

PRODUCT TESTING PARAMETER GUIDELINES — BEER

PURPOSE

The following table outlines acceptable limits for each parameter the NSLC test for. Each column represents an internal triage level with corresponding actions. This table is meant to help you understand the results of your Certificate of Analysis (COA).

- **Green** (adherence) indicates your product fell below Health Canada regulated and NSLC limits and no further action is required.
- **Yellow** (minor variance) indicates your product is approaching Health Canada regulated limits and has exceeded NSLC limits. Products that fall into the yellow category will receive follow-up communications and may be triaged for further assessment including retesting or a sensory review.
- **Red** (major variance) indicates your product has exceeded a Health Canada regulated limit. Products in this category will receive a follow-up call and notification to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). The CFIA will work with you directly to assess risk and advise on next steps, if required.

PARAMETER LIMITS

BEER ELEMENT TESTED	ADHERENCE	MINOR VARIANCE	MAJOR VARIANCE	HEALTH CANADA LIMIT
ABV Allowance - products under 4.0% ABV	Less than $\pm 0.3\%$	$\pm 0.4\%$ to $\pm 0.5\%$	Greater than $\pm 0.6\%$	N/A
ABV Allowance - products 4.1 - 5.5% ABV	Less than $\pm 0.5\%$	$\pm 0.6\%$ to $\pm 1.0\%$	Greater than $\pm 1.1\%$	N/A
ABV Allowance - products over 5.6% ABV	Less than $\pm 1.0\%$	$\pm 1.1\%$ to $\pm 1.5\%$	Greater than $\pm 1.6\%$	N/A
Sugar	Less than 40 g/L	N/A	Greater than 40 g/L	Limit 4% (40 g/L)
Ethyl Carbamate - products under 8.5% ABV	Less than 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Greater than 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Greater than 150 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Limit 150 $\mu\text{g/kg}$ *(150 $\mu\text{g/L}$)
Ethyl Carbamate - products over 8.5% ABV	Less than 30 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Greater than 30 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Greater than 150 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Limit 150 $\mu\text{g/kg}$ *(150 $\mu\text{g/L}$)
Arsenic	Less than 100 $\mu\text{g/L}$	N/A	Greater than 100 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Limit 100 $\mu\text{g/L}$
Cadmium	Less than 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$	N/A	Greater than 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Limit 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$
Cobalt	Less than 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$	N/A	Greater than 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Limit 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$
Lead	Less than 200 $\mu\text{g/L}$	N/A	Greater than 200 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Limit 200 $\mu\text{g/L}$
Pesticides	Coming in 2022	Coming in 2022	Coming in 2022	Coming in 2022
Glossary of Terms ABV - alcohol by volume g/L - grams per litre $\mu\text{g/kg}$ - micrograms per kilogram $\mu\text{g/L}$ - micrograms per litre *Conversion factor = micrograms per litre divided by the density (g/cm^3) of the product				

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have further questions regarding the established limits, product testing, or your COA results, please direct them to ProductTesting@MyNSLC.com.