

# A GUIDE TO MICROBIAL CONTAMINANT TESTING IN CANNABIS LABORATORIES

## Navigating Regulatory Requirements and Testing Technologies for Cannabis Microbiology

Microbial Contaminant Testing identifies harmful bacteria or fungi on cannabis products, protecting consumers and ensuring high product quality. Follow these simple steps to get started with your microbial Quality Control testing program.

### Determine Your State's Requirements

Testing requirements for microbial contaminants varies from state to state. It is imperative you understand the microbial limit levels and microorganisms to test for each product type you are manufacturing. You can easily find these guidelines on your state's official website.

### Microbial Testing Regulations

Understanding the technologies available for microbial contaminant testing of cannabis is crucial for ensuring product safety and compliance with regulatory standards. This guide will help you navigate the various testing technologies available, from traditional culture methods to advanced molecular assays.

Test Method	QC Test Applications	Costs	Testing Time	AOAC Approved Method Available
Culture-Based Methods	Total aerobic plate count, coliforms, yeast and mold testing	\$	Coliforms = 24 / 48 hrs Yeast & Molds = 3-28 days APC = 7 days	Y
NAAT	Pathogen or Indicator Organism Detection	\$\$	1-2 hours	Y
AMM	Total aerobic platecount, coliforms, yeast and mold testing	\$\$-\$\$\$	Varies (typically faster than traditional methods)	Y

As with any test, accuracy is best insured with proper use of dependable, high-quality reference controls. Microbiologics offers cannabis microbial testing quality control strains to help you ensure accurate results and keep consumers safe. We have all the required microorganism strains your laboratory needs for cannabis QC testing in ready-to-use formats.

### Decide Where To Do Your Testing

Compare the benefits and drawbacks of third party microbial contaminant testing providers versus in-house testing to make an informed decision.

#### Third-Party Microbial Contaminant Testing

Microbiologics partners with many industry leading third-party testing providers, ensuring quality testing of your products.

##### PROS

- Unbiased Results
- Expertise and Equipment
- Regulatory and Compliance Adherence
- Time and Resource Saving

##### CONS

- Higher On-going Costs
- Less Control

#### In-House Microbial Contaminant Testing

Microbiologics provides high-quality controls for your own in-house testing needs.

##### PROS

- Control and Flexibility
- Cost-Effective Over Time

##### CONS

- Significant Initial Investment
- Regulatory and Compliance Challenges
- Risk of Bias



Scan to explore our current cannabis microbial controls or connect with our team to discuss your unique needs.