



# What is Hop Latent Viroid?

Know before you grow, a summary on Hop Latent Viroid



01

## What is a viroid?

Unlike a virus, a viroid is much smaller, has a different genetic structure, and can only replicate inside plant cells. The structural difference allows viroids to mutate faster – making it difficult to detect and control.



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## Which plants are at-risk?

Hop latent viroid has a fairly narrow host range. The only plants known to contract HLVD are hops plants, stinging nettle, and cannabis.



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## How does HLVD affect plants?

An HLVD infection impacts growth patterns, leaf shape and color, flower content, and quality. However, it can also present asymptotically – without physical changes. Therefore, HLVD cannot be diagnosed based on symptoms alone. The only way to determine if a plant is infected is through a diagnostic test.



04

## How does HLVD spread?

HLVD is primarily spread by cross-infection when sap from an infected plant makes contact with the tissue of a healthy plant. While no published studies exist, seeds, water, or even insects can transmit this infection.



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## Is HLVD preventable?

Yes, with strict sanitary measures, regular lab testing, and sourcing pre-tested seed or local stock. The standard is testing mother plants every 4–6 weeks using reliable and specific testing services.