



Considerations & Procedures for Fresh Frozen

Greetings from Bear Extraction House, where we specialize in fresh frozen extraction! We wanted to take a moment to discuss some points on fresh frozen and share these with you, the cultivators, to help in elevating the return on your harvest. Fresh frozen extracts provide an unparalleled consumer experience with a high-potency, flavorful concentrate product.

- **Choose strains with high terpene profiles**

Strains that meet this profile create beautiful extracts and within the market, these are in high demand. Fruity, tropical, or exotic profiles are perfect; while gassy strains are less desirable, unless high terpene profiles are present.

- **Pay attention to batch sizes**

The testing that is required for extraction is rigorous. If you have many strains, they will need to be tested individually; this decreases your bottom line. The maximum batch size for testing is 500 pounds. We recommend keeping the final batch size per strain to a minimum of 200 pounds wet weight. For a general guide, wet weight is about 4.5- 5 times the amount of dry weight.

- **Maximize your profits by diversifying your harvest**

We suggest taking your tops for the flower market, and the rest is harvested for fresh frozen. For more details and subjective options based on prior harvests, please refer to your representative and team at Bear. As a reminder, we offer a full-service trim processing center, as well as, have an amazing flower sales department.

- **Fresh Frozen is perfect for Material that may not be suitable for Flower**

It is wise to take into consideration alternatives if you have poorly shaped buds, seeds, mold, or anything else that may not return top dollar in the flower market. Rest assured, the fresh frozen route can get you the profits you deserve.



When considering harvesting cannabis for fresh frozen extraction, attention to harvest procedure is a critical first step to create the highest quality concentrates. Time is of the essence in this process; freezing the biomass quickly is essential. “Slow-freezing” by simply placing the harvest in a standard freezer, or packing bags too large, allows moisture accumulation, and the eventual development of ice. The presence of ice impedes the extraction by shielding the material from the solvent during extraction. Freezing the harvest as quickly as possible allows the full spectrum of fresh cannabis compounds (cannabinoids, THC, terpenes, etc.) to properly preserve. It also prevents unwanted degradation of the plant material.

- **Plan your harvest date!** Two weeks before your planned harvest (ideally 7-10 days), a Bear representative will need to come to your property to take a sample of the harvest. Bear requires a sample between 380-454g to complete a microextraction. Once the sample has been extracted, we will have a yield percentage and an estimate can be determined. We then send out the sample extraction for testing for both heavy metals and pesticides. Your Bear Representative can also walk you through how you can utilize your sample yield results to calculate ballpark returns, if you so choose.
- **Tests are Clean!** The next conversation will take place when we have the microextraction completed and the test results are in. Once we have clean test results, we can send you a “split calculator” that gives an estimate of what the harvest value is. Your Bear Representative can walk you through how to determine these calculations step by step. If you agree that fresh frozen is the right direction for your harvest, we can then work on setting up a schedule for harvest or pickup.
- **Preharvest Prep!** Prior to the scheduled harvest, remove excess big leaves and trellis material. This will speed up the harvest process and help additional costs.
- **Harvesting/Processing!** Cut down the entire plant, weigh, and record the weight for Metrc. Please be sure the Metrc weight recorded is exclusive of bag and/or bin weight(s). Please



tare your weights. Proceed to break down stalks of individual plants and buck the flower off of the stem. For optimal yield results, we highly recommend removing the remaining big leaves either by hand, trim machine, or tabletop trimmer e.g. a trimpro. Refer to your Bear Representative for any further questions on how to optimize your frozen harvest.

- **Bag & Tag!** Collect the bucked flower from the tote and place into a bag (clear tote liner, or food saver bag are preferred). The bag of bucked flower should not exceed 3 pounds of wet weight. Keeping the bags small assists in freezing time and makes it easier to crush when preparing for extraction. Weigh bags of flower and record tared weight for Metrc transfer. Label bags with Farm Name, Strain Name and Date. Please write with sharpie on white tape placed on bag.

Metrc Transfer Details Please do not hesitate to contact us for any Metrc questions as we have found it is difficult and time consuming to change data entries once they are submitted.

Make sure to record and enter the following weights into Metrc

Individual whole plant weight

Finished product bag weight

Waste weight/plant waste material

Lastly, we at Bear want to provide you with the resources you need every step of the way. If there is anything you need assistance with, please do not hesitate to ask! We are happy to answer any questions you may have and provide you with the information you need to ensure a prosperous 2020 season. We appreciate all of your hard work.