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Shelf-life Bulletin for Marijuana Establishments - 5/18/2018

Pursuant to R092-17, Sec. 166, the Marijuana Enforcement Division issues the following guidance regarding shelf-life effective July 1, 2018 per New Regulation Implementation Timeline Bulletin issued 3/21/2018. For additional guidance, contact your local inspector/auditor or write to marijuana@tax.state.nv.gov.

Table with 4 columns: PRODUCT, SHELF-LIFE, PRODUCT, SHELF-LIFE. Rows include items like Chocolate bars, Brownies, Cookies, Macaroons, Cereal treats, Infused honey, Granola and granola bars, Infused syrups, Gummy treats, Caramel, Pretzels, Infused beverages, Infused juices, Hard candies, Infused coffee and tea, Beef jerky, Dried fruit, and Popcorn kernels.

Enforcement Bullet Points

- Producers of edible products may use recommended shelf life provided by the data gathered from federal food safety programs. If producers would like to have a shelf-life longer than the one recommended by federally provided data, they must conduct a shelf-life study through an independent testing laboratory. All non-solvent based extracts of marijuana intended for consumption (infused dairy butter, mixtures of extracted products, oils or fats) must undergo a shelf-life study in addition to the testing already required. Items not found in the federal guidelines must undergo a shelf-life study.
Standard shelf-life studies will be acceptable for infused cooking fats due to their short shelf-life. Accelerated studies will be acceptable for shelf-stable items. The shelf-life studies will examine specifically the growth of microbes over time within the samples.
Maximum shelf-life will be limited to one year due to the THC molecule's known ability to degrade by 10% in a year's time. This recommendation is in line with FDA pharmaceutical standards whereby shelf-life is determined when 10% of the active ingredient is lost to degradation.

References:

1. Fairbairn, J. W., Liebmann, J. A., & Rowan, M. G. (1976). The stability of cannabis and its preparations on storage. Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, 28(1), 1-7. doi:10.1111/j.2042-7158.1976.tb04014.x
2. FoodSafety.gov. (2009, August 21). FoodSafety.gov. Retrieved from https://www.foodsafety.gov/