

### Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results

#### Test Materials - Chemistry

##### Receipt and Storage

- On receipt of the test material, record the date and store as appropriate

Long term storage temperature	Sample(s)
Room temperature (20±5°C)	-
Refrigerated (2 to 8°C)	-
Frozen (<-20°C)	1 (1A, 1B, 1C), 2, 3, 4, 5

- The test material(s) should be analysed in accordance with the deadlines shown on the website:  
<https://portal.lgcstandards.com>

##### Sample Details

- The chemistry test materials provided represent commercially available oil and simulated cannabis samples, which may or may not contain all the target analytes at quantifiable levels.
- Samples should be analysed by the routine method(s) used by your laboratory.
- Participants may submit results for some or all of the parameters requested.
- All test materials are supplied in a ready-to-use format.
- Test materials may have settled during transit. Please ensure test materials are thoroughly mixed prior to any sub-sampling or any analysis is performed.
- If the sample is diluted as part of the analytical process, such dilutions should be corrected for.

##### Reporting Results

Full details regarding reporting units and sample format are available in the current CANNABIS Scheme Description.

- Unless otherwise specified all results should be reported on the test materials as it has been provided

Sample(s)	Analyte	Additional information
1A	All phytocannabinoids	<p>Where your method allows, you are advised to report the calculated total content of phytocannabinoids (total Δ9-THC, total CBD, total CBN, total CBC, total CBG, total CBL, total CBDV).</p> <p>You may individually report the content of the acidic forms (CBDA, CBDVA) if you wish.</p> <p>You are also reminded that you can add any comments about your reported values, in the comments section of LGC AXIO Portal.</p>

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1B- Blank	Phytocannabinoids-Blank	<p>For the sake of clarity and harmonization of the data in the report, the second bottle you received with Sample 1A is the refined, unspiked hemp seed oil, that was used as a base material for the production of the sample. It is only provided to help you with your internal analysis in case this is part of your routine procedures.</p> <p>Reporting a value for the blank or subtracting the blank value from the spiked sample, is not required for this exercise. In any case, please use the comments section on LGC Portal to explain your result.</p>
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## Test Materials-Microbiology

### Receipt and Storage

- On receipt of the test material, store refrigerated at 2-8°C until ready to test.
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#### Test material details

- The test material is provided as a simulated cannabis sample, consisting of a sterile matrix and a lyophilised vial, which may or may not contain the target organism(s) at a range of inoculum levels.
- The matrix is pre-weighed to 10g or 25g dependent upon sample type.
- Occasionally test materials contain high numbers of the target organisms, therefore it may be necessary to perform dilutions.
- Further guidance is available in the Cannabis Scheme Description.

#### Test material analysis

- Test the entire sample; do not sub-divide prior to dilution.
  - For **presence/absence** tests prepare 225ml of your chosen enrichment broth.
  - From this volume take 10ml and add it to the vial.
  - Replace the vial stopper and shake to dissolve, then leave the test material to resuscitate at room temperature for a minimum of 60 minutes, but no longer than 90 minutes.
  - Reconstitute the matrix with the remaining amount of diluent prepared in step 1.
  - After the resuscitation period add the vial contents prepared in step 3 to the matrix preparation from step 4 back-washing two or three times to ensure all the freeze-dried test material is recovered from the vial.
  - Test for the target organism(s) using your routine laboratory methods.
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- For **enumeration** tests, prepare 90ml of suitable microbiological diluent.
  - From this volume take 10ml and add it to the vial.
  - Replace the vial stopper and shake gently to dissolve. Leave the test material to resuscitate at room temperature for a minimum of 60 minutes, but no longer than 90 minutes.
  - Reconstitute the matrix with the remaining amount of diluent prepared in step 1.
  - After the resuscitation period add the vial contents prepared in step 3 to the matrix preparation from step 4, back-washing two or three times to ensure all the freeze-dried test material is recovered from the vial.
  - The resuscitated sample should be treated as the initial 1:10 dilution for final calculation of results.
  - Immediately before testing, mix the resuscitated sample thoroughly and then test for the target organism(s) using your routine laboratory methods.

#### General Information

- All Cannabis test materials should be treated like routine laboratory samples and all normal quality control procedures should be adopted.

#### Recording Results

- All results should be submitted using PORTAL.
- Please go to <https://portal.lgcstandards.com>
- Login using your Lab ID, username and password.
- A PORTAL user guide can be downloaded from the help section.

#### Precautions

- Microbiological test materials contain viable microorganisms and must therefore be handled and disposed of in accordance with local and national regulations

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- All test materials are supplied on the understanding that the purchaser has suitably competent and qualified personnel to handle them safely.
- Test materials must only be opened in a laboratory by qualified personnel.
- Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for information on the safe handling and disposal of the test materials.

If you need any help at all please do not hesitate to contact our support team using the details below or your local LGC representative.

Tel: +44(0)161 762 2500

Email: [axiopt@lgcgroup.com](mailto:axiopt@lgcgroup.com)