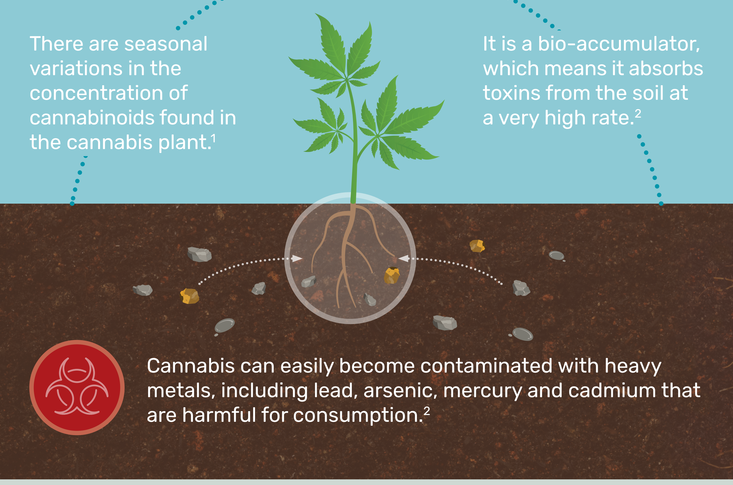
Producing a Safe and Consistent Cannabis Product Requires a Controlled Growing Environment

THE CANNABIS PLANT

The plant is like a sponge.

There are seasonal variations in the concentration of cannabinoids found in the cannabis plant.[1]

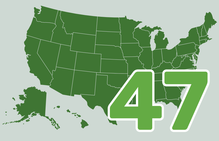
It is a bio-accumulator, which means it absorbs toxins from the soil at a very high rate.[2]



Cannabis can easily become contaminated with heavy metals, including lead, arsenic, mercury and cadmium that are harmful for consumption.[2]

TESTING REGULATIONS

Cross-contamination and pesticide testing isn't standardized across states with Medical Marijuana laws.[3]



47 states have some law allowing for use of medical cannabis.

Only 23 states have testing requirements.

Only 20 states test for content beyond cannabinoids.[4]

Many states are also understaffed to meet the demands of testing.[5]

In 2017 NBC tested cannabis sold in California dispensaries.

44 samples of cannabis products

from 15 locations

were tested for 16 harmful pesticides

93 percent (41 out of 44 samples) tested positive for state pesticide levels high enough that those products would have been banned for sale in some other states where pesticide use is more heavily regulated.[6]

Patient safety is paramount and without purity in the growing process, harmful consequences may result.

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2. Dryburgh LM et al. (2018) Cannabis contaminants: sources, distribution, human toxicity and pharmacologic effects. Br J Clin Pharmacol. 84(11):2468-2476
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4. Daley P. et al. (2013) Testing Cannabis for Contaminants. https://lcb.wa.gov/publications/Marijuana/BOTEC%20reports/1a-Testing-for-Contaminants-Final-Revised.pdf (Sourced December 2019)
5. Crowder L. (2019) "Like every other industry" – An on-the-ground perspective on Proposition 64. Calif Agr 73(3):117-118
6. Glasser M. et al. (2017) Pesticides and Pot: Lab Results, Company Statements. https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/pesticide-laced-pot-lab-results-company-statements-i-team/31337/ (Sourced December 2019)

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