



Sandy Ridge Farms, Inc.  
9173 New Holland Street ▪ Zeeland, MI 49464  
**Hop Plant Protocols Quality Control**

### **Stock Plants**

- All Virus-Indexed stock plants come from the National Clean Plant Network, Washington State University.

### **Propagation Protocols**

- A sampling of plants used for vegetative propagation is submitted to an outside lab for virus/viroid testing at the beginning of each growing season.
- Sanitation guidelines are strictly enforced for equipment used in propagation (shears, benches, ground fabric). Greenhouses are kept clean and free of weeds.
- Sterile potting media and new plug trays are used in propagation.
- Biological pest/disease control is utilized on cuttings.
- Access to the propagation greenhouse is limited to Staff and University Research Partners to avoid outside contamination.

### **Young Plants**

- All hop plant inventory is immediately introduced into a strict 7-day fungicide spray rotation, utilizing treatment recommendations from Michigan State Univ, with the addition of fungicide drench applications.
- Biological pest controls are used on the hops, with the option of chemical treatment, if necessary.
- Hop Plants are continually fertilized through irrigation lines, with monitoring and adjustment for specific nutrient needs.
- There are no outside grow areas for hop plants. All hop inventory is maintained inside the greenhouse structure to ensure optimal control.
- Sanitation guidelines are strictly enforced for equipment used throughout the growing process. All shears are disinfected between the cutting of each plant. All removed excess plant growth is promptly removed from the hop house and disposed of in the trash receptacle. Greenhouses are kept clean and free of weeds.

### **Plant Delivery**

- Prior to delivery/pick up, the plants will have received a recent fungicide spray application. It is important to maintain a preventative pesticide rotation.