

KRATOM FACT SHEET



Department of
Agriculture

WHAT IS KRATOM?



Kratom is a tropical tree in the coffee family (*Mitragyna speciosa*) that is native to Southeast Asia. The kratom leaves are the part of the tree that are used and sold either fresh or dried. When dried, the kratom leaves are typically sold in the form of green powder. Dried leaves are also used to make tablets, capsules, extracts and gum as well as other edible products.

According to the US Drug Enforcement Administration, consumption of Kratom leaves produces both stimulant effects (in low doses) and sedative effects (in high doses), and can lead to psychotic symptoms as well as psychological and physiological dependence.

Additionally, FDA reports that Kratom is often used to self-treat conditions such as pain, coughing, diarrhea, anxiety and depression, opioid use disorder, and opioid withdrawal.

IS IT LEGAL TO MANUFACTURE, WAREHOUSE, OR SELL KRATOM IN OHIO?

Currently, the only legal way to manufacture, warehouse, or sell natural Kratom is in its vegetation form (whole or dried leaf form, or in a powdered form). Natural Kratom is not permitted to be processed into, or marketed as, a food, drug, or dietary supplement (e.g., incorporated into a food or represented as any edible product.)

Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Encapsulated
- If the labeling (including advertisements suggests or directs the consumer to make the product into a food or ingestible product
- If the labeling includes ingestion directions (i.e., dose information) or includes a supplemental or nutritional fact panel

WHY DOES OHIO RESTRICT THE SALE OF NATURAL KRATOM?

Kratom is not a generally recognized as safe ingredient for food, nor is it an approved drug or dietary supplement, therefore, ODA is following its authority in Ohio Revised Code 3715.55 (adulterated drugs) and 3715.59 (adulterated foods-including dietary supplements) in manufacturing and warehouse facilities. In retail facilities, the local health departments are following their authority in Ohio Administrative Code 3717-1-03.1 (I) (additives – receiving) and 3717-1-03.2 (F)(1) (protection from unapproved additives). Further, this approach to Kratom is in line with the FDA. For more information on [FDA's position regarding Kratom](#), scan the QR code on the right.



For information on kratom-related (non-natural kratom) products and their restrictions, please see the factsheet provided by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy - [Kratom: Consumer & Retailer Notice](#) or scan the QR code on the right.



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