



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Plant Industry

HEMP FIELD SAMPLING MANUAL

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COMMISSIONER

Section 581.217, F.S.
5E-4.016, F.A.C.
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Under the authority of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, the Florida legislature has created a program to regulate the cultivation of Hemp. Pursuant to Section 581.217, Florida Statutes, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (“Department”) is charged with the responsibility to manage that program.

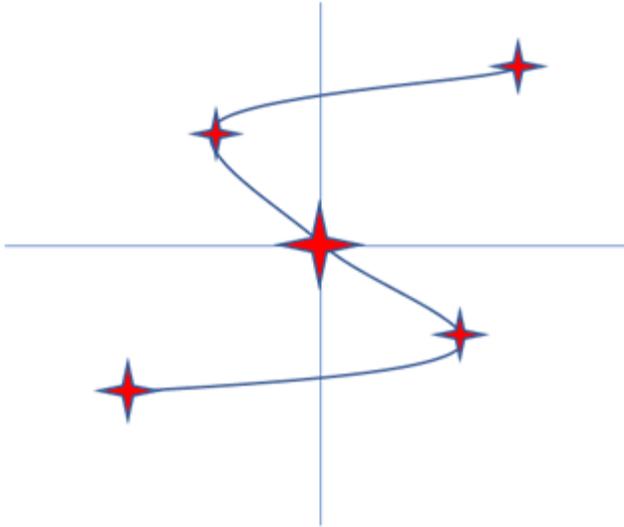
Among other requirements, persons cultivating hemp must collect pre-harvest samples to ensure that the Total delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol does not exceed 0.3% on a dry weight basis. This manual outlines the sample collection procedures must be followed prior to harvest.

I. Definitions.

1. “Hemp” means the plant *Cannabis sativa* L. and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof, and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers thereof, whether growing or not, that has a Total delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol concentration that does not exceed 0.3 percent on a dry-weight basis.
2. “Plot” means a contiguous area in a field, greenhouse, or indoor growing structure used for cultivation of the same variety or strain of Hemp from the same planting.

II. Collection Protocols.

1. No earlier than fifteen (15) days prior to harvest, collect a composite sample from the Plot to be harvested.
2. First divide the Plot into four (4) quadrants as shown in the figure below.



3. Take a plant clipping from each of the four (4) quadrants and a clipping from the center of the Plot. For Plots larger than fifty (50) acres, additional plant clippings are required. Refer to the table below:

Plot size	Number of plant clippings for each composite sample
≤ 50 acres	Five 8 inch clippings (one from each quadrant and one from the center of the Plot)
> 50 acres	One 2 inch clipping per acre.

4. Each plant clipping must be taken from the plant's primary stem, including floral material. Do not remove any stalks, stems, flowers, seeds, or leaves from the clipping.
5. Place the plant clippings collected from the Plot into a paper bag. This is the representative sample.
6. Staple a completed **Hemp Sample Submission Form FDACS-08113 rev. 12/19** to the paper bag containing the composite sample.
7. Seal the paper bag with tamper resistant tape.
8. Each representative sample with the attached **Hemp Sample Submission Form** must be placed in the mail or delivered to lab for analysis within twenty-four (24) hours of collection. Please note, most laboratories will not accept damaged or torn bags and it is recommended that paper bags be shipped in boxes or padded envelopes.
9. Clean tools and equipment used to take plant clippings after each composite sample collection (e.g., using alcohol wipes).