

AT A GLANCE

Challenges

- Introduced 300 clones from local tissue culture lab
- Symptoms recorded in week 3 of the flower stage
- 48-hour pathogen testing from TUMI Genomics confirmed positive results
- Discard 3/4 crop totaling ~\$100,000 in product and equipment loss

Results

- Evök Cannabis established new sanitation measures for irrigation, and tool and material disinfection
- With regular pathogen testing and newly implemented hygiene measures a clean crop was recored 8 months after outbreak

"We found the best pricing and reliable results with TUMI Genomics."

Omeed Javidan

Co-founder and Cultivation Director of Evök Cannabis

Introduction

After introducing 300 clones from a nearby tissue culture lab, a flower room at Evök Cannabis showed some abnormalities (stunted growth, brittle branches) that hinted at Hop Latent Viroid (HLVd).

Omeed Javidan, co-founder and Cultivation Director of Evök Cannabis, had previously encountered Hop Latent Viroid (HLVd) in 2016. Even with 10 years of experience, Javidan had no idea the extent of the infection and the physical and financial damage to his crop.

After consulting with TUMI Genomics, Javidan implemented stricter sanitation measures and regular plant testing with TUMI Genomics diagnostic kits. After losing nearly three grows to HLVd, Javidan is now a major proponent of sanitary and prevention procedures for the cannabis industry.

Challenge

The clones from a nearby tissue culture lab didn't show symptoms until week 3 of the flowering stage. And it wasn't until week 4 or 5 that Javidan and his team considered HLVd as the reason.

Given how advanced the plants were the team decided to continue propagation until maturity. However, needing to evaluate the damage they ordered 25 testing kits.

Every kit produced a positive result, meaning a majority of their 350 plant room exhibited HLVd-like symptoms – a serious outbreak.

Results

In order to mitigate loss, 3/4 of their harvest was discarded resulting in approximately \$100,000 in total product and equipment loss. With guidance from TUMI Genomics, the Evök Cannabis team established new sanitation measures.

Initially, the irrigation was replaced throughout the whole room as a preliminary precaution. Then infected plants were properly discarded, and the facility was rigorously cleaned with new tool and material disinfection measures.

Now, Javidan advocates for continuous testing measures, and eliminated only one or two more positives before recording a crop that is entirely HLVd-free eight months later. He is a proponent of consistent testing and precautionary operations. He's even written some Hop Latent Viroid SOPs himself.