

HARVESTING AND CURING

SO YOU WANT TO GET TO SMOKING SOME OF YOUR BUDDS EH !?! BEEN WAITING A WHILE NOW WATCHING THOSE BABIES GROW ! WELL WE CANT SMOKE IT WET JUST WONT BURN, WE ALL KNOW THAT NOW DONT WE. SO LETS TALK ABOUT THE HARVESTING AND CURING OF ARE MARIJUANA'S FLORAL CLUSTERS. BEFORE WE BEGIN I HAVE TO SAY, TO DRY YOUR BUDDS, DO NOT BE PUTTING THEM IN THE OVEN, OR A MICROWAVE OVEN. AND DONT BE CHOPPING IT UP AND PUTTING IT IN THE SUNLIGHT OR ON A HEATING REGISTER TO DRY THEM OUT. IF THIS IS YOU MAN! THEN YOU ARE A "BUDD KILLER" (HAHAHA)

HARVESTING

ASSUMING THAT YOUR PLANTS HAVE REACHED THERE PEAK FLOWERING PERIOD, WE ARE READY FOR HARVESTING OR THE REMOVAL OF THE BUDDS FROM THE PLANTS BUT HOLD ON, LETS THINK FOR A MINUTE IF WERE THE INDOOR GARDENERS OF THE WORLD USING ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING STSTEMS. AND ESSEPCIALY TO THE BIG PLANT GROWERS. IN MY EXPERIENCES USUALLY THE PLANT HAS NOT MATURED ENTIRELY BUT HAS OBTAIN MANY LARGE, BIG KHOLA BUDDS AT AND NEAR THE TOP (the tops). ITS ONLY THESE BUDDS IM GOING TO TAKE AT THIS TIME, AND IM GOING TO LEAVE THE REST OF THE UNDERDEVELOPED BUDDS ON THE PLANT TO CONTINUE THEIR FLOWERING PROCESS UNTIL THEY HAVE REACHED PEAK AS WELL. AS A LARGE PLANT GROWER MYSELF, AND AS THE BUDDS QUADRUPLE IN SIZE REACHING PEAK FLOWERING, THEY WILL TEND TO BLOCK OUT THE LIGHT FROM THE OTHER AREAS OF THE GROW ROOM. ONCE THE LARGE KHOLAS ARE REMOVED THE REST OF THE PLANT THAT HAS BEEN GROWING SLOWER AND WITH THE LESS LIGHT, WILL BEGIN TO REALLY TAKE OFF. THIS IS EXTREMELY BENIFICIAL TO A GROWER SO HE/SHE CAN MAXIMIZE A GARDENS PRODUCTION. THIS PROCESS OF HARVESTING IS CALLED "SYSTEMATIC HARVESTING" BUT TO THE SMALLER PLANT GROWERS AND/OR THOSE OF YOU WITH WEAKER LIGHTING SYSTEMS, ITS LIKELY YOUR ENTIRE PLANT HAS REACHED PEAK ALL AT ONCE AND ITS MORE CONCIIEVABLE THAT YOU TAKE THE WHOLE PLANT DOWN WHOLE. THERES A FEW WAYS TO DRY YOUR POT OUT, BUT BASICALLY WE WANT TO LET IT DRY ON ITS OWN NATURALLY. SOME PEOPLE WILL HANG UP THE ENTIRE PLANTS UPSIDE DOWN. I TEND TO CUT THE LARGE BUDDS OFF THE MAIN STALK AND HANG THEM UP INDIVIDUALLY LIKE A LOAD OF SOCKS ON THE CLOTHES LINE. EITHER WAY IS GOOD AND WILL OBTAIN EQUAL END RESULTS, HOWEVER HANGING THEM UP INDIVIDUALLY THEY WILL DRY OUT FASTER THEN A WHOLE PLANT HUNG. BIG BUDDS ARE GOING TO TAKE LONGER TO DRY THEN THE LITTLE ONES THIS IS COMMON SENSE. AND STRAIN TO STRAIN WILL VARY IN THE DRYING PROCESS AS WELL. WHEN HANGING THEM INDIVIDUALLY, IF YOUR BUDDS ARE AIRY AND LIGHT THEY WILL BE DRY IN TWO TO THREE DAYS. IF YOUR BUDDS ARE BIG, TIGHT, AND COMPACT THERE GONNA TAKE THREE TO FIVE DAYS. ALSO HANGING THEM UPSIDE DOWN KEEPS THE SMALLER RESIN COATED LEAVES HUGGING THE BUDDS AS WELL. PROTECTING THE VUNERABLE CRYSTALS FROM FALLING OFF. DRYING YOUR BUDDS BY LAYING THEM ON A TABLE OR NEWSPAPER IS NOT SO RECOMMENDED. THEY WILL BE FLATTENED OUT ON ONE SIDE AND ACUTALLY TAKE LONGER TO DRY UNLESS YOU KEEP TURNING THEM. SCISSORS, A KNIFE, A RAZORBLADE, HELL EVEN A AXE, ALL WILL WORK GOOD FOR THE PROCESS OF "THE CUT". BUT REMEMBER WE ONLY WANT TO HANDLE ARE BUDDS FROM THEIR STALKS. DO NOT DO ANY NEEDLESS HANDELING DIRECTLY TO YOUR BUDDS. THOSE STICKY CRYSTALS THAT CAKE YOUR POT, WE WANT TO LEAVE THEM AS UNDISTURBED AS POSSIBLE. WHEN THE POT IS DRY IF WE SHAKE OR HANDLE THEM TOO MUCH WE ARE GOING TO BE LOSING CRYSTALS OR GLANDULAR AND NON-GRADULAR TRIACHOMES. ITS THESE CRYSTALS THAT DIRECTLY ARE INVOLVED WITH THE PHYCOACTIVITY, AROMAS AND FLAVOURS IN YOUR MARIJUANA. IT IS ALSO THESE TRIACHOMES THAT ARE USED IN THE MAKING OF HASHISH THROUGH A SCREENING PROCESS. NEEDLESS TO SAY THE CRYSTALS ON THE PLANTS SHOULD BE LEFT THERE.

MOST OF THE LARGER FAN LEAVES AT THIS POINT SHOULD HAVE CHANGED COLOURS, DRIED UP AND/OR WILTED OFF YOUR PLANTS. HOWEVER IF THERE ARE STILL SOME LARGE LEAVES ON MY BUDDS I WILL PULL THEM OFF AT THIS POINT. ITS MUCH MUCH EASIER TO DO THEN WHEN THEY ARE DRY. MY BUDDS, ARE ALWAYS STICKY WITH CRYSTALS, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THEY STAY STUCK TO THE PLANT WHEN ITS STILL WET. BUT WHEN MY BUDDS ARE DRY AND IF I DO ALOT OF NEEDLESS MOVING AROUND TO THEM I CAN WATCH AND SEE WITH MY OWN EYES THE CRYSTALS FALLING OFF. SO I WILL SNAG ALL THE LARGER FAN LEAVES OFF THE STALKS BEFORE HANGING THEM TO DRY. SO THATS SIMPLE, WE CUT THEM DOWN AND HANG THEM UP. I HANG THEM UPSIDE DOWN ON A SET OF STRINGS I TIED UP IN A DRY DARK CORNER. AND I LEAVE THEM ALONE FOR THE ALLOTED TIME UNTIL THEY ARE DRY. I LIKE MY POT REALLY DRY BUT NOT BONE DRY. WET POT IN A BAGGIE, PUT AWAY, AND LEFT ALONE FOR 7 DAYS WILL RESULT IN A BAG OF MOLD AND MILDUE INFESTED WEED. THIS IS NOT A GOOD THING AT ALL AND YOU DONT WANT THAT TO HAPPEN TO YOU. SO THE WEED YOUR GOING TO PUT AWAY SHOULD BE VERY DRY TO SAY THE LEAST. THERE IS NOTHING WORSE THEN SPENDING FOUR TO SIX MONTHS WATCHING YOUR PLANTS DEVELOPED INTO NICE BUDDS ONLY TO BE PUT AWAY WET. AND THEN TO SEE MOLD, MILDEW AND BACTERIA SET IN. SO NOW WE HAVE ARE DRIED BUDDS READY TO SMOKE IF YOU LIKE AT THIS POINT NO PROBLEM. BUT THERE IS ANOTHER STEP TO IMPROVING YOUR MARIJUANA. "CURING" IT WONT IMPROVE OR INCREASE THE PSYCOACTIVITY OF YOUR MARIJUANA, BUT IT WILL IMPROVE THE TASTE, AROMA, AND

FLAVOUR, OF YOUR MARIJUANA STRAINS POTENTIAL. ITS THESE COMBINED IMPROVMENTS WITH YOUR WEEDS PSYCOACTIVITY THAT GETS ANYONE WHO IS A FINE CONNISUIRE OF THE HERBS DROOLING AT THE MOUTH. AND WHEN THEY SMOKE IT WITH YOU THEY WILL REALLY NOW BE COMMENTING ON ITS TASTE, AROMA, FLAVOUR, BURNABILITY, AND ITS KICK IN THE PANTS. SO NOW LETS MOVE ON TO CURING.

CURING

A BUDD IS STILL ALIVE WHEN AND AFTER IT HAS BEEN HARVESTED OFF OF THE PLANT. JUST LIKE A ORANGE, PEAR, OR APPLE IS TOO WHEN IT IS REMOVED OFF OF IT'S TREE. THEY WILL CONTINUE TO RIPEN IN THE SAME MANNER AND EVENTUALLY MOVE ON TO SPOILING OR DECOMPOSING AS WELL. METOBOLIC CHANGES ARE OCCURING IN YOUR MARIJUANA AS IT RIPENS AND MATURES. IN CURING THE CHLOROPHYLLS AND OTHER CHEMICALS IN YOUR BUDDS WILL BEGIN TO BREAK DOWN. THIS DIRECTLY INCREASES THE TASTE, FLAVOURS AND AROMAS OF YOUR FINE POT. CANNABINOID ACIDS DECARBOXYLATE INTO PSYCHOACTIVE CANNABINOIDS, AND TERPENES ISOMERIZE TO CREATE NEW POLYTERPENES WITH TASTES AND FLAVOURS DIFFERENT FROM FRESHLY HARVESTED FLORAL CLUSTERS. (technically speaking phew!) ESSENTIALLY THOUGH YOUR STRAINS POTENTIAL IS COMING FORTH. SO PICKING, DRYING, AND THEN SMOKING YOUR WEED IS NOT NECCISARILY THE BEST THING TO DO WITH YOUR POT. CURING WOULD BE OR COULD BE THE IMPROVMENT YOUR LOOKING FOR IN YOUR MARIJUANA. BUDDS DO BEST CURING IN A COOL DARK PLACE. THE TOP SHELF OF A CUBOARD OR A BEDROOM DRAWER OR SHELF IS GREAT. IN MY OPINION THE BEST WAY I CAN SUGGEST FOR STORING AND THIS CURING PROCESS IS IN GLASS MASON JARS. PLASTIC BAGGIES BREATH AIR OVER TIME AND CREATE CONDENSATION. IF YOUR LOOKING FOR SOMTHING SHORT TERM I WOULD GO WITH THE BAGGIES OR SOME PAPER BAGS. TUPPERWARE CONTAINERS ARE GOOD BUT SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE IT ADDS A UNDESIERABLE FLAVOUR TO THEIR WEED AFTER TIME. BUT LONG TERM I WOULD GO WITH THE MASON JARS. FREEZING YOUR WEED IS VERY BAD FOR IT. THINK OF A T.H.C. MOLECULE AS LIKE THE INSIDE OF A TOMATOE. SAME PRINCIPLE, IF WE FREEZE A TOMATOE THEN UNFREEZE IT ITS INSIDES HAVE BROKEN DOWN. THC MOLECULES ARE SIMULAR TO THIS AND IT WILL HURT YOUR WEED WHETHER YOU BELIEVE IT OR NOT. BUT YOU CAN USE ALL OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED FINE, (except for the freezing) FOR THE CURING PROCESS, AND YOU WILL FIND YOU RECIEVE IMPROVING RESULTS IN YOU POT. WITH YOUR POT DRY THE CURING NEEDS TO HAPPEN ON ITS OWN WITH NO NEED FOR ANY REAL WORK FROM YOU. JUST STORE IT AWAY FOR A TWO WEEK OR THREE WEEK PERIOD. REMEMBER TO CHECK IT REGULARLY IN THE BEGINNING TO SEE IF IT WAS TOO WET AND IF MILDUE HAS SET IN OR NOT. IF IT IS HAS LEAVE IT OUT TO DRY SOME MORE THEN RESTORE IT BACK AWAY. MASON JARS ARE STILL IN MY OPINION THE BEST WAY TO STORE MY BUDDOLA'S PUT THE KITCHEN OVEN ON TO 150 DEGREES. NOW PUT YOUR DRY HERB INTO THE MASON JARS 9/10ths FULL. PACKING THEM FIRMLY BUT NOT REAL TIGHT. ENOUGH SO THE MOVING AROUND OF THE JARS WONT CAUSE THE BUDDS TO RUB TOGETHER, DISTURBING AND KNOCKING OFF THE CRYSTALS. WITH THE OVEN WARM WE SET THE JARS IN. WAITING ONLY ONE MINUTE WERE NOT HAVING A COOK OUT HERE YA KNOW ! PUT ON YOUR OVEN MITTY'S AND REACH IN AND PUT ON THE JARS LIDS. TAKE THEM OUT RIGHT AWAY AND WHEN THEY HAVE COOLED YOU WILL HAVE CREATED A VACUME AIR TIGHT SEAL. THE CANNABIS IN THESE JARS WILL LAST A VERY, VERY, LONG TIME ON THE SHELF. BUT I WOULDN'T KNOW I NEVER HAVE HAD ONE AROUND LONG ENOUGH BEFORE I CRACKS IT OPEN AND STARTS A SMOKIN IT. SO YOU CAN SEE CURING IS A IMPORTANT FACTOR IN FINDING AND ENJOYING YOUR MARIJUANA STRAINS POTENTIAL.

FLAVOURING WEEDS ???

SOMETHING THAT I DO FOR KICKS TO ENJOY SOME DIFFERENT TASTES IN MY MARIJUANA IS THE FLAVOURING OF SOME OF MY BUDD. NOTHING TO FANCY OR HARD TO DO. IN FACT QUITE SIMPLE AND DONE WITH JUST SOME COTTON BALLS OR SWABS, AND JARS OR PLASTIC SEALABLE CONTAINERS. DEPENDING ON YOUR OWN PERSONAL TASTES, COMBINED WITH THE TASTE OF SMOKE, YOU WILL HAVE TO EXPERIMENT YOURSELF WITH DIFFERENT FLAVOURED THINGS, TO SEE WHAT GOES WITH YOUR STRAIN AND YOUR OWN TASTES. IM PARTIAL TO VANILLA EXTRACT. I SOAK THE COTTON BALL REAL GOOD IN THE VANILLA AND I PUT IT INTO A SEALABLE CONTAINER. THEN I PUT A SMALL CARDBOARD SEPERATOR IN. THIS IS TO KEEP THE WEED AWAY FROM MAKING CONTACT WITH THE COTTON BALL. I DONT WANT THE WEED TO GET WET WITH THE VANILLA. I PUT ON THE LID AND LEAVE IT ALONE TWO OR THREE WEEKS. ON THE SECOND AND THIRD WEEKS I MIGHT RESOAK THE COTTON BALL WITH MORE VANILLA. WHEN THE THREE WEEKS HAVE PASSED TAKE OUT YOUR WEED AND SMOKE IT UP. TASTE QUITE DIFFERENT DONT IT ? TASTE VANILLAELY ? IT WORKS REALLY GOOD. SOME OTHER CHOICES FOR YOU ARE "UZO" A LICORICE FLAVOURED LIQUOR. ALL THE FRUITY EXTRACTS LIKE BLUEBERRY, STRAWBERRY, AND CHERRY. PEPPERMINT, AND CINNAMMON STALKS. THE CHOICES ARE REALLY ENDLESS FOR YOU AND YOUR OPEN TO A WIDE VARIETY OF OPTIONS. TRY IT OUT FOR YOURSELF GIVE YOURSELF A FLAVOURING MARIJUANA SMOKING TREAT TODAY.

COME ON YOU DESERVE IT, YOU KNOW YOU DO !