

Consumer Alert: Oregon Hemp (July 2021)

Under the direction of Commissioner Nikki Fried, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (“FDACS”) has developed a comprehensive program to regulate and inspect the cultivation and sale of hemp. In Florida currently, there are more than 700 licensed locations to cultivate hemp, and more than 8,000 permitted locations that extract, process (aka manufacture), wholesale/distribute, store, and retail hemp extract.

The department routinely finds violative products and conducts investigations based on consumer complaints. Recently, the department has received several consumer complaints regarding shipments of hemp from Oregon. Notably, the department has received complaints of:

- Biomass shipments that include rocks, sticks, and other foreign material.
- Fraudulent certificates of analyses.
- Material that exceeds the total delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (Δ 9-THC) limits.

FDACS Actions

The department actively inspects for sanitary operating conditions and tests for label accuracy and contaminants unsafe for human consumption. The department will continue to work with the United States Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Department of Agriculture to contact firms in Oregon, notify consumers, and request remedial actions be taken.

Recommendations for Consumers

Protect yourself by purchasing hemp that is grown pursuant to a USDA approved State or Tribal hemp production plan.

Next time you’re shopping for hemp extract products, look for the Fresh From Florida logo. Not only are you getting a product that is subject to Florida’s comprehensive seed to sale inspections, you’re also helping support Florida farmers.

To file a complaint or to request more information on the Florida hemp program, visit www.fdacs.gov/hemp or email cannabis@fdacs.gov.