



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Department-Approved Hemp Sampling Agent

In accordance to Section 2-23-9 of the Georgia Hemp Farming Act of 2019, the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) is authorized to contract with 3rd party sources for the purpose of collecting hemp samples. Agricultural Audits, LLC, a subsidiary of the Georgia Crop Improvement Association, has been contracted by GDA for this task. Upon receipt of this letter it is imperative that you communicate with Agricultural Audits, LLC regarding your sampling needs. Agricultural Audits, LLC will be contacting all license holders within the next few weeks. If you do not hear from Agricultural Audits, LLC please visit <http://www.georgiacrop.com/contact/> for additional information.

The Grower Sampling Requirements are listed under 40-32-2-.03 of the Georgia Hemp Grower Rules (see [http://agr.georgia.gov/hemp/Georgia-Hemp-Rules-\(FILED\).pdf](http://agr.georgia.gov/hemp/Georgia-Hemp-Rules-(FILED).pdf)). It is the Licensed Grower's responsibility to:

- Contact Agricultural Audits, LLC within 15 days prior to harvest for official sample collection,
- Be present (or have an authorized representative present) at the grow site during the official sample collection, and
- Pay all sampling fees (including shipping, laboratory fees, etc.). No compensation will be owed by the Department to the Licensee for any such sampling or for any samples collected by the Department-approved sampling agent.

Agricultural Audits, LLC, is authorized to charge a sampling fee of up to \$300 per grow site (as defined in 40-32-2-.02 of the Georgia Hemp Grower Rules). Additional fees Agricultural Audits, LLC, may charge include:

- \$50 per hour (billed at quarter hour intervals) for sampling-related activities,
- Federal Mileage Rate (in 2020, \$0.575 per mile), and
- Per Diem (lodging and meals, if overnight stay is required).

Agricultural Audits, LLC, may require payment to be made prior to collecting samples or prior to shipping samples for THC analysis. Agricultural Audits, LLC, will coordinate with each Licensed Grower and arrange delivery of official samples to only approved laboratories for THC analysis. An approved laboratory is DEA registered and/or ISO/IEC 17025 accredited for THC testing of hemp/cannabis.

Agricultural Audits, LLC, may schedule and perform any additional compliance audits or inspections requested by the Department. During the inspection, Agricultural Audits, LLC, will determine the Licensed Grower's compliance with the Georgia Hemp Farming Act, the Georgia Hemp Grower Rules, and the USDA-approved Georgia Hemp plan and report all findings to the Department. The Department will be the final authority for determining compliance or noncompliance.

Please feel free to contact the Georgia Hemp Program at hemp@agr.georgia.gov if you have questions regarding the sample collection process.