

Guidelines for Hemp Sample Submissions to UK Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratories (created 8-20-18)

1. State law prohibits non-licensed individuals from handling hemp samples. Thus, county Extension agents are not permitted to transport hemp from fields or to offices or diagnostic labs. Agents, however, are encouraged to assist growers at the field level or as walk-in samples. Growers are responsible for transport at all levels.
 - a. Refer to Kentucky Dept of Agriculture's webpage for policy and regulatory information <http://www.kyagr.com/marketing/hemp-pilot.html> and for specific transfer requirements http://www.kyagr.com/marketing/documents/HEMP_RSTTR_Transfer-Requirements.pdf
 - b. Notice from Dr. Palmer (dated 08-06-2018): "Pursuant to federal and state law, only properly licensed individuals may possess and transport industrial hemp or derivatives thereof. As such, University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University Cooperative Extension Agents are advised not to transport or remove any industrial hemp materials from license holder's farms or processing facilities. Licensed hemp growers may transport samples to your office for inspection and diagnosis, but the hemp license holder, should maintain custody of the hemp materials and not leave them at your office. If farmers or processors, wish to send samples of hemp grain, stalks, leaves, female flower buds etc. to the diagnostic laboratory or to Regulatory Services, inform them of addresses and proper way to submit samples but that you are prohibited from taking possessions of the samples for any reason."
2. Hemp samples may be submitted by the license holder to the UK Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab (PDDL) either in person or via carrier.
3. Out-of-state samples are not permitted.
4. Transport to PDDL should be one of the following:
 - a. Hand-carried samples should be delivered by the license holder (not by a UK employee). A fully completed *Plant Disease Identification Form* should accompany each sample. See #5 below.
 - b. Samples may be shipped within the state of Kentucky via carrier (e.g. USPS, UPS) with the following restrictions:
 - i. The words "Research Sample" should be printed on the outside of the package,
 - ii. A copy of the grower's KDA Hemp license should be included inside the package,
 - iii. The license holder (not the county office) should be used as the return address,
 - iv. The license holder (not the county office) should mail/ship the sample,
 - v. A fully completed *Plant Disease Identification Form* should accompany each sample. See #5 below.
5. Submissions should follow PDDL criteria, as with other samples. The *Plant Disease Identification Form* should be used for hemp samples. Agents are encouraged to assist growers with completion of forms and to ensure that all information is included with each submission.
 - a. *Plant Disease Identification Form* can be found on the PDDL page. Login required (scroll to bottom of page for link). <http://plantpathology.ca.uky.edu/extension/diagnostic-laboratories>
 - b. Sample Submission Guidelines <http://plantpathology.ca.uky.edu/files/ppfs-gen-09.pdf>
6. Contact Nicole Gauthier nicole.ward@uky.edu for assistance or for further information.