

OFFICIAL SAMPLING

Once the Department receives the pre-harvest notification, a sampling appointment will be scheduled with the authorized representative. The authorized representative, or another licensee associated with the hemp license, shall accompany the Department’s inspector to the crop site. If an authorized representative or licensee is not present, the Department will not collect an official sample. A potential second sampling appointment will be set at the Department’s discretion. Missed sampling appointments will result in additional sampling fees.

The licensee must allow complete and unrestricted access to the crop site. If the licensee fails to provide unrestricted access, an official sample will not be collected. If the Department sampler suspects that the licensee harvested hemp plants prior to official sampling, the Department inspector will immediately cease official sampling.

Each lot and sub-lot must be officially sampled and tested independently. The official sample collected by the Department shall consist of approximately 2 inch cuttings from the top one-third of the plant, based on the following table:

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The Department inspector may take more cuttings than the minimum listed in the above table, if necessary to obtain an adequate official sample.
HEMP HARVEST SAMPLING, TESTING & TIMING

SAMPLING FEES

All fees shall be collected by the Department prior to taking any action for which the fee is applicable. All fees are nonrefundable. Fees for official sampling and official testing are collected on a per sample basis as follows.

PRIMARY BASE AND SUPPLEMENTAL FEES:
1. A primary base fee of $1,000 is paid at the time of license application. The primary base fee is applied to the first official sample taken at a licensed crop site during the pre-harvest inspection.
2. If the licensee requests sampling and testing of additional lots or sub-lots at the crop site, a primary supplemental fee of $500 shall be charged for each additional official sample taken during the pre-harvest inspection.

SECONDARY BASE AND SUPPLEMENTAL FEES:
1. If a licensee requests official samples beyond the initial pre-harvest inspection, the license may request a secondary pre-harvest inspection. A secondary pre-harvest inspection base fee of $1,000 shall be paid for each additional inspection.
2. If the licensee requests sampling and testing of additional lots or sub-lots at the crop site during any secondary pre-harvest inspection, a secondary supplemental fee of $500 shall be charged for each additional official sample taken during the secondary pre-harvest inspection.

TEMPORARY HARVEST AND TRANSPORTATION PERMIT

When an official sample is collected, IDALS will issue a temporary harvest and transportation permit (THTP). The THTP allows the licensee to harvest and transport the hemp crop to another location, if necessary, for drying and storing the crop.
1. Prior to receiving THTP, the licensee shall designate a storage site for the hemp crop. The licensee shall ensure that IDALS has unrestricted access to the crop at all times, including, if necessary, to fulfill an order of destruction. The harvested crop shall remain at the designated storage site until a certificate of analysis (COA), or order of destruction, is issued by IDALS.
2. The designated storage site must be within the state of Iowa.
3. All harvested lots and sub-lots shall be stored in a manner that preserves identity, regardless of the form, condition or location of the crop. There shall be no commingling of separate harvested hemp lots.
4. Until the COA is issued, ownership of the hemp crop shall not change.

HARVEST TIMING

A licensee shall not harvest any portion of a hemp crop until IDALS has officially sampled the lot(s) to be harvested. The day the crop site is officially sampled shall be considered ‘day 0’. The next day is considered ‘day one’ after sampling, and so on, until ‘day 15’. If the licensee has not completed harvest within 15 days, and still desires to harvest any remaining crop, the licensee shall contact IDALS and request supplemental official sampling and laboratory tests. The licensee is responsible for additional official sampling and testing fees.

QUESTIONS

Website: https://iowaagriculture.gov/hemp
Email: Hemp@IowaAgriculture.gov
Tel: (515) 725-1470

The sampling protocol outlined in this document is contingent on the USDA approval of Hemp Plan submitted by the State of Iowa.