



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Food Safety

HEMP EXTRACT AND HEAVY METALS FAQ



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1. FDACS' Division of Food Safety tests hemp extract products intended for human ingestion for which contaminants?

FDACS' Division of Food Safety tests for numerous pesticides, residual solvents, heavy metals, biological pathogens and select toxins. [Rule 5K-4.034\(5\), Florida Administrative Code](#), provides a full list of contaminants.

2. Why does FDACS' Division of Food Safety test for these contaminants?

Hemp extract products are tested for consumer safety as well as to assist the Florida hemp industry to provide quality goods.

3. What is the allowable limit for lead (Pb) in hemp extract food products?

The regulatory limit for lead is 0.5 ppm, pursuant to [Rule 5K-4.034\(5\)\(c\)2., Florida Administrative Code](#).

4. What are the health risks for ingesting too much lead?

Lead provides no nutritive value for the human body. Its presence in the body can have toxic effects, regardless of age, gender, or exposure pathway. Please visit [FDA Metals and Your Food](#) for more detailed information about metals in food items. Also, please visit [CDC Health Effects of Lead Exposure](#) for additional information.

5. What percentage of products tested by FDACS' Division of Food Safety have revealed lead present above the regulatory limit?

At this time approximately 6-8% of all hemp extract samples tested by FDACS' Division of Food Safety have been found to contain lead at a concentration above the regulatory limit (of 0.5 ppm Pb).

6. What percentage of products tested by FDACS' Division of Food Safety have been found to contain lead but below the regulatory limit?

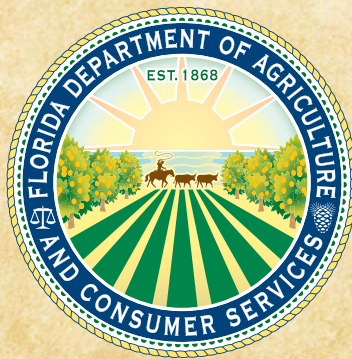
Approximately 15-20% of samples tested contained lead levels below the regulatory limit (of 0.5 ppm Pb).

7. What steps does FDACS' Division of Food Safety take after finding lead in hemp extract food products?

If the lead concentration is found to be above the regulatory limit, FDACS' Division of Food Safety issues a stop-sale against the product, effectively removing it from sale in Florida. Additionally, FDACS' Division of Food Safety contacts the manufacturer, responsible party, and/or approved source for the product to provide a copy of the stop sale, and can investigate the whereabouts of the product at other locations and/or the purchasers of the product. FDACS' Division of Food Safety also may issue an administrative fine of up to \$5,000 per violation.

Updated 6/2/20





Questions about Hemp?

For additional information, visit our website:
[FDACS.gov/Cannabis/Hemp-CBD-in-Florida](https://fdacs.gov/Cannabis/Hemp-CBD-in-Florida)

