

This document is intended to provide an overview of the pre-harvest sampling and testing process in the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) Hemp Program. If you have questions related to hemp sampling and testing that are not addressed in this document, please don't hesitate to give us a call at 402-471-2351.

Timeline

- 30 days prior to planned harvest:
 - Cultivator submits [Harvest Notification Report](#) to NDA that includes site information, contact information, and lot numbers for each lot of hemp to be harvested.
 - The Harvest Notification Report is forwarded to an inspector to setup the sampling inspection.
 - The inspector will try to schedule the inspection approximately 15 days or less prior to the planned harvest date listed on the report.
 - Once the inspection date is set, the cultivator will be billed for the inspection via the e-mail address provided on their application. See [2021 Fee Structure](#) for details.
- 15 days or less prior to planned harvest:
 - Inspector will arrive on site and notify the designated representative.
 - The chain of custody paperwork is signed and a copy is given to the designated representative.
 - Inspector will begin collecting cuttings to create a composite sample
 - Cuttings are collected at random within the lot.
 - Cuttings are collected from the top 5-8 inches of the primary stem or co-dominant stem.
 - A minimum of 5 cuttings per sample will be taken, except for lots with less than 5 plants.
 - After sampling, all samples are shipped overnight or delivered to Kennebec Analytical Services for testing.
 - The lab will forward the results to NDA.
 - NDA will forward the results to the licensee once all inspection fees are paid.

Pass/Fail

Pass

- If the certificate of analysis indicates the lot is compliant, that lot must be harvested within 15 days of the sample date.

Fail

- If the certificate of analysis indicates the lot is noncompliant, the licensee must dispose of the noncompliant lot using one of the [USDA-approved disposal methods](#) in the presence of NDA and/or law enforcement.