

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES



AZDA

ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Marijuana Inspections

March 10, 2021



Auditor General Finding

- WMSD did not inspect scales and packaged goods at licensed marijuana facilities
- Previous concerns about authority to enter and inspect marijuana facilities
- Auditor General determined WMSD did have the authority to enter and inspect
- AZDA Assistant Attorney General also confirmed authority to inspect
- Time to develop an inspection plan!



Preparing to Inspect

- New industry for WMSD
- 1,462 scales licensed at 220 locations (add'l locations have since been established)
- Initial discussions with Arizona Dispensary Association (ADA)
- Meeting held on January 28 involving ADA, ADHS, and AZDA representatives
- Meeting presentation and inspection letter provided to ADA for distribution
- ADA scheduled facility tours for AZDA and ADHS staff
- Visited three different facilities on February 10

Grow Room





Different Types of Facilities

- **Dispensaries**
 - Retail establishments, direct consumer transactions
 - Can be medical or adult-use, most are licensed for both
- **Grow/cultivation facilities**
 - Marijuana is grown, new strains are created, plant cloning
 - Marijuana is cultivated, drying stems, trimming flowers, making concentrate, etc.
 - Products are created/packaged... loose flower, edibles, prepared products
- **Dispensaries and grow/cultivation facilities may be at same location**



Takeaways from Tours

- Industry representatives are proud of their businesses/products
- Competitive industry, high demand
- State-of-the-art facilities
- Security
- No scales observed in commercial use
- Packaging and labeling requirements will need to be addressed



Initial Scale Inspection Sample

- 60 locations selected, including 11 that had previously received consumer complaints
- Locations divided evenly amongst six investigators (10 locations each)
- Three investigators equipped with precision metric weight kits to test scales
- Remaining three investigators conducted scale use surveys
- Inspections began 02/16/2021

Scales and Weight Kits



Accuracy Class II scale



Class F1 Precision Weight Kit



Scale Inspection Findings

- Visited 57 locations having a total of 407 scales licensed
- Delicensed 376 scales that were not used commercially or no longer present at location
- Tested 14 scales, with 8 scales having error in favor of the consumer
- 51 out of 57 locations visited (89%) did not require a commercial device license



Future Scale Inspections

- Communicate findings to ADA/ADHS
- Educate industry representatives about “commercial devices”
- Work with industry to close unnecessary licenses
- Conduct inspections of remaining scales that are licensed
- Evaluate commercial use of scales found during packaging inspections



Packaging Inspections

- Working to gather product data/unused tare during scale inspection/surveys
- Specific standards for marijuana products being discussed in NCWM, ASTM
- Marijuana products still held to standards and test procedures established for products sold by weight/volume and/or food products
- Moisture allowance?
- Labeling issues (U.S. customary units, print size, location on packaging)

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Questions?