

Preparing Your Hemp Harvest for Extraction

PLANT IT



Source your clones wisely. Plant ONLY verified female seedlings from a reputable grower. Male seedlings can increase THC levels and infest areas with unwanted 'hot' hemp which is difficult to control!

Avoid pesticides and fungicides! Extraction concentrates these dangerous chemicals which cannot be easily removed from hemp oil. Testing will reveal these issues, so don't be caught unaware!

GROW IT



Once harvested, cut flowers should ideally be dried between 60-80 degrees and 50%-60% humidity for a minimum of 5-10 days. A barn or well ventilated metal building should host roughly 1500 plants per 1000sqft. Beware of mold and pests!

DRY IT



Once dried to 10%-15% water content, hemp flower is ready to be carefully pruned from plant. Flower will feel spongy but not wet to the touch. Now is the time to have the flower tested for THC and CBD content. Ideally, you want high CBD%, and low THC (<0.3% by law).

TRIM IT



Contact Us Today!

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PLANTING

Hemp can be harvested within 90 days of planting, depending on the strain of hemp. Be sure to time the planting of your seedlings with this in mind — you may want to notify your extractor as you're planting. It never hurts to book extraction services early! Extraction services are booked on a first come, first served basis.

A note on choosing seedlings: be sure you trust the provider of your hemp seedlings. Remember that 'hot' hemp, or hemp which has more than 0.3% THC, will be treated like regular cannabis! This can put you in legal trouble, so be sure your seedlings are of the correct strain to maintain low THC %. You may want to strongly consider contractual protections so that all your seedling purchases go smoothly.

GROWING

Hemp is a hearty plant which improves soil quality during its lifetime. Subsequent crops will benefit from hemp when planted in rotation. However, hemp readily absorbs heavy metals from soil — which can be a problem when extracting the cannabinoid oil. Be sure to have your land properly tested for heavy metal contamination BEFORE planting. You don't want a nasty surprise when your lab tests reveal toxic metals in your oil!

Speaking of toxins, PESTICIDES ARE NOT YOUR FRIEND. Extraction of CBD oil concentrates any chemicals in/on the plant, both good and bad. If you spray your plants with pesticides or non-organic fertilizers the residue from these chemicals will be concentrated in your final oil which can hurt the value of your oil or even make it worthless! Use proper organic farming techniques to ensure the health of your plants and value of your oil!

DRYING

Drying is best done in a well ventilated area free of pests and mold. You're aiming to get the water content of the hemp flower down to 10%-15% so you may want to invest in a simple moisture meter. Be sure to handle the hemp gently when hanging to dry, you don't want to knock off the trichomes which carry the valuable cannabinoid oil.

TRIMMING

Your flowers should be carefully cut in bunches away from the rest of the stems/leaves of the hemp plant. To get top dollar for your biomass, make sure that your flower doesn't get too much stem/leaf material in it as this lowers the value. Once trimmed, it's best practice to move your hemp to a cool, dry storage area while it awaits extraction. Ideally, you want a storage area no warmer than 60F-70F- which will discourage spoilage. Also, mice and insects will eat hemp flower, so be sure to choose your storage area with this in mind. Finally, don't grind your flower. Grinding releases chlorophyll and makes extraction harder.



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