

MICIL

MICHIGAN COALITION OF INDEPENDENT CANNABIS TESTING LABORATORIES

March 24, 2018

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Bureau of Medical Marihuana Regulation
Medical Marihuana Facility Licensing
P.O. Box 30205
Lansing, MI 48909
P - 517-284-8599

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY

Re: MICIL Advisory on Sampling, Batch Sizes and Harvest Lots (from January 29, 2018 Advisory Bulletin).

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing at a critical time in Michigan's new, but rapidly developing medical marijuana industry.

Who is MICIL?

MICIL is the Michigan Coalition of Independent Cannabis Testing Laboratories. As individual businesses, we have each spent time lobbying LARA/BMMR, attempting to amend, rewrite or even promulgate new rules.

Though we are in competition with one another, we realized that a unified voice would be far more effective than any one lab.

MICIL is much better suited to speak for the greater cannabis testing community than any one lab alone.

Batch Testing and Proper Sampling Methodology are Critical to Patient Safety

The potency and purity of cannabis and cannabis-infused products can vary dramatically within a batch (e.g., from capsule to capsule or from bud to bud). As an example, if improperly sampled (e.g., sample size is too small) a contaminated batch may "pass" for safety. Similarly, the reported potency data of the sample may not be representative of the entire batch.

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Patient safety depends on proper sampling methodology. It will reduce the potential effect of variability, and ensure test samples are representative of the entire batch.

Batch Sizes and Harvest Lots (January 29, 2018 Advisory Bulletin)

On February 16, 2018, MICIL met (via conference call) to discuss the MMFLA emergency rules, subsequent Technical Bulletins, and other items of interest.

In regards to Sampling and Batch Size - MICIL *unanimously* agreed that allowing labs to compete with another with no guidance on Batch Size would be highly problematic to the Michigan medical cannabis community.

Amended Language/New Technical Bulletin

MICIL proposes the following change, approved unanimously by all MICIL members:

- A safety compliance facility must physically collect samples of marijuana product from another marijuana facility to be tested at the safety compliance facility under Rule 32(2)(a) of the Emergency Administrative Rules filed on December 4, 2017. ~~The sample size collected must be sufficient to complete all analysis required.~~ **THE SAMPLE SIZE MUST BE SUFFICIENT TO COMPLETE ALL ANALYSES REQUIRED, BUT SHALL IN NO CASE BE LESS THAN 0.5% OF THE WEIGHT OF THE BATCH (9.1 GRAM MINIMUM). THE MAXIMUM BATCH SIZE SHOULD BE 10 LBS.**

(January 29, 2018 Advisory Bulletin)

Please contact any of us directly, should you have any questions or concerns. We sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



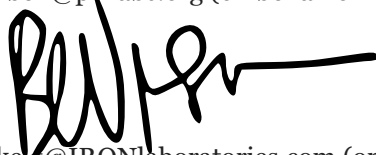
Benjamin J. Rosman
CEO & Co-Founder, PSI Labs
Founder, MICIL

MICIL Member Labs
<Signature Page Follows>

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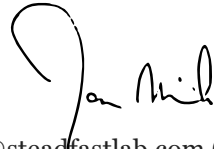
Benjamin J. Rosman – ben@psilabs.org (on behalf of PSI Labs, Ann Arbor)



Michael Goldman - mike.g@IRONlaboratories.com (on behalf of Iron Labs, Walled Lake)



Jon Mink - jmink@trace-labs.com (on behalf of Trace Labs, Muskegon)



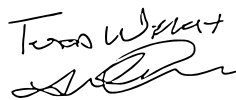
Avram Zallen - safety@steadfastlab.com (on behalf of Steadfast Lab, Hazel Park)



Ryan Ringold - ryan@crestmontlabs.com (on behalf of Crestmont Labs, Dearborn)



Todd Welch - twelch@viridisgrp.com (on behalf of Viridis Group, Lansing)



Jeff Nemeth - jeff@actlabllc.com (on behalf of ACT Labs, Lansing)



Omar Elias - Omarelias@nwlab.com (on behalf of NW Labs, Southfield)



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SAMPLING GUIDELINES

Sampling Increment Sizes for Compliance Testing

The sample size must be sufficient to complete all analyses required, but shall in no case be less than 0.5% of the weight of the batch. The maximum batch size is 10 lbs.

The required sample size for a given batch size will vary depending upon the size of the batch (**Table 1**).

Table 1: SAMPLE SIZE REQUIREMENTS BASED ON BATCH SIZE

Batch Size	Required Sample Size		
	Pounds (lbs)	Ounces (oz)	Grams (g)
≤1lbs.	0.020	0.32	9.1*
1.01 ≤2 lbs	0.020	0.32	9.1*
2.01 ≤ 3 lbs	0.020	0.32	9.1*
3.01 ≤ 4 lbs	0.020	0.32	9.1*
4.01 ≤ 5 lbs	0.025	0.40	11.3
5.01 ≤ 6 lbs	0.030	0.48	13.6
6.01 ≤ 7 lbs	0.035	0.56	15.9
7.01 ≤ 8 lbs	0.040	0.64	18.1
8.01 ≤ 9 lbs	0.045	0.72	20.4
9.01 ≤ 10 lbs	0.050	0.80	22.7

*Minimum sample size required for full compliant testing of flower.

Sampling a batch

1. Accredited Sampling Plan guidelines are to be designed by individual Safety Compliance Facilities – and accredited through their oversight body. However, in the interest of Public Health and Safety, MICIL recommends that Safety Compliance Facilities follow the strict guidelines of “Batch Sampling” for correctly sampling the proper representative amount from the cannabis producer’s lots. (**Included in Tables**)
2. As the batch increases in size, it is necessary to collect additional sample increments to make up the primary sample (**Table 2**).

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**Table 2: CANNABIS FLOWER AND TRIM
MINIMUM NUMBER OF SAMPLE INCREMENTS**

Size of Batch (lbs)	<4	<5	<6	<7	<8	<9	<10
No. Increments	7	8	8	8	9	8	9
No. Grams/ increment	1.3	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.3	2.6	2.5

**Table 3: CONCENTRATE AND EXTRACT
MINIMUM NUMBER OF SAMPLE INCREMENT**

Process Lot Weight		Sample Increments Required		
Pounds	Kilograms	Compliant Testing*	Certified Control Study**	
			Primary	Field Duplicate
0 - 0.5	0-0.23	4	2	2
0.50 - 1.5	0.24 - 0.68	8	4	4
1.51 - 3.00	0.69 - 1.36	12	6	6
3.10 - 6.00	1.40 - 2.72	16	8	8
6.10 - 10.00	2.77 - 4.54	20	10	10
10+	4.58+	32	16	16

*For compliance testing 3 gram increments should be used

**For items with a certified control study in place, 1 gram sample increments should be taken

Table 4: CANNABINOID PRODUCT SAMPLE SIZE REQUIREMENTS

Process Lot (units)	Sample Size (units)	Certified Control Study***	
		Primary Sample (units)	Field Duplicate (units)
2 – 15	2	1	1
16 - 50	3	1	1
51 - 150	5	1	1
151 - 500	8	1	1
501 – 3,200	13	1	1
3,201 – 35,000	20	1	1

PROCESS LOT SAMPLING FOR COMPLIANCE AND CONTROL STUDIES***

- Only Processors are able to submit marijuana items for control studies.
- A processor must tell the laboratory what the unit of sale is prior to sampling.