



# Hemp Flower Scales for Packagers

## BUREAU OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

PO Box 8911  
Madison, WI 53708  
(608) 224-4942  
datcp.wi.gov

## RESOURCES

Wis. Admin. Code ATCP 90  
[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/atcp/090/90.pdf](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/atcp/090/90.pdf)

Wis. Admin. Code ATCP 91  
[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/atcp/090/91.pdf](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/atcp/090/91.pdf)

Basics of Tare fact sheet  
<https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/BasicsTareFAQ.pdf>

Hemp Flower Retail Bulk Sales fact sheet  
<https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/HempFlowerRetailBulkSales.pdf>

Hemp Flower and CBD Products Method of Sale and Labeling fact sheet  
<https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/HempFlowerCBDProductsMethodSaleLabeling.pdf>

Hemp Flower Scales for Retailers fact sheet  
<https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/HempFlowerScalesRetailers.pdf>

Businesses or individuals packaging hemp flower for retail sale are responsible for the contents and labeling of the package.

## Recommendations for selecting a packaging scale

- Unlike scales used in direct sales, packaging scales are not required to be approved by NTEP or be legal for trade.
- Before thinking about capacity, consider **accuracy** of the scale. If you typically package 3.5 gram (g), 7g, and 28g packages, it is strongly recommended that you weigh your product on a scale that has a division size or “increment” of 0.01g.
  - When Weights & Measures inspectors inspect your packaged product, they will verify that the packages are not short-weight. In addition, no package may exceed the maximum allowable variation (MAV). In the weight ranges 0 – 30g, the MAV limit is 0.1g per 1 gram. If any package exceeds this limit, the entire lot will fail. (An “inspection lot” may include all of the packages of that product on the premises) If your scale’s division size is only 0.1g, you are expecting your scale to be 100% accurate and not have any rounding error. This is not a practical expectation.
    - Packages found short-weight will be ordered off sale. In addition, the responsible party may face civil or criminal penalties.
- After determining the accuracy that you need, think about the **capacity** that you need or may need in the future. Maybe you currently only weigh packages up to 1 oz. At this point, a 100g scale with a division size of 0.01g would be sufficient. However, if you think that you may end up wanting to package 1 lb packages in the future, you may want to look at a scale that has a capacity of 600g and division size of 0.01g.
- Consider how you will be using the scale and which scale **functions** would meet your needs. For example, do you need a scale with multiple units like grams, ounces, kilograms, and pounds? Do you need a scale that is battery operated? Do you need a scale that interfaces with a particular PC or printer, and that deducts tare?
- Pay attention to the **size of the scale deck** (the platform where product is placed to weigh). Large quantities will not fit on a small scale deck.

## Net weight and tare

- Packages are required to be labeled by net weight. **Net weight** is the weight of the actual commodity itself; **tare** is all of the remaining material used in the packaging and preservation of the product that is not part of the actual commodity for sale. For more information on tare, please see our fact sheet: <https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/BasicsTareFAQ.pdf>

For labeling requirements of packages, see our [Hemp Flower and CBD Products Method of Sale and Labeling fact sheet](#).

Questions? Contact us at 608-224-4942 or [DATCPWeightsAndMeasures@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWeightsAndMeasures@wisconsin.gov)