



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND  
AGRICULTURE  
1220 N Street, Room 344  
Sacramento CA 95814

## BORDER STATION MEMO

2019-01

DATE: May 15, 2019  
TO: ALL BORDER STATION PERSONNEL  
FROM: Keith Morris Agriculture Program Supervisor IV

SUBJECT: Industrial Hemp/Cannabis movement through Stations

The 2018 Farm Bill included provisions regarding the cultivation, shipment, and sale of industrial hemp including the exempting of industrial hemp from the definition of cannabis (marijuana) under the Federal Controlled Substances Act. While hemp has been exempted, cannabis (marijuana) continues to be listed on the Federal Controlled Substances Act.

Commercial shipments of unprocessed/raw hemp material, clearly defined on bills of lading as "industrial hemp" or "hemp", will be sent to the county of destination under Quarantine Warning Hold Notice (66-008). This material will be identified on the 66-008 as "cuttings". Inspectors should complete a cursory inspection of industrial hemp material when possible. There are no specific certification requirements for hemp plant material; however, all shipments are subject to any applicable state or federal quarantines depending upon the origin of the shipment, as a condition of entry.

Hemp plants, cultivars or products for propagation should be physically inspected and if free from pests sent under Quarantine Warning Hold Notice (66-008) to the county of destination. This material will be identified on the 66-008 as "plants". All shipments for propagation are subject to any applicable state or federal quarantines depending upon the origin of the shipment, as a condition of entry.

If pest(s) are found during an inspection of hemp plant material, issue a rejection notice. Submit pests via digital imaging process and wait for identification; after a determination is made take appropriate action according to the pest determination.

When completing any documents or forms, the host material will be listed as "hemp".

DO NOT place under quarantine any shipments listed as "hemp products".

If inspectors encounter shipments of Cannabis (marijuana) plants. Inspectors will follow protocol as outlined in the Operation Guide 2.1.10 (Illegal Activity/Contraband Reporting):

- ... upon discovering suspected illegal activities or contraband during normal inspection duties border station inspectors will
  - Without revealing suspicions, discontinue the inspection and release the vehicle.
  - After the vehicle has left the station, write down a description of the vehicle (including, make, color, license number, and a description of its occupants).
  - Notify the shift supervisor of the incident. The shift supervisor should then notify the proper authorities. If working alone the inspector will notify the proper authorities, and pass the information along to the station manager.
  - Follow all directions given by the local authorities.

**Under no circumstances shall an inspector hold or confiscate any cannabis or hemp plant material for any reason.**

If you have questions or need additional information please contact your Area Manager