

PRODUCT TESTING PARAMETER GUIDELINES — CIDER

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

CIDER 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 5.6%-13% ABV	Less than $\pm 1.0\%$	$\pm 1.1\%$ to $\pm 1.5\%$	Greater than $\pm 1.6\%$	N/A
Total SO ₂ - products under 35 g/L sugar	Less than 300 mg/L	Greater than 300 mg/L	Limit 350 ppm (350 mg/L)	Limit 350 ppm (350 mg/L)
Total SO ₂ - products over 35 g/L sugar	Less than 350 mg/L	Limit 350 ppm (350 mg/L)	Greater than 400 mg/L	Limit 350 ppm (350 mg/L)
Free SO ₂ - products under 35 g/L sugar	Less than 50 mg/L	Greater than 50 mg/L	Limit 70 ppm (70 mg/L)	Limit 70 ppm (70 mg/L)
Free SO ₂ - products over 35 g/L sugar	Less than 70 mg/L	N/A	Greater than 70 mg/L	Limit 70 ppm (70 mg/L)
Volatile Acidity (acetic acid g/L)*	Less than 1.3 g/L	1.4 g/L to 1.9 g/L	Greater than 2 g/L	Limit 0.2% w/v (2 g/L)
Sugar**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sorbic acid - products under 10 g/L sugar	Less than 200 mg/L	Greater than 200 mg/L	Limit 500 ppm (500 mg/L)	Limit 500 ppm (500 mg/L)
Sorbic acid - products over 10 g/L sugar	Less than 500 mg/L	N/A	Greater than 500 mg/L	Limit 500 ppm (500 mg/L)
Ethyl Carbamate	Less than 30 μ g/L	N/A	Greater than 30 μ g/L	Limit 30 μ g/kg *** (30 μ g/L)
Arsenic	Less than 100 μ g/L	N/A	Greater than 100 μ g/L	Limit 100 μ g/L
Cadmium	Less than 20 μ g/L	N/A	Greater than 20 μ g/L	Limit 20 μ g/L

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CIDER ELEMENT TESTED	ADHERENCE	MINOR VARIANCE	MAJOR VARIANCE	HEALTH CANADA LIMIT
Cobalt	Less than 20 µg/L	N/A	Greater than 20 µg/L	Limit 20 µg/L
Lead	Less than 200 µg/L	N/A	Greater than 200 µg/L	Limit 200 µg/L
Synthetic Dyes	Not Present	N/A	Present	No Synthetic Dyes
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
 ppm - parts per million
 mg/L - milligrams per litre
 µg/L - micrograms per litre
 µg/kg - micrograms per kilogram

*Volatile Acidity as Sulphuric Acid (g/L) = Volatile Acidity x 0.815
 **Sugar is tested to facilitate SO₂ allowances
 ***Conversion factor = micrograms per litre divided by the density (g/cm³) 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.