CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Office of the Secretary
(Amended at ARRS Committee)

915 KAR 1:030. Cultivator.

RELATES TO: KRS Chapter 218B
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 218B.140
NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 218B.140 requires the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to promulgate administrative regulations establishing requirements and procedures for medicinal cannabis cultivator operations in the Commonwealth. This administrative regulation establishes those requirements and procedures.

Section 1. General Requirements.

(1) A person or entity shall not engage in the business of planting, growing, cultivating, raising, harvesting, trimming, storing, testing, packaging, labeling, transferring, transporting, selling, or offering to sell medicinal cannabis seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones not taller than eight (8) inches, medicinal cannabis plants, medicinal cannabis, or medicinal cannabis products to a cannabis business without first being issued a license by the cabinet. A cultivator shall not sell or transfer, or allow the sale or transfer, of medicinal cannabis seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones not taller than eight (8) inches, medicinal cannabis plants, medicinal cannabis, or medicinal cannabis products to any person or entity in the Commonwealth who does not hold a cannabis business license issued by the cabinet.

(2) A cultivator shall:

(a) Conduct cultivation activities in an enclosed, locked facility in accordance with KRS 218B.095(5);

(b) Conduct a criminal background check into the criminal history of each person seeking to become a principal officer, board member, agent, volunteer, or employee before that person begins work and shall retain records of these background checks for five (5) years and provide same to the cabinet during subsequent inspections or upon request; and

(c) Comply with all applicable requirements of KRS Chapter 218B, specifically KRS 218B.095 and 218B.105, and 915 KAR Chapter 1.

(3) A cultivator shall not:

(a) Employ, take on as a volunteer, or have as a board member, principal officer, or agent any person who was convicted of a disqualifying felony offense or is younger than twenty-one (21) years of age; or

(b) Sell or transfer, or allow the sale or transfer, of medicinal cannabis seeds, seedlings, medicinal cannabis plants, medicinal cannabis, or medicinal cannabis products to any person or entity in the Commonwealth who does not hold a cannabis business license issued by the cabinet.

(4) The qualifications that a cultivator shall meet to receive a license are continuing qualifications to maintain the license throughout the licensure period.

Section 2. Plans of Operation.

(1) Prior to its first day of cultivation activities in the Commonwealth, a cultivator shall establish standard operating procedures for:

(a) Employment policies and procedures;

(b) Security, including:

1. Staff identification measures, including use of employee identification badges;
2. Monitoring of attendance of staff and visitors;

3. Alarm systems;
4. Video surveillance;
5. Monitoring and tracking inventory, including use of the Commonwealth's electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system established pursuant to KRS 218B.140;
6. Personnel security;
7. Transportation of medicinal cannabis and how to properly secure medicinal cannabis in the event of a traffic collision or transport vehicle malfunction;
8. Cash management and anti-fraud procedures;
9. Measures to prevent loitering, which shall include signage; and
10. Storage of seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones not taller than eight (8) inches, medicinal cannabis plants, medicinal cannabis, or medicinal cannabis products;

(c) The process for receiving, growing, cultivating, harvesting, handling, packaging, labeling, storing, transporting, and disposing of seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones not taller than eight (8) inches, medicinal cannabis plants, medicinal cannabis, or medicinal cannabis products and a process for handling, tracking, transporting, storing, and disposing of medicinal cannabis waste;
(d) Workplace safety, including conducting safety checks;
(e) Contamination;
(f) Maintenance, cleaning, and sanitation of equipment used to grow and cultivate medicinal cannabis;
(g) Maintenance and sanitation of the cultivator's facility;
(h) Application of pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides to medicinal cannabis at any point during the growing, cultivating, and harvesting processes;
(i) Proper handling and storage of any chemical or substance used in growing medicinal cannabis;
(j) Logging the use of all pesticides and chemical applications applied to medicinal cannabis and medicinal cannabis products;
(k) Quality control, including strict regulation of the amount of delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol content in each medicinal cannabis harvest batch, proper labeling, and minimization of medicinal cannabis contamination;
(l) Recordkeeping and inventory control;
(m) Investigation of complaints and potential adverse events received from other cannabis businesses, cardholders, or medicinal cannabis practitioners regarding the cultivator's operations;
(n) Preventing unlawful diversion of medicinal cannabis;
(o) A recall plan; and
(p) Any other standard operating procedures required for all cannabis businesses in KRS Chapter 218B and 915 KAR Chapter 1.

(2) A cultivator shall make its standard operation procedures available to the cabinet upon request and during any inspection of the cultivator's site and facility.

Section 3. Cultivator Facilities.

(1) A cultivator shall only plant, grow, cultivate, and harvest medicinal cannabis in an enclosed, locked facility on the specific site licensed by the cabinet and identified on its license issued by the cabinet. A cultivator shall not grow medicinal cannabis directly in the ground.
(2) All cultivation activities, excluding disposal, destruction, or transport of medicinal cannabis, shall take place within a building or secure structure that:
(a) Has a foundation, slab, or equivalent base with a complete roof enclosure supported by connecting walls, constructed of solid materials extending from the ground to the

roof;
(b) Is secure against unauthorized entry;
(c) Has commercial grade door locks on all external doors that are locked at all times;
(d) Restricts access to only authorized personnel to limited access areas identified with signage and daily records of entry and exit;
(e) Contains adequate plumbing to carry sufficient quantities of water to locations throughout the facility and convey any sewage and waste from the facility without cross contamination of potable water and waste;
(f) Stores toxic cleaning compounds, sanitizing agents, pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides in a manner that is in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations;
(g) Maintains proper ventilation;
(h) Maintains pest control;
(i) Maintains adequate indoor and exterior lighting to facilitate video surveillance at all times;
(j) Maintains adequate on-site parking for employees, agents, visitors, transporters of medicinal cannabis, or cabinet staff; and
(k) Meets all applicable state and local building codes and specifications.

(3) A cultivator shall clearly mark all limited access areas on its premises with proper signage. All areas of ingress and egress to a limited access area shall be clearly identified by the posting of a sign which shall be not less than twelve (12) inches wide and twelve (12) inches long, composed of letters not less than one-half (1/2) inch in height, which shall state: "Do Not Enter. Limited Access Area. Access Limited to Authorized Personnel and Escorted Visitors."

(4) A cultivator shall have a secure area for the loading and unloading of medicinal cannabis seeds, seedlings, medicinal cannabis plants, and medicinal cannabis into and from a transport vehicle.

(5) If a cultivator intends to conduct medicinal cannabis cultivation and hemp cultivation at the same licensed location, the cultivator shall, prior to its first day of medicinal cannabis cultivation activities, provide the cabinet with:
(a) Proof that the cultivator is permitted to operate a hemp business by the appropriate permitting authority and is in good standing;
(b) A written plan for keeping strictly separated all medicinal cannabis cultivation activities from hemp cultivation activities; and
(c) A site map or blueprint showing which portions of the facility are designated for medicinal cannabis cultivation activities and which portions are designated for hemp cultivation activities.

(6) Pursuant to KRS 218B.100(1), a cannabis business that co-locates with a hemp business shall be subject to reasonable inspection by the cabinet and the cabinet may inspect the entire facility as part of an inspection.

Section 4. Inventory.

(1) A cultivator shall, within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt, record in the Commonwealth's designated electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system each medicinal cannabis seed, seedling, tissue culture, clone, or plant that it acquires.

(2) A cultivator shall only grow medicinal cannabis plants from seeds, tissue cultures, clones not taller than eight (8) inches, and seedlings located physically in its facility.

(3) Canopy. A cultivator shall not exceed the indoor growth area specified in KRS 218B.105(3) for its respective cultivator tier. The surface area of the plant canopy shall be calculated in square feet. Measurement shall include all of the area within the boundaries where the cultivation of medicinal cannabis plants occurs. If a tiered or shelving system

is used in the cultivation area, the surface of each tier or shelf shall be included in the calculation. Calculation of the area of the plant canopy shall not include square footage within a cultivator's enclosed, locked facility used for the storage of seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, or clones not taller than eight (8) inches, supplies, pesticides, fertilizers, or other products as well as square footage used for quarantine, office space, or other non-cultivation activities.

Section 5. Employees Records and Identification.

(1) A cultivator shall keep an individual employment record for all employees, including:
  (a) Full legal name;
  (b) Detailed job description;
  (c) Documentation of completed criminal background check;
  (d) Record of all training received or acquired by the employee;
  (e) Dates of employment;
  (f) Records of days and hours worked; and
  (g) Any disciplinary actions taken by the cultivator.

(2) Employment records shall be maintained, either electronically or in hard copy, for at least five (5) years after the employee's last date of employment with the cultivator.

(3) A cultivator shall create an identification badge for each employee, agent, or volunteer. The badge shall be conspicuously worn by employees, agents, or volunteers at all times that they are on the licensed premises or during transport of medicinal cannabis. The badge shall contain:
  (a) The individual's name, photo, employee identification number, and the license number of the cultivator;
  (b) A phone number and email address for the cultivator; and
  (c) A phone number and email address for the Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program.

Section 6. Visitors to Cultivator Facilities.

(1) A cultivator site and facility shall not be open to the general public.

(2) When admitting a visitor to its site and facility, a cultivator shall :
  (a) Require the visitor to sign a visitor log upon entering and leaving the facility;
  (b) Check the visitor's government-issued identification to verify the visitor's age and that the name on the identification provided matches the name in the visitor log;
  (c) Issue a visitor identification badge with the visitor's name and company, if applicable, and a badge number;
  (d) Escort the visitor while the visitor remains on the site or in the facility; and
  (e) Ensure that the visitor does not touch any medicinal cannabis plant or medicinal cannabis located in a limited access area.

(3) A person under the age of eighteen (18) shall not be permitted to enter a cultivator's site or facility. A person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age may enter and remain on the cultivator's premises if that person is present to perform contract work, including electrical, plumbing, or security maintenance, which does not involve handling medicinal cannabis, or is a government employee and is at the cannabis business in the course of his or her official duties.

(4) A cultivator shall post a sign in a conspicuous location at each entrance of its site and facility that states "THESE PREMISES ARE UNDER CONSTANT VIDEO SURVEILLANCE. NO ONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18 IS PERMITTED TO ENTER." The letters on the signs shall be at minimum one-half (1/2) inch in height.

(5) The cultivator shall maintain the visitor log required under this section for five (5) years and make the visitor log available to the cabinet, law enforcement, and other federal or state government officials upon request to perform the government officials' functions and duties. The visitor log shall include the date, the full name of each visitor, the visitor

identification badge number, the time of arrival, the time of departure, and the purpose of the visit.

(6) This section shall not limit the right of the cabinet or its authorized agents, or other federal, state, or local government officials from entering any area of a cultivator's site and facility if necessary to perform the governmental officials' functions and duties.

(7) A principal officer, board member, agent, financial backer, employee, or volunteer of a cultivator shall not receive any type of consideration or compensation for allowing a visitor to enter a limited access area.

Section 7. Security and Surveillance.

(1) A cultivator shall have security and surveillance systems, utilizing commercial-grade equipment, to prevent unauthorized entry and to prevent and detect an adverse loss. The security and surveillance systems shall include:

(a) A professionally monitored security alarm system that includes:

1. Coverage of all facility entrances and exits; rooms with exterior windows, exterior walls, roof hatches, or skylights; storage rooms, including those that contain medicinal cannabis and safes; and the perimeter of the facility;

2. An audible security alarm system signal, known as a panic alarm, generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a life-threatening or emergency situation requiring law enforcement response;

3. A silent alarm signal, known as a holdup alarm, generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a robbery in progress;

4. A failure notification system that provides an audible, text, or visual notification of any failure in the systems. The failure notification system shall provide by telephone, e-mail, or text message an alert to a designated security person within the facility within five (5) minutes after the failure;

5. Smoke and fire alarms;

6. Auxiliary power sufficient to maintain operation for at least twenty-four (24) hours following a power outage;

7. The ability to ensure all access doors are not solely controlled by an electronic access panel to prevent locks from becoming released during a power outage; and

8. Motion detectors for exterior lighting; and

(b) A professionally monitored security surveillance system that is operational twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, and records all activity in images capable of clearly revealing facial detail. The security and surveillance system shall include:

1. Fixed camera placement that allows for a clear image of all individuals and activities in and around:

a. All limited access areas;

b. A room or area containing a security alarm and surveillance system storage device or equipment;

c. Entrances to and exits from the facility. Entrances and exits shall be recorded from both indoor and outdoor vantage points;

d. Rooms with exterior windows, exterior walls, roof hatches, or skylights and storage rooms, including those that may contain medicinal cannabis and safes and excluding restrooms; and

e. Twenty (20) feet from the exterior of the perimeter of the facility;

2. Auxiliary power sufficient to maintain operation for at least twenty-four (24) hours following a power outage;

3. The ability to operate under the normal lighting conditions of each area under surveillance;

4. The ability to immediately produce a clear, color, still photograph in a digital format that is easily accessible;

5. The ability to clearly and accurately display the date and time. The date and time shall be synchronized and set correctly and shall not significantly obscure the picture;

6. The ability to record all images captured by each surveillance camera in a format that shall be easily accessed for a minimum of sixty (60) days, unless otherwise required for investigative or litigation purposes. The recordings shall be kept:

a. At the cultivator's facility:

(i) In a locked cabinet, closet, or other secure place to protect it from tampering or theft; and

(ii) In a limited access area or other room to which access is limited to authorized individuals; or

b. At a secure location other than the location of the cultivator's facility if approved by the cabinet; and

7. The ability to easily export video recordings and still photographs requested by the cabinet, law enforcement, and other federal or state government officials and provide same in a standard file format that is easily accessible.

(2) Regarding inspection, servicing, alteration of, and any upgrade to, the security alarm and surveillance systems:

(a) The systems shall be inspected and all devices tested once every year by a qualified alarm system vendor and a qualified surveillance system vendor;

(b) A cultivator shall conduct maintenance inspections once every month to ensure that any repairs, alterations, or upgrades to the security alarm and surveillance systems are made for the proper operation of the systems. No more than thirty (30) calendar days shall lapse between the inspections required under this paragraph;

(c) A cultivator shall retain at the facility, for at least five (5) years, records of all inspections, servicing, alterations, and upgrades performed on the security alarm and surveillance systems and shall make the records available to the cabinet and its authorized agents within two (2) business days following a request; and

(d) If there is a mechanical malfunction of the security alarm or surveillance system that a cultivator anticipates shall exceed an eight (8) hour period, the cultivator shall notify the cabinet immediately by electronic mail to kymedcanreporting@ky.gov and, with cabinet approval, provide alternative security measures that may include closure of the facility.

(3) Regarding records retention, a cultivator shall:

(a) Have a secure electronic back-up system for all electronic records;

(b) Within three (3) business days following a request for records under this paragraph, provide up to four (4) screen captures of an unaltered copy of a video surveillance recording to the cabinet or its authorized agents, law enforcement, or other federal, state, or local government officials if necessary to perform the governmental officials' functions and duties; and

(c) If it has been notified in writing by the cabinet or its authorized agents, law enforcement, or other federal, state, or local government officials of a pending criminal or administrative investigation for which a recording may contain relevant information, retain an unaltered copy of the recording for two (2) years or until the investigation or proceeding is closed or the entity conducting the investigation or proceeding notifies the cultivator that it is not necessary to retain the recording, whichever is later.

(4) During all non-working hours, all entrances to and exits from the cultivator's facility shall be securely locked.

(5) A cultivator shall install lighting to ensure proper surveillance inside and outside of the facility.

(6) A cultivator shall limit access to a room containing the equipment operating the security alarm and surveillance monitoring systems to:

(a) Persons who are essential to maintaining security and surveillance operations;
(b) Federal, state, and local law enforcement;
(c) Security alarm and surveillance system service employees;
(d) The cabinet or its authorized agents; and
(e) Other persons with the prior written approval of the cabinet.

(7) A cultivator shall make available to the cabinet or its authorized agents, upon request, a current list of authorized employees and service employees or contractors who have access to areas containing the equipment operating the security alarm and surveillance monitoring systems and place a copy of this list on or next to the doors that access those areas.

(8) A cultivator shall keep rooms housing the equipment operating the security alarm and surveillance monitoring systems locked at all times and shall not use these rooms for any other purpose or function.

Section 8. Requirements for Cultivating and Growing Medicinal Cannabis.

(1) A cultivator who uses a pesticide on medicinal cannabis shall be certified to apply pesticides by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture pursuant to KRS Chapter 217B.

(2) A cultivator who is certified to apply pesticides by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture shall not use, or be eligible to use, a Category 10 license to apply pesticides to medicinal cannabis in violation of the product label.

(3) A cultivator shall not use any pesticide in violation of the product label.

(4) A cultivator who uses a pesticide on growth medium used for multiple medicinal cannabis cultivation cycles shall comply with the longest of any planting restriction interval on the product label prior to reusing the growth medium.

(5) The cabinet may perform pesticide testing on a random basis or if its authorized agents have reason to believe that a pesticide may have been applied to medicinal cannabis in violation of the product label.

(6) Medicinal cannabis seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, plants, and materials bearing pesticide residue in violation of the label or testing standards established by the cabinet shall be subject to forfeiture or destruction without compensation.

(7) The cabinet shall publish a list of approved pesticides and any other chemical applications for use in growing and cultivating medicinal cannabis on the Web site for the Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program, https://kymedcan.ky.gov. This list shall be reviewed and updated annually by the cabinet.

(8) A cultivator shall maintain a log of the use of all pesticides and any other chemical applications applied to medicinal cannabis and medicinal cannabis products for a minimum of five (5) years, including:
(a) The date of application;
(b) The name of the individual making the application;
(c) The product that was applied;
(d) The section, including the square footage, that received the application;
(e) The amount of product that was applied; and
(f) A copy of the label of the product that was applied.

(9) A cultivator shall:
(a) Use appropriate nutrient practices;
(b) Use a fertilizer or hydroponic solution of a type, formulation, and at a rate to support healthy growth of plants; and
(c) Maintain a log of the type and amounts of fertilizer and any growth additives used.

(10) A cultivator shall perform visual inspections of growing medicinal cannabis plants and harvested medicinal cannabis plant material to ensure there are no visible insects, mold, mildew, pests, rot, grey or black plant material, or inorganic material, including plastic, glass, and metal shavings.

(11) A cultivator shall have a separate and secure area for temporary storage of medicinal cannabis that is awaiting disposal by the cultivator.

(12) A cultivator shall establish procedures to monitor, record, and regulate:

(a) Temperature;

(b) Humidity;

(c) Ventilation;

(d) Lighting; and

(e) Water supply.

Section 9. Electronic Monitoring System and Seed to Sale Tracking System.

(1) A cultivator shall use the electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system prescribed by the cabinet containing the requirements in KRS Chapter 218B, specifically KRS 218B.140, and in accordance with written instructions provided by the cabinet. A cultivator shall ensure its inventory recorded in the electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system is accurate in real-time.

(2) A cultivator shall establish inventory controls and procedures to conduct inventory reviews at its facility, including that a cultivator shall:

(a) Prepare monthly physical inventory reports that include any necessary adjustments and the reason(s) for an adjustment and that demonstrates the physical inventory reconciles with the inventory recorded in the Commonwealth's designated electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system, including any medicinal cannabis that has been or is in the process of being destroyed. No more than thirty (30) calendar days shall lapse between the preparation of a report required under this paragraph; and

(b) Create and maintain a written or electronic record of each inventory conducted under this section that includes the date of the inventory, a summary of the inventory findings, and the employee identification numbers and titles or positions of the individuals who conducted the inventory.

Section 10. Equipment, operation, and maintenance.

(1) A cultivator shall have a written process to maintain the sanitation and operation of equipment that comes into contact with medicinal cannabis to prevent contamination. The cultivator shall provide a copy of the written process to the cabinet upon request.

(2) As part of the written process required under this section, a cultivator shall:

(a) Routinely calibrate, check, and inspect automatic, mechanical, or electronic equipment as well as any scales, balances, or other measurement devices used in the cultivator's operations to ensure accuracy; and

(b) Maintain an accurate log recording the:

1. Maintenance of equipment;
2. Cleaning of equipment; and
3. Calibration of equipment.

Section 11. Sanitation and Safety in a Cultivator Facility.

(1) A cultivator shall maintain its site and facility in a sanitary condition to limit the potential for contamination of the medicinal cannabis grown in the facility, including that:

(a) Equipment and surfaces, including floors, counters, walls, and ceilings, shall be cleaned and sanitized as frequently as necessary to protect against contamination using a sanitizing agent registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in accordance with the instructions printed on the label. All equipment and utensils used by a cultivator shall be capable of being adequately cleaned;

(b) Trash shall be properly and routinely removed to prevent pest infestation;

(c) Floors, walls, and ceilings shall be kept in good repair;

(d) Equipment, counters, and surfaces used for packaging and labeling of medicinal cannabis shall be food grade quality;

(e) Adequate protection against pests shall be provided through the use of integrated pest management practices and techniques that identify and manage plant pathogens and pest problems; and

(f) Toxic cleaning compounds, sanitizing agents, pesticides, herbicides, and other chemicals shall be labeled and stored in a manner that prevents contamination of seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, and medicinal cannabis.

(2) All employees and volunteers shall conform to sanitary practices while on duty, which includes:

(a) Maintaining adequate personal cleanliness;

(b) Washing hands thoroughly in an adequate hand-washing area before starting work and at any other time when hands may have become soiled or contaminated;

(c) Wearing proper clothing, including gloves, hair nets, headbands, caps, beard covers, or other effective hair restraints where appropriate;

(d) Removing all unsecured jewelry and other objects that might fall into medicinal cannabis, equipment, or containers, and removing hand jewelry that cannot be adequately sanitized during periods in which medicinal cannabis is manipulated by hand. If hand jewelry cannot be removed, it shall be covered by material that can be maintained in an intact, clean, and sanitary condition and which effectively protects the medicinal cannabis from contamination by these objects;

(e) Storing clothing or other personal belongings in areas other than where medicinal cannabis is exposed or where equipment is cleaned;

(f) Eating food, chewing gum, drinking beverages, or using vaping or tobacco products be confined to areas other than where medicinal cannabis may be exposed or where equipment is cleaned; and

(g) Taking any other necessary precautions to protect against contamination of medicinal cannabis with microorganisms or foreign substances including perspiration, hair, cosmetics, tobacco, chemicals, and medicines applied to the skin.

(3) A cultivator shall:

(a) Provide its employees, volunteers, and visitors with adequate and convenient hand-washing facilities furnished with running water at a temperature suitable for sanitizing hands. Effective nontoxic sanitizing cleansers and sanitary towel service or suitable drying devices shall also be provided;

(b) Provide its employees, volunteers, and visitors with adequate, readily accessible restrooms that are maintained in a sanitary condition and in good repair;

(c) Ensure that its facility is provided with a water supply sufficient for its operations, which shall be derived from a source that is a public water system, or a nonpublic system that is capable of providing a safe, potable, and adequate supply of water to meet the operational needs of the facility; and

(d) Comply with all other applicable federal, state, and local building code requirements and occupational safety and health requirements.

Section 12. Storage Requirements.

(1) A cultivator shall have separate locked limited access areas for storage of seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, and medicinal cannabis that are expired, damaged, deteriorated, mislabeled, contaminated, recalled, or whose containers or packaging have been opened or breached until the seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, and medicinal cannabis are destroyed or otherwise disposed of as required under Section 15 of this administrative regulation.

(2) A cultivator shall maintain all storage areas in a clean and orderly condition and free from infestation by insects, rodents, birds, and pests.

Section 13. Management and Disposal of Medicinal Cannabis Waste.

(1) A cultivator shall dispose of undesired, excess, unauthorized, obsolete, adulterated, misbranded, or deteriorated medicinal cannabis in a manner as to render the medicinal cannabis unusable. A cultivator shall record medicinal cannabis waste as required in the Commonwealth's designated electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system.

(2) Medicinal cannabis that is rendered unusable shall be discarded into a dumpster with commercial grade locks or other approved, locked container for removal from the facility by a waste removal company selected by the cultivator, except that ashes resulting from the controlled incineration of medicinal cannabis may be placed in an unlocked dumpster or composted in a secured area at the cultivation site for future use at the facility. Medicinal cannabis shall be rendered unusable by:

(a) Controlled incineration; or

(b) Grinding and incorporating the medicinal cannabis with one (1) or more of the non-consumable, solid wastes listed below so that the resulting mixture is majority non-cannabis waste:

1. Paper waste;
2. Cardboard waste;
3. Food waste;
4. Yard or garden waste;
5. Grease or other compostable oil waste; or
6. Soil or other used growth media.

(3) The disposal of medicinal cannabis shall be performed under video surveillance from the time the destruction begins to when it is placed in a locked dumpster or other approved, locked container and removed from the cultivator's site and facility.

(4) A minimum of two (2) employees shall oversee the disposal of medicinal cannabis and the cultivator shall maintain and make available a separate record of every disposal indicating:

(a) The date and time of disposal;

(b) The manner of disposal;

(c) Any unique identification codes associated with the medicinal cannabis scheduled for destruction;

(d) The reasoning for and description of the disposal;

(e) The names, employee identification numbers, and signatures of the employees overseeing the disposal of the medicinal cannabis; and

(f) If the disposal contains medicinal cannabis that was prepared for sale to a dispensary or processor, the harvest batch number, strain, volume, weight, and number of units if applicable of the medicinal cannabis being disposed of.

(5) The disposal of other waste from the cultivator that does not include medicinal cannabis, including hazardous waste and liquid waste, shall be performed in a manner consistent with applicable federal, state, and local requirements.

Section 14. Requirements for Cultivators to Deliver Raw Plant Material to Dispensaries for Sale.

(1) A cultivator that delivers medicinal cannabis to licensed dispensaries for sale to cardholders shall comply with the requirements of KRS Chapter 218B and 915 KAR Chapter 1, including 915 KAR 1:080, 915 KAR 1:100, and 915 KAR 1:110.

(2) A cultivator that delivers medicinal cannabis to a licensed dispensary for sale to cardholders shall not:

(a) Deliver, transfer, or sell raw plant material to a dispensary for more than fair market value;

(b) Supply a dispensary with more than the amount of raw plant material reasonably required by a dispensary to maintain an inventory sufficient for normal retail operations; and

(c) Deliver, transfer, or sell raw plant material to a dispensary with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol content of more than thirty-five (35) percent.

(3) Any raw plant material to be sold as a medicinal cannabis product by a cultivator to a dispensary shall:

(a) Be free of seeds and extraneous stems;

(b) Be free of dirt, sand, debris, or other foreign matter; and

(c) Not contain a level of pesticides, herbicides, poisons, toxins, mold, mildew, insects, bacteria, or any other chemical substance higher than the levels established in the standards for testing within 915 KAR 1:110.

(4) A cultivator shall prepare raw plant material for sale to dispensaries in a safe and sanitary manner, including that:

(a) Raw plant material shall be handled on food grade stainless steel benches or tables;

(b) Proper sanitation shall be maintained;

(c) Proper rodent, bird, and pest exclusion practices shall be employed; and

(d) Prior to packaging, the raw plant material shall have passed all required safety compliance facility tests established in 915 KAR 1:110.

(5) In addition to other packaging and labeling requirements established in 915 KAR 1:100, all raw plant material packaged and sold by a cultivator in the Commonwealth shall be marked or labeled as "NOT INTENDED FOR CONSUMPTION BY SMOKING."

(6) Except for transfer of samples to a safety compliance facility for testing, no medicinal cannabis shall be sold or transferred to another cannabis business until all required testing is complete and the representative sample passed inspection. Cultivators shall not sell medicinal cannabis directly to cardholders.

Section 15. Complaints About or Recall of Medicinal Cannabis Products.

(1) A cannabis business shall immediately notify the cabinet by electronic mail to kymedcanreporting@ky.gov, as well as the cultivator from which it obtained any medicinal cannabis in question, upon becoming aware of any defects or quality issues with the medicinal cannabis or any complaint made to the cannabis business by another cannabis business, a cardholder, or medicinal cannabis practitioner who reports an adverse event from using medicinal cannabis purchased by the cannabis business from the cultivator. A cultivator shall investigate the report and shall immediately investigate a complaint to determine if a voluntary or mandatory recall of seeds, seedlings, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis is necessary or if any further action is required.

(a) If a cultivator determines that further action is not required, the cultivator shall notify the cabinet of its decision and, within twenty-four (24) hours, submit a written report to the cabinet stating its rationale for not taking further action. The cabinet shall review the written report and consult with the cultivator as needed. If the cabinet disagrees with the cultivator's decision, the cabinet shall take all necessary steps allowable under KRS Chapter 218B and 915 KAR Chapter 1 to ensure public health and safety, including issuing a cease-and-desist order to pause the sale and distribution of the medicinal cannabis at issue until resolution of the matter.

(b) If a cultivator determines that further action is required, the cultivator shall initiate a voluntary or mandatory recall in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(2) Voluntary recalls. If a cultivator voluntarily initiates a recall, the cultivator shall recall seeds, seedlings, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis from the market at its discretion for reasons that shall not pose a risk to public

health and safety and shall notify the cabinet by electronic mail to kymedcanreporting@ky.gov at the time the cultivator begins the recall.

(3) Mandatory recalls. If a cultivator discovers that a condition relating to the seeds, seedlings, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis grown at its facility poses a risk to public health and safety, the cultivator shall:

(a) Immediately notify the cabinet by phone and electronic mail to kymedcanreporting@ky.gov; and

(b) Secure, isolate, and prevent the distribution of the seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis that may have been affected by the condition and remains in its possession. The cultivator shall not dispose of affected seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis prior to notifying the cabinet and coordinating the disposal with the cabinet.

(4) If a cultivator fails to cooperate with the cabinet in a recall, or fails to immediately notify the cabinet of a need for a recall under this section, the cabinet may seek a cease-and-desist order and the cultivator may be subject to any other penalties or sanctions provided for in KRS Chapter 218B and 915 KAR Chapter 1:020.

(5) A cultivator's recall plan as required under this administrative regulation shall include:

(a) Designation of one (1) or more employees to serve as the recall coordinator(s). A recall coordinator shall be responsible for, among other duties, accepting the recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis;

(b) Procedures for identifying and isolating the affected seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis to prevent or minimize its distribution to cardholders and other cannabis businesses;

(c) Procedures to retrieve and dispose of the affected seeds, seedlings, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis;

(d) A communications plan to notify those affected by the recall, including:

1. The manner in which the cultivator shall notify other cannabis businesses in possession of seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis subject to the recall; and

2. The use of press releases and other appropriate notifications to ensure that cardholders are notified of the recall if affected medicinal cannabis was dispensed to cardholders.

(e) Procedures for notifying the cabinet; and

(f) Procedures for entering information relating to the recall into the Commonwealth's designated electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system.

(6) A cultivator shall follow the procedures outlined in its recall plan unless the cultivator obtains prior written approval of the cabinet or the cabinet notifies the cultivator in writing to perform other procedures. A cultivator shall conduct recall procedures in a manner that maximizes the recall of affected seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, and medicinal cannabis and minimizes risks to public health and safety.

(7) A cultivator shall coordinate the disposal of recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, and medicinal cannabis with the cabinet. The cabinet or its authorized agents may oversee the disposal to ensure that the recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, and medicinal cannabis are disposed of in a manner that shall not pose a risk to public health and safety.

(8) The cultivator shall enter information relevant to the recall into the Commonwealth's designated electronic monitoring system and seed to sale tracking system as part of the inventory, which shall include:

(a) The total amount of recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, and medicinal cannabis, including types and harvest batches, if applicable;

(b) The total amount of recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis returned to the cultivator, including types, forms, and harvest batches, if applicable;

(c) The names of the recall coordinators;

(d) From whom the recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis were received;

(e) The means of transport of the recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medical medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, medicinal cannabis, or medicinal cannabis products;

(f) The reason for the recall;

(g) The number of recalled samples, types, forms, and harvest batches, if applicable, sent to safety compliance facilities, the names and addresses of the safety compliance facilities, the dates of testing, and the results by sample; and

(h) The manner of disposal of the recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, and medicinal cannabis, including:

1. The names of the individuals overseeing the disposal of the recalled seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis;
2. The name of the disposal company, if applicable;
3. The method of disposal;
4. The date of disposal; and
5. The amount disposed of by types, forms, and harvest batches, if applicable.

(9) The cabinet may initiate a mandatory recall upon receipt of information that a condition relating to the seeds, seedlings, tissue cultures, clones, medicinal cannabis plants, postharvest plant material, or medicinal cannabis grown or sold by a cultivator poses a risk to public health and safety.

Section 16. Increase of Canopy Limits.

(1) Pursuant to KRS 218B.140(3), if a need for additional medicinal cannabis cultivation in the Commonwealth is demonstrated by cannabis businesses or the cabinet's own analysis, the cabinet may through the promulgation of administrative regulations increase the canopy size limits for cultivators by up to three (3) times the limits established in KRS 218B.105. Any increase in the canopy size limits adopted by the cabinet shall not result in an increase in licensure application or renewal fees established by the cabinet.

(2) In making its determination whether to increase canopy limits for cultivators, the cabinet may consider factors including the population of the Commonwealth, the number of active cardholders, changes to the list of qualifying medical conditions for medicinal cannabis, market supply and demand, the amount of medicinal cannabis being sold by dispensaries, the amount of allowable canopy space being utilized by cultivators, and workforce development opportunities.

Section 17. Duty to Report.

(1) At the time a cultivator submits a license renewal application to the cabinet, a cultivator shall report to the cabinet by electronic mail to kymedcanreporting@ky.gov:

(a) The average amount of allowable canopy space being utilized by the cultivator during the current licensure period. If a cultivator is not utilizing the full amount of

allowable canopy space during the current licensure period, the cultivator shall provide a written explanation to the cabinet of the reasons for not utilizing all available canopy space;

(b) The total amount of medicinal cannabis grown during the current licensure period, the total amount of medicinal cannabis sold during the current licensure period and the average price per pound, and total amount of medicinal cannabis sold as finished goods to a dispensary as opposed to sold in bulk to other cannabis businesses for processing; and

(c) The number of current employees, respective job titles, and hourly wage.

(2) A cultivator shall participate in market surveys distributed by the cabinet throughout a licensure period and provide full and complete responses.

(50 Ky.R. 1808, 2406; 51 Ky.R. 288; eff. 8-28-2024.)

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