



Indoor Grow Investigations

Florida's indoor marijuana producers continue to utilize sophisticated cultivation techniques in order to increase the primary psychoactive ingredient of cannabis, D-9 Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). This is evidenced by the increased quality of the plants seized from indoor operations reported in the State of Florida.

Annual training provides investigators with the most current methods in marijuana detection and eradication.

For additional information or to report Indoor Grow Investigation statistics, please contact:

Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement
2005 Apalachee Parkway, Ste. 222
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Telephone (850) 245-1300 / Fax (850) 245-1330



Outdoor Grow Investigations

The majority of marijuana cultivated outdoors is located in the isolated woodlands of the state. Due to the warm climate and abundant wetlands, the State of Florida offers an enhanced opportunity for profits derived from illicit cannabis cultivation. Statistics indicate outdoor cultivation growers are continuing to disperse their crops into smaller plots making detection more and more difficult. Florida has had an aggressive eradication approach which includes the use of aerial detection. This approach has undoubtedly had an influence, causing the growers to move their crops indoors. The Florida National Guard has been designated by Florida's DME Program as the first point of contact for aerial detection surveillance/eradication. Due to the high cost of fuel, this investigative tool provided at no cost is essential to continue the outdoor eradication efforts in the State of Florida. Additional information regarding aerial flights can be obtained from the Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement (OALE) at Telephone 850-245-1300.



Training Opportunities

The DME Program provides orientation meetings to law enforcement officers across the state who are involved in the eradication of domestically grown marijuana. These orientation meetings are held in the spring of each year.

In addition to the orientations, the DME Program provides the following trainings:

- Indoor Cannabis Investigation School
- Outdoor Cannabis Investigations School and Aerial Detection (Spotters) School.
- All schools are provided free to local law enforcement officers. Tuition, lodging and meals are paid through the DME Program.

Upon request, DEA, OALE and FNG will provide Florida's law enforcement with training material, videotapes and other information developed under the guidance of DEA Headquarters for DCE/SP training.

Training notices are provided on the Domestic Marijuana Eradication Program Website and through AgLaw at:

<http://fl-aglaw.com/bas/dme.html>

**DOMESTIC MARIJUANA
ERADICATION PROGRAM**

What Is the DME Program?

Florida's Domestic Marijuana Eradication (DME) Program is a federally funded program that directly supports local, state, and county law enforcement agencies in the detection, dismantling and eradication of domestically grown marijuana. DME is jointly administered by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program (DCE/SP), the Florida Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement (AgLaw), and the Florida National Guard (FNG). For over twenty years, the combination of the DCE/SP and DME programs, and the support they have received from federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities has resulted in the detection of over 30,000 illegal grow sites, eradication of over 2.5 million marijuana plants valued over \$4 billion, and the arrest of over 15,000 cultivators in Florida.

The success of Florida's DME Program is due to its ability to support law enforcement efforts and adapt to the changing culture of the illicit cultivator. Florida's warm climate and wide-range of rural woodlands provide a fertile environment for the criminal to cultivate cannabis plants (marijuana). The eradication of this product at the source immediately strikes a blow against drug dealing and abuse by reducing the availability of marijuana on the street. Eradicating marijuana before it can be cultivated also increases citizen and officer safety and reduces overall investigative costs.

Who Can Participate in the Program?

Participation in Florida's DME Program is open to all local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. When local law enforcement agencies report statistics, they are eligible to receive reimbursement for investigation expenses associated with the DME program.

Refer to the Domestic Marijuana Eradication Program Website (<http://fl-aglaw.com/bas/dme.html>) for information on:

- Reporting Statistics
- Requesting Reimbursement
- Utilizing Aircraft Support

Complete the necessary forms and submit by fax to (850) 245-1330 or via email at:

Judith.Ivester@FreshFromFlorida.com

Contact Information



DME PROGRAM CONTACT

Florida Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services
Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement
2005 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6500
(850) 245-1300
(800) 342-5869

Judith.Ivester@FreshFromFlorida.com



<http://fl-aglaw.com/bas/dme.html>

Revised January 2011

DOMESTIC MARIJUANA ERADICATION PROGRAM



A Partnership Coordinated by the:

U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration
Florida Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services, Office of Agricultural
Law Enforcement, and the
Florida National Guard

