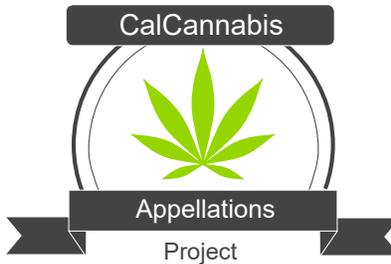


California Department of Food and Agriculture



A Summary of the Public Comments Received in 2018

CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing, a division of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), hosted six public workshops across the state in September 2018 to provide information and accept written and verbal comments on the development of the CalCannabis Appellations Project. CDFA also accepted public comments regarding standards for county-of-origin designations.

This document provides a summary of the comments received during the 2018 public workshops; however, this is not a comprehensive list of topics or comments submitted or discussed. CDFA will consider every comment received when developing the regulations for the CalCannabis Appellations Project.

Appellations Process

CDFA received numerous comments about the process of establishing an appellation, including:

- Develop a tiered and phased program
- Incentivize innovation
- Create a program that potentially could be transitioned to an international market
- Include a county-certified label as a part of the process
- Consider modeling cannabis appellations after the United States' wine appellations

Boundaries

CDFA received public input that the boundaries of cannabis appellations should be defined by the following:

- Community/cultural hubs
- Distinctive growing conditions
- Elevation/altitude
- Historical evidence
- Humidity
- Microclimates
- Native soil
- Precipitation
- Temperature
- Watersheds

Standards, Practices, and Varietals

CDFA received the following input regarding cannabis appellations' standards, practices, and varietals:

- Define regenerative and sustainable practices
- Drying and curing is important to the quality of the cannabis and should occur in the geographic area of the appellation to be considered a part of the appellation
- Identify standard operating procedures
- Identify which cultivars are grown in which regions
- Protect terms such as family farmed, hand crafted, cold cured, living soil, small batch, dry farmed, and rain grown
- Qualifying crops should be grown in the ground or partially in the ground
- Qualifying crops should be planted from seed
- Qualifying crops should be grown in full sun
- There should be a transition period that allows farmers to prepare their soil to meet potential requirements specifying a minimum percentage of native soil

Benefits

CDFA received the following input about the potential benefits of cannabis appellations:

- Ensures environmental impacts of cannabis cultivation are beneficial to the region and community
- Captures the legacy of the industry
- Provides consumer awareness and education
- Creates value for small farms
- Maintains innovative farming practices in harmony with ecosystems
- Protects craft-cannabis producers through product and market differentiation
- Promotes cannabis farming traditions
- Supports local tourism, art, and other agricultural sectors

Concerns

CDFA received the following concerns about the CalCannabis Appellations Project:

- Fees should be as low as possible
- The use of light deprivation in cultivation should qualify for an appellation
- Indoor-grown cannabis should qualify for a county-of-origin designation, but not for an appellation