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To: Current and Prospective Adult Use Cannabis Program Licensees
From: Director Erik Gundersen, Office of Cannabis Policy
Date: Thursday, September 8, 2022
Subject: Advance Notice of Mandatory Testing for Pesticides

Title 28-B, Subchapter 6 establishes the statutory guidelines for the testing of adult use cannabis and cannabis products in Maine. The Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP) has implemented testing-related administrative rules in 18-691 C.M.R. ch. 1 and 18-691 C.M.R. ch. 5.

In addition, the Maine Legislature contemplated the importance and unique challenges of a cannabis testing program and provided OCP with discretion to assess the capability and capacity of the testing system when implementing mandatory testing.

With that in mind, OCP will be adding an eighth category of analytes for which testing will be mandatory. Beginning on **Thursday, December 12, 2022**, cannabis and cannabis products to be transferred for sale to consumers, as applicable, will be subject to mandatory testing for **pesticides**.

As of **December 12, 2022**, the eight required analyte categories will be:

1. Filth and foreign materials
2. Dangerous molds and mildews
3. Harmful microbes
4. THC potency, homogeneity, and cannabinoid profiles
5. Water activity
6. Other harmful chemicals (metals, including cadmium, lead, arsenic, and mercury)
7. Residual solvents
- 8. Pesticides**

Licensees are also reminded that they may, at any time, submit samples of cannabis or cannabis products for research and development purposes. Testing for research and development purposes may not be used to satisfy mandatory testing requirements but may provide helpful information to licensees regarding their cultivation and manufacturing processes, particularly in advance of the launch of the mandatory testing requirements for pesticides.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.