ADVISORY BULLETIN

UPDATED: November 20, 2021

Additional Information for Retesting Recalled Product (Updated: November 20, 2021)

The intent of this bulletin is to provide additional information to assist licensees with retesting product subject to the 11/17/2021 recall.

Three Options for Retesting Product

- The licensee from which the product originated is permitted to take all of the product back to its physical location, combine the child packages together for re-sampling, and then re-test accordingly.

- The sales location may send the packages out for testing. These locations have been granted the ability to create test samples. On site, the laboratory should still sample 0.5% of the present batch.

- If the licensee from which the product originated still has product on site, the laboratory may go to the source and obtain a sample that is representative of 0.5% of the original harvest batch weight. Once test results are entered, these results will trickle down to all sales locations.

It is critical that all licensees refer to this bulletin issued by METRC to assist licensees with compliant package creation.

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Q: For example, a retailer has ten, one-pound packages and all packages originate from the same source; can we combine the ten packages into one package and have results stand for all ten?

A: Yes, the licensee could combine all of the remaining product into a new package and have a test package pulled from that new source package. However, the licensee is required to verify that the packages all originate from the same harvest or production batch.

Q: How can a laboratory sample if the products are on administrative hold?

A: Laboratories approved to perform microbial testing have been granted temporary permissions to accept packages that are on administrative hold. The holds do not have to be lifted to transfer the product to an approved testing facility.

Q: I am a retailer and want to send my remaining product back to the cultivator or processor; do I need to request the administrative holds be removed?

A: Yes, you will need to email MRA-Compliance@michigan.gov and provide a complete list of all associated tag numbers and license number(s) where the packages are located for the holds to be removed.

Q: Are two retests required?

A: Yes, the administrative rules dictate that a re-test must consist of two consecutive, passing tests.

Q: Are products required to only be tested for Aspergillus?

A: No, products are required to have all microbial testing completed which includes Salmonella, STEC, Aspergillus, Total Coliforms and Total Yeast and Mold.

Q: Regarding products which were not supposed to be part of the recall – such as inhaled concentrates using solvent extraction or infused products & flower which did not receive final compliance testing by Viridis or Viridis North – but are currently on administrative hold … will the holds be removed?

A: Yes, they will. With a recall this size, the fastest way for the MRA to hold products was to hold the source and all derivatives; we will be removing holds from products which are not part of the recall as quickly as possible.

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Q: If a batch at a sales location is re-tested and passes, is that batch clear to be sold in all other retail locations that batch resides?

A: No. The test results will stand for that sales location only

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Q: What are the re-test re-labeling requirements? Can we apply a re-tested sticker?

A: The re-test labeling can be another label/sticker in conjunction with the existing label that just includes the most recent passing test date and the lab that conducted the test.

Q: Can growers/processors opt to send product straight to remediation/extraction if they so choose?

A: Yes, they may send product straight to remediation/extraction, however the final product must be tested in accordance with the administrative rules.

Q: Are solventless extracts such as Rosin included in the recall?

A: Yes.

Q: Do cultivators and processors choosing to remediate product that is on hold due to the 11/17/2021 recall need to retest product prior to remediation?

A: No, since the product is required to be tested post-remediation, cultivators and processors can request remediation approval from the MRA prior to the product being retested.

Q: Viridis Laboratories and Viridis North have performed additional tests on products that have already passed full compliance testing by another laboratory. Will the holds on these products be lifted?

A: Yes, if a product has passed full compliance testing by a laboratory other than Viridis Laboratories or Viridis North and the re-testing by Viridis Laboratories or Viridis North did not include microbials, the product holds will be lifted.