

Pest Control and Fertilizer Use in Medical Marijuana

Factsheet 2015-13

FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions About Pest Control and Fertilizer Use in Medical Marijuana

What pesticides are registered for use, by authorized medical marijuana growers, in an enclosed, locked facility such as a greenhouse or grow-house for production of Cannabis for medical marijuana?

There are no pesticides registered for use on Cannabis. However, certain pesticide products, considered to be “minimum risk” (also known as Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act 25b products), are exempt from registration and can be used on most any crop or site. For the current list of minimum risk pesticides, see the Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Chapter 1, Subchapter E, Part B, Section 152.25. Please be aware that not all minimum risk pesticides have established food tolerances. Active and inactive ingredients in pesticide products that are exempt from food tolerances can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Chapter 1, Subchapter E, Part 180, Subpart D. As with any crop, please be aware that the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) will enforce the label for all registered pesticide products and will enforce all Nevada statutes and regulations applicable to pesticides.

What fertilizers can an authorized medical marijuana grower use to grow medical marijuana?

The NDA does not register fertilizers specifically for Cannabis. Authorized medical marijuana growers can use any commercial fertilizer that is registered by NDA except for those that are specifically prohibited.

By regulation (NAC 453A.658), medical marijuana samples must meet the most stringent acceptable standards. What will happen if a medical marijuana sample tests positive for pesticide residue?



By law, medical marijuana production batches must be tested and any tested batches that exceed the adopted standards must be destroyed. Please contact the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health with questions concerning laboratory testing of medical marijuana batches and the current adopted standards.

Which pest control categories do Nevada licensed Pest Control Operators need in order to apply pesticides for hire in the cultivation of Cannabis grown for medical marijuana?

The NDA does not license specifically for Cannabis or any other crop. The appropriate pest control categories for pest control in greenhouses or grow-houses are the Agriculture Ground categories (B1 for insect pests, B2 for weeds, B4 for fungi pests, and B5 for vertebrate pests).

Which Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) Certification does Nevada licensed Pest Control Operators need to apply restricted use pesticide on Cannabis grown for medical marijuana?

The NDA does not have a RUP category specific to Cannabis. The appropriate RUP category for greenhouse crops is Nursery/Greenhouse.

Will NDA provide or approve Continuing Education Hours (CEU) for training on use of pesticides on Cannabis grown for medical marijuana?

The NDA continues to approve CEU hours for pesticide training in greenhouses or grow-houses, however, none are specific to Cannabis.

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