

**CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD
STATE OF NEVADA**



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

ccb.nv.gov
CARSON CITY OFFICE
3850 Arrowhead Drive, Suite 100
Carson City, Nevada 89706
Main Line: (775) 687-6299

LAS VEGAS OFFICE
700 East Warm Springs Road, Suite 100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

JAMES HUMM
Executive Director

MICHAEL MILES
Deputy Director

ADRIANA GUZMÁN FRALICK
Chair

Shelf-life Bulletin for Cannabis Establishments - 10/31/2024

Pursuant to NCCR 9.040, the Nevada Cannabis Compliance board is issuing the following updated guidance regarding cannabis product shelf-life and shelf-life testing effective November 14, 2024.

For additional guidance, please email CCB Laboratory Testing at LaboratoryTesting@ccb.nv.gov.

INFUSED PRODUCT	SHELF-LIFE^{1,2}	INFUSED PRODUCT	SHELF-LIFE^{1,2}
Chocolate bars	1 year	Caramel	6 months
Brownies	2 months	Pretzels	4 months
Cookies (soft)	2 months	Beverages	1 year
Cookies (crunchy)	4 months	Gummy treats	6 months
Macaroons	2 months	Hard candies	1 year
Cereal treats	6 months	Coffee and tea (ground non-vacuum)	1 year
Granola and granola bars	6 months	Dried fruit	6 months
Syrups	1 year	Popcorn kernels	1 year

Enforcement Bullet Points^{3,4,5,6}

- Producers of edible products may use recommended shelf-life dates provided by the data gathered from federal food safety programs as described above. 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 a Nevada cannabis independent testing laboratory. All non-solvent based extracts of cannabis intended for consumption (infused dairy butter, mixtures of extracted products, oils or fats) must undergo a shelf-life study in addition to the compliance 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, in addition to changes in potency and water activity/pH.
- Maximum shelf-life extension will be limited to one year for all products 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.

- Shelf-life study design plans must be submitted to the Nevada CCB for review and approval through Accela as an R&D request prior to beginning the shelf-life study. The study plan must be based on ASTM D8309-21 *Standard Guide for Stability Testing of Cannabis-Based Products*, and must include full product information, study objectives, equipment to be used, amount of product to be sampled, sampling procedures, storage conditions, time points for testing, test methods, instructions for data handling and calculations, acceptance criteria for the results, instructions for documenting and evaluating deviations, and names/dates of personnel approving the study design plan.
- Sufficient product must be collected prior to beginning the study to enable all required testing at all time intervals until completion.
- All shelf-life testing must be performed on the cannabis-infused version of the final product as it is intended to be sold in licensed Nevada cannabis dispensaries.
- The final shelf-life study report must be submitted to the Nevada CCB for review and approval in Accela prior to the facility utilizing the updated expiration date. This final report must include a summary conclusion, tables with all data points, statistics, calculations, and formulas used, raw data from all testing stages including qPCR curves, pictures of culture plates, instrument data, calibration curves, chromatograms, and full quantitation reports. Supporting documentation for all sample preparation, testing, and QA/QC must be provided to the CCB upon request.

1. [FoodSafety.gov](https://www.foodsafety.gov/). (2024, October 15). [FoodSafety.gov](https://www.foodsafety.gov/). Retrieved from <https://www.foodsafety.gov/>
2. National Confectioners Association, <https://alwaysatreat.com/candy-storage-tips/>.
3. 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
4. ASTM D8309-21 *Standard Guide for Stability Testing of Cannabis-Based Products*
5. FDA Guidance for Industry Q1A(R2) Stability Testing of New Drug Substances and Products, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Food and Drug Administration, ICH, Revision 2, November 2003
6. American Herbal Products Association (AHPA), *Shelf-life Dating of Botanical Supplement Ingredients and Products*, Silver Spring, MD, July 2011

If you have any questions, please reach out to LaboratoryTesting@ccb.nv.gov.