

2021 Operation Table Rock

Legal

Questionable

Illegal

State Agency Oversight

Law Enforcement

2021 saw an explosion of illegal cannabis activity in Oregon. The 2021 Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 3000. HB 3000 addressed various parts of the cannabis industry - hemp and marijuana. One part was the intention of bringing cannabis growers (hemp and marijuana) who are not following the law and rules into compliance. It strengthened enforcement against illegal cannabis growers and increased multi-agency efforts to support Oregon's legal hemp growers.

As directed by HB 3000, the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) working with numerous other agencies conducted focused sampling and testing of licensed hemp farms in Southern Oregon (Jackson and Josephine counties).

PRESUMPTIVE MARIJUANA DEFINITION

- At least 50% of composite samples from mature plants test at or above 5% total delta-9 THC.
- Average among the composite samples from mature plants test at or above 5% total delta-9 THC.
- At least 50% of composite samples from immature plants test at or above 1% total delta-9 THC.
- Average among the composite samples from immature plants test at or above 1% total delta-9 THC.
- At least 50% of composite samples from immature plants test at or above a 5:1 ratio of total delta-9 THC to total CBD.

ACTIONS

From late July to September 2021, ODA and OLCC staff attempted to visit each of the 381 registered hemp growers in Jackson and Josephine County.

- A minimum of three composite samples from different fields or greenhouses were collected.
- Samples were tested using the LightLab portable HPLC Cannabis Analyzer.
- Any samples greater than 5% total delta-9 THC were referred to local law enforcement.
- Any sites that met the definition of presumptive marijuana or that had a production area over 0.3% total delta-9 THC were placed under an administrative detainment for further enforcement under OAR 603-048.
- Administrative warrants were obtained for sites that refused access.

ODA would like to express appreciation to the following agencies and their staff for assisting in OTR: Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission, Oregon Water Resources, Oregon State Police, Jackson County Sheriff, Jackson County Code Enforcement, Jackson County Interagency Marijuana Enforcement Team, Josephine County Sheriff, Josephine County Code Enforcement, Josephine County Marijuana Enforcement Team, City of Medford Police.



RESULTS AS OF JANUARY 2022

Number of Growers Tested*	183	Percentage of Total Growers Tested
No issues	78	42%
Test results between 0.3% - 5%	7	3%
One or more test results above 5% but did not meet presumptive marijuana definition	57	31%
Met presumptive marijuana definition	41	22%

* Total growers = 268, growers not tested are not included in table above. Some growers may have multiple sites.

Total Sites Visited	316	Percentage of Total Sites
Sites with all compliant hemp	100	32%
Sites with no plants at the time of the inspection	78	24%
Sites with one or more failed tests but did not meet the definition of presumptive marijuana*	68	21%
Access denied**	18	3%
Sites presumptively marijuana**	42	13%
Awaiting OLCC reports - pending testing results	10	3%

* ODA issued enforcement actions to include detainments, warrants, crop destruction, and civil penalties.

** In addition to the above enforcement actions, ODA will have potential license denials if the grower reapplies.

RESOURCES

Email

- hemp@oda.oregon.gov
- hemp-records@oda.oregon.gov

Listserv

- <https://oda.fyi/Subscribe>

Websites

- <https://oda.direct/Hemp>
- <https://oda.direct/Cannabis>
- <https://oda.direct/CannabisPesticides>
- <https://oda.direct/HempSeed>

