

GUIDANCE ON REQUIRED REPORTING AND PERFORMANCE-BASED SAMPLING FOR GROWERS OF MICRO-GREENS AND HEMP TRANSPLANTS

There are a few categories of hemp growers which the standard reporting and sampling requirements as specified in the PA Hemp General Permit Guidelines do not exactly align. Those categories are permitted growers of hemp microgreens, greens and transplants. ***PLEASE NOTE: While reporting requirements may be different for growers in these categories, submission of reports is still a requirement and failure to submit could impact future permitting.***

I. DEFINITIONS:

- **Hemp Microgreens:** immature hemp seedlings for human consumption that are cut-off above the soil or substrate line and harvested prior to flowering and not more than 14 days after germination. Hemp microgreens are typically between two (2) and three (3) inches in height, but not taller than five (5) inches.
- **Hemp Greens:** hemp leaves from immature plants germinated from seed and the plants are no more than ten (10) inches tall and are not flowering.
- **Hemp Transplants:** hemp seedlings, rooted cuttings, immature plants produced from tissue culture, or other means of reproduction, which are not harvested but transplanted into a large container or field to mature for harvest. ***(REMINDER: Any seller of hemp transplants must also meet the conditions of PA Hemp General Permit Guidelines, Article III, (a)(3).)***

II. PLANTING REPORTING:

- A. Within 10 days of the first planting with information requested on the planting report for each variety planted:
- field/grow room name
 - GPS
 - Variety
 - Seeds/cuttings/transplants
 - Source
 - Area planted
 - Date of the first planting
- B. In a note made on the planting report or in an attachment, the producer must:
- 1) Confirm that hemp will be grown for one of the following: Microgreens, Greens or Transplants.
 - 2) State how often these varieties will be planted (i.e. every 5 days for 2 months, etc.).

- C. If new varieties would be added through the season, then a new report would be submitted. Otherwise, the first report is the only one required.

III. SAMPLING:

- A. Hemp microgreens and greens may not be subject to the sampling and testing requirements. The permittee shall ensure that the seeds used to produce microgreens and greens are from cannabis varieties that meet the definition of hemp.
- B. Hemp transplants may not be subject to the sampling and testing requirements. The permittee shall ensure that the seeds, clones or tissue culture used to produce transplants are from cannabis varieties that meet the definition of hemp.
- C. Producers of hemp microgreens, greens and transplants shall be subject to random inspections and audit sampling.

IV. HARVEST REPORTING:

- A. A single harvest report with the total weight of microgreens harvested by variety or total number of transplants/clones sold for the 2021 season **must be submitted by November 15, 2021.**

V. CROP LOSS REPORTING:

- A. For any planted hemp varieties which will not be harvested/sold (i.e. loss due to pest pressure or other reason), a Crop Loss Report must be submitted to the Hemp Program within 10 days of the final crop destruction.
- B. The following methods of on-property destruction may be used.
 - i. Plowing utilizing curved plow blades. Plowing under using curved plow blades to assure the plow rotates subsoil to the surface and buries the hemp crop below.
 - ii. Mulching and Composting – Field crops shall be cut, mulched into fine pieces and blended with manure or other biomass material.
 - iii. Disking utilizing a disk that levels the hemp crop and cuts and rotates the hemp crop plant parts and materials into the subsoil.
 - iv. Utilize a Brush mower or Chopper – A commercial 6x6 pull behind mower, forage chopper or commercial lawn mower used to shred and mix thick vegetation.
 - v. Deep burial through digging a trench in the fields and filling it with the cut and uprooted hemp plants along with the surface soil. Plants, soil and materials shall be buried at a depth of at least 12 inches.
 - vi. Where not forbidden by local or state ordinances or regulations, burning the hemp plant material by setting fire to the specific production fields, or plants piled on the specific production fields. All necessary safety precautions and permits for such an activity are the responsibility of the permittee.
 - vii. Other methods of rendering the hemp material un-usable must be verified as acceptable by the Hemp Program staff (email: RA-AGPLHEMP@pa.gov; phone: 223-666-2561).