

Food Hub Shelf-Life Resources

Shelf life Testing

Listing of Shelf-life Testing Resources and other general food safety information from BC CDC

The link detailing Food Safety Assessments includes examples of product types and identifies food safety risks that can be associated with ingredients, processing steps and packaging as well as additional steps that the consumer may be required to take to ensure the food is safe when consumed.

bccdc.ca <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/professional-resources/food-safety-assessment>

The CFIA Link below is a good primer to identify what testing can be conducted by the manufacturer (you) and those that should be or must be conducted by a trained microbiologist or chemist.

Using your senses to evaluate the product over the shelf life is also critical as the consumer will be using all of their senses when taking that initial bite or drink.

Conducting Shelf life Studies – CFIA Link

<https://inspection.canada.ca/preventive-controls/shelf-life-studies/eng/1518010592756/1528203595232>

The laboratories that are listed below can provide advice as to what tests should be conducted based on your product, the packaging, and processing that has been applied. The desired or expected shelf life should also be provided to the Laboratory so the sample size and the number of tests can be provided for your approval, prior to sending the samples.

The laboratory may also suggest the sample size and the number of samples to provide based on the expected shelf life.

Using the appropriate sampling containers is critical to ensure that the results are representative of your product and processing rather than the potential of a contaminated container.

Third Party Food Testing Laboratories - for Chemical, Physical and Microbiological testing

FoodAssure Laboratory Ltd. <https://www.foodassure.com/>
Vancouver

Food Testing Lab <https://www.foodtestinglab.net/home>

Caro Analytical Services <https://www.caro.ca/food-testings/>
Richmond, Kelowna, Whitehorse, Edmonton

MB Labs Ltd <https://www.mblabs.com/services/food-safety/general-food-safety.php>
Sidney

IG MicroMed Environmental Inc. <http://www.igmicromed.com/>
Richmond

Bureau Veritas formerly Maxxam <https://www.bvna.com/testing-labs>
Courtenay, Calgary, Victoria

Intertek Group plc <http://www.intertek.com>

S G S Canada Inc. <https://www.sgs.com/en>
Vancouver