

THE CANNABIS GROW BIBLE

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The Cannabis Grow Bible
4th edition

By
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Acknowledgements

My thanks to my family and friends for making this book possible. This book is dedicated to growers all over the world. I would also like to say thank you to the members of www.cannabisX.com and www.overgrow.com with a really big thank you going out to X, ~shabang~, The Penguin, Kryptonite, Strawdog, Slowhand, Chimera, BushyOlderGrower, Ralpheme, RealHigh, Clone, cannabisX and Vic High.

This is a book about growing cannabis, written by people who grow cannabis.

HARVESTING AND CURING YOUR BUD

Harvesting is the act of reaping your rewards and is without a doubt the most fun you will have with your garden. First of all you should know that harvesting smells. It stinks up the place really quickly, so keep this in mind. Now you will have followed the guidelines that the breeder set forth with his or her seeds about the flowering times. At the end of the flowering time examine your bud. Keep what you see in mind because now you will be able to judge other plants to know if they are finished or not. You do not really need to know the breeder's flowering time if you have been able to understand and identify a bud that has reached maturity. Here are some things that help identify when to harvest. Some of these things do not appear on every strain though.

- 50% to 70% of the pistils change color.
- Your plant stops producing crystals.
- Your plant stops producing resin.
- The fan leaves and lower leaves have turned yellow and are starting to drop off.
- The smell has reached a peak.
- Bud mass has not increased in the past few days.

These are good Indicators that your plant is now ready for

harvest. There is only one sure way to harvest your plant and anything else is pretty much a variation of it. Also we must add that harvesting an Indica plant and a Sativa plant have slight differences.

INDICA HARVEST

Your 1 foot - 4 foot plant should be hacked at the base. The plant should then be hung upside down in a cool room, with no light and fresh air. Take a pair of clippers out and remove as much of the fan leaves as possible. Then remove the secondary leaves and put these into a separate pile. Last but not least gather some trim from the bud. "Trim" is the small leaves that are covered in resin. Now you have 4 different qualities of weed to choose from. The fan leaf will only be an okay smoke, the middle leaves a little better and the trim will be very good. The BUD is the PRIME stuff though and this will give you your best quality high!

Leave the plant like this until a branch can break easily between your fingers. When it does you are ready to cure the Bud. This harvesting process takes about two to three weeks to properly finish.

SATIVA HARVEST

This is much like the Indica except the harvest itself may be quite labor intensive. Outdoor growers like to grow Sativa plants which sometimes grow up as far as 12 feet carrying over 20 oz of bud

sometimes. These plants are not harvested easily. You need a canvas spread or another medium that you can use to carry the bud in. The plant should be chopped at the base and spread out on the canvas. The canvas is then rolled up and tied down tight for transport. Obviously if you have more than one plant then you might need more than one canvas sheet.

The plant should then be hung upside down in a cool room, with no light and fresh air. Because of the plant's size and bushiness you may have to cut the branches and hang these up separately. Take a pair of clippers out and remove leaves and trim as suggested in the Indica Harvest section.

It must be pointed out here that light degrades THC quantities. Your room does not have to be as light- proof as your grow room does during 12/12. Just don't expose your harvest to any direct light.

FAN LEAVES, LEAVES AND TRIM

These are cured by leaving them dry on a flat surface, away from direct light and with plenty of fresh air. The leaves will dry up after 3 weeks and are easily smokable at that stage. Test them out to see what you liked and what you did not like. Another thing you could do with the trim is to make some hash from it. We will talk about this in another chapter. Do not try to speed up your drying process with ovens or microwaves or heat. Let them dry out normally and you will

cure yourself a much better smoke from the leaves.

CURING

As soon as the branches are brittle you should consider canning your bud. Canning is a great way to get the most from your bud. Find a can with a removable lid. The more cans you have the better. Using a pair of scissors, clip your bud from the branch and put it into the can. The branches and stem are not much good to you. They do contain THC, but only in small quantities. Most stem and branches go in the bin.

Now take the can and place it a room or cupboard that is dark. Everyday open the lid for a few hours (6 hours is good) and then close the lid again. Also shake the bud around a bit every couple of days. This is the most common curing technique out there and it does do its job well. Bud that is cured well smokes the best! I would give the canning process between 3 - 4 weeks before you should really sample your goods. 8 weeks old bud can smoke extremely well and year old bud is vintage stuff but can loose potency. Fresh bud (8 weeks canned curing) is the pinnacle point of cured bud. After that some of the THC cannabinoids change composition and become different cannabinoid compounds. Fresh bud is far better than aged bud. You may find other curing processes out there, but canning does work wonders and is cheap to do.

If you have dried your plants for three weeks while hanging upside down you can subtract that time from the canning time to know

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when you should be in for a bit of smoke. Although you can have good bud to smoke two weeks after you harvest it is better to wait for four weeks or more.

