



Testing and Reporting Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting

Version 2.0

Effective Date: March 31, 2021

Horticultural lighting products using LEDs must comply with the provisions of this document to be eligible for listing on the DLC Solid-State Horticultural Lighting Qualified Products List (“Horticultural QPL”, “Hort QPL”). Products eligible for DLC qualification must be complete LED light fixtures. That is, they must be electromagnetic radiation-generating devices analogous to luminaires (or fixtures) as defined by ANSI/IES RP-16 sections 6.8.5 and 10.3.1.

Definitions

Unless otherwise noted, DLC policy nomenclature directly references the definitions from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) *ANSI/ASABE S640: Quantities and Units of Electromagnetic Radiation for Plants (Photosynthetic Organisms)*, and, where applicable, the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) *ANSI/IES RP-16: Nomenclature and Definitions for Illuminating Engineering*, with key deviations or interpretations noted. Each mention of the term “LED device” in this document is meant to reference LED packages, modules, or arrays.

Eligibility

Products designed and intended to operate with standard North American nominal AC line voltages (typically 120V – 480V) are eligible for DLC qualification. The following are further eligibility rules for horticultural lighting equipment:

- Products that are lamps (analogous to RP-16 sections 6.8.5.3 and 6.8.5.4), light engines (analogous to RP-16 section 6.8.5.5), or identified as retrofit kits intended to replace the light sources or other structures within an existing fixture are not eligible for qualification at this time.
- Fixtures that incorporate light sources other than LED, whether as sole-source or as LED-hybrid fixtures, are not eligible for qualification at this time.



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- Fixtures that employ *externally* supplied active cooling systems, including circulating liquid and ducted forced air, are not eligible for qualification at this time.
 - Fixtures that incorporate *internal* active cooling systems that can be measured via standardized fixture test procedures, such as on-board fans, are eligible.
 - Manufacturers must list full and complete model numbers that clearly demonstrate all qualified product options offered.
 - “Full and complete model numbers” means model numbers that include all performance-affecting and non-performance-affecting variations offered, and which do not omit any option that is available to customers in the market. In general, options that do not affect the performance of the product can be submitted as a single model number, and the multiple options can be denoted by bracketing them in the model number.

39 For example, a product that has multiple exterior paint color options or mounting options that do not affect performance may include all color and mounting options in brackets (e.g. "[WH, BLK, SLV, GRY]") within a single model number. Low and high voltage options may be submitted as a single model number (e.g. "ABC 300 [120V-277V, 347V-480V] WH") with the worst-case performance reported. Multiple driver variations may be included in single product applications, as noted above, and listed in a single model number as long as they perform nominally the same. If the drivers perform nominally differently – that is, they are not presented to customers as having the same performance other than voltage input and result in different ordering codes – then the unique drivers must be listed in separate model numbers. Options that affect the flux output, presence or lack of dimming capabilities, or spectral tuning options cannot be bracketed and submitted as a single model number.
 - DLC reviewers may check web listings and other marketing materials and reserve the right to request additional information to demonstrate the full and complete model number. A lack of clarity in model numbers will result in delayed application processing; misrepresentation of model numbers in the application process discovered outside the application process will generally be considered a violation of the DLC program and trademark rules.
 - Each model number can only represent the fixture under a single brand. If the fixture can be sold under multiple brands, model numbers must be listed separately for each brand.
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60 Testing Methods and Requirements

61 The DLC Technical Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting are as follows. Details explaining
62 each item follow **Table 1**.

63 Table 1: DLC Horticultural Lighting Technical Requirements

Parameter/Attribute/Metric	Requirement	Requirement Type	Method of Measurement/Evaluation
Photosynthetic Photon Flux (Φ_p or PPF) ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$)	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 400-700nm range, with 400-500nm, 500-600nm, and 600-700nm bins reported alongside the total
Far-Red Photon Flux ($\Phi_{p,fr}$ or PPF _{FR}) ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$)	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 700-800nm range
Photon Flux (PF _{PBAR}) ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$)	n/a	Reported (Optional)	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 280-800nm range
Spectral Quantum Distribution (SQD) ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{nm}^{-1}$)	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) (ANSI/IES TM-33-18) 400-800nm range
Photosynthetic Photon Intensity Distribution (I_p or PPID) ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{sr}^{-1}$)	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) (ANSI/IES TM-33-18) 400-700nm range
Photosynthetic Photon Efficacy (K_p or PPE) ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$)	$\geq 1.90 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$	Required/Threshold	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 400-700nm range
Photon Efficacy (PE _{PBAR}) ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$)	n/a	Reported (Optional)	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 280-800nm range
Photon Flux Maintenance, Photosynthetic (PFM _p)	Q ₉₀ $\geq 36,000$ hours	Required/Threshold	(ANSI/IES LM-80 / IES TM-21 or IES LM-84 / IES TM-28) 400-700nm range, fixture technical specification sheet, and <i>In-Situ Temperature Measurement Test</i> (ISTMT)

Parameter/Attribute/Metric	Requirement	Requirement Type	Method of Measurement/Evaluation
Photon Flux Maintenance, Far-Red (PFM_{FR})	Report time to Q ₉₀	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-80 / IES TM-21 or IES LM-84 / IES TM-28) 700-800nm range
Driver Lifetime	≥50,000 hours	Required/Threshold	Driver technical specification sheet, fixture technical specification sheet, and <i>In-Situ Temperature Measurement Test</i> (ISTMT)
Fan Lifetime	≥50,000 hours	Required/Threshold	Fan technical specification sheet, fixture technical specification sheet
Warranty	5 years	Required/Threshold	Legal warranty terms & conditions
Power Factor (PF)	≥0.9	Required/Threshold	Benchtop electrical testing or ANSI/IES LM-79
Total Harmonic Distortion, Current (THDi)	≤20%	Required/Threshold	Benchtop electrical testing or ANSI/IES LM-79
Safety Certification	Horticultural Lighting designation by OSHA NRTL or SCC-recognized body	Required/Threshold	ANSI/UL 8800 (ANSI/CAN/UL 8800)

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65 **Output Characteristics:**

66 The DLC requires testing and reporting of the following characteristics for the output of horticultural
67 lighting devices.

- 68 • **Photosynthetic Photon Flux (Φ_p or PPF), (μmol × s⁻¹)**

69 This is the total output of the product over the specific range of wavelengths defined by
70 ANSI/ASABE S640 for PPF (400-700nm). This metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture
71 and contains no spectral or directional information.

72 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on both the total and ~100nm-wide “bins” of flux within this
73 range to allow end users to understand the fixture’s relative proportions. Test information must
74 provide output in these ranges specifically, in addition to the total 400-700nm output.



- 75 • **Far-Red Photon Flux ($\Phi_{p,fr}$ or PF_{FR}), ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$)**
76 This is the output of the product over the “far-red” band defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 (700-
77 800nm). This metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture and contains no spectral or
78 directional information. This metric is reported only and does not have a qualifying threshold.
79 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on the total flux of this 100nm-wide band separately for end
80 users’ informational needs.
- 81 • **Photon Flux (PF_{PBAR}), ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$)**
82 This is the output of the product over a plant’s “photobiologically active radiation” (PBAR)
83 wavelength range (280-800nm). This metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture and
84 contains no spectral or directional information. This metric is optionally reported only and does
85 not have a qualifying threshold.
86 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on the total flux of this PBAR band specifically for end users’
87 informational needs. PF_{PBAR} is intended to convey UV, PAR, and FR radiation, which are often
88 associated with photomorphological effects in plants. PF_{PBAR} is not an ASABE S640 defined term
89 and is not required for DLC qualification, though it can be reported and listed if desired by
90 applicants.
- 91 • **Photon Efficacy (PE_{PBAR}), ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$)**
92 This is the output of the product over a plant’s “photobiologically active radiation” (PBAR) band
93 (280-800nm) divided by the total electrical input watts to the fixture, including any other
94 ancillary loads (controllers, sensors, cooling fans, etc.) used within the lighting system. This
95 metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture and contains no spectral or directional
96 information. This metric is optionally reported only and does not have a qualifying threshold.
97 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on the total flux of this PBAR band specifically for end users’
98 informational needs. PE_{PBAR} is intended to convey luminaire efficacy in converting electrical
99 energy into UV, PAR, and FR radiation, which are often associated with photomorphological
100 effects in plants. PE_{PBAR} is not an ASABE S640 defined term and is not required for DLC
101 qualification, though it can be listed if desired by applicants.
- 102 • **Spectral Quantum Distribution (SQD), ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{nm}^{-1}$)**
103 This is the distribution of photon flux per photon wavelength over the photosynthetic and far-
104 red range of wavelengths defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 (400-800nm). The DLC will also accept
105 the distribution of photon flux per photon wavelengths over the PBAR range (280-800nm).
106 When reporting either of the optional PBAR metrics (i.e. PF_{PBAR} and PE_{PBAR}), distribution of
107 photon flux over the PBAR range is required. This distribution is measured and reported as
108 integrated in all directions from the fixture and contains no granular directional information
109 itself. This distribution must be measured and reported from an appropriately accredited
110 facility.
111 An image of this distribution must be submitted within the application in a .jpg graphical file
112 format, at a size of 300x300 pixels or larger. This image will be accessible to users on the QPL.
113 The DLC intends to utilize the required .xml file per ANSI/IES TM-33-18 to generate these images
114 in the future.

115 Please refer to the [TM-33-18 Reporting and Photometric/Spectral Reporting Alternatives](#) section
116 for additional information.

- 117 • **Photosynthetic Photon Intensity Distribution (I_p or PPID), ($\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{sr}^{-1}$)**
118 This is the distribution of photosynthetic photon intensity per unit solid angle leaving the fixture.
119 This distribution is measured and reported as integrated for all wavelengths across the 400-
120 700nm range leaving the fixture and contains no spectral distribution information itself. This
121 distribution must be measured and reported from an appropriately accredited facility.

122 An image of this distribution is to be submitted within the application in a .jpg graphical file
123 format, at a size of 300x300 pixels or larger. This image will be accessible to users on the QPL.
124 The DLC intends to utilize the required .xml file per ANSI/IES TM-33-18 to generate these images
125 in the future.

126 Please refer to the [TM-33-18 Reporting and Photometric/Spectral Reporting Alternatives](#) section
127 for additional information.

128 *Note: The DLC will no longer accept distribution data that are developed through in-house*
129 *assessments. Products that were qualified prior to the V2.0 effective date must provide TM-33-*
130 *18 documents by December 31, 2021 to requalify to the V2.0 Technical Requirements, or the*
131 *products will be delisted.*

132 **Efficacy:**

133 The DLC requires testing and reporting of Photosynthetic Photon Efficacy (PPE), which is the output of
134 the fixture over the specific range of wavelengths defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 for PPF (400-700nm),
135 divided by the total electrical input watts to the fixture, including any other ancillary loads (controllers,
136 sensors, cooling fans, etc.) used within the lighting system.

137 All products are required to have a PPE of $\geq 1.90 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$. In both submitted applications and under
138 surveillance testing, the DLC allows an absolute tolerance of -5% to this threshold value. The result of
139 this is the DLC's acceptance of any test report showing an efficacy of $1.81 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$ or higher, and the
140 disqualification of any product, either during submission or surveillance testing, with a test report
141 showing an efficacy less than $1.81 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$, at any point in the product's specified operating voltage
142 range. All evaluations and listings of this measurement will be rounded to the nearest hundredth.

143 If a product contains multiple drivers:

- 144 • All driver specification sheets must be provided.
- 145 • For each unique driver used, manufacturers must provide electrical testing to document which
146 driver variation results in the overall minimum K_p (PPE) or worst-case driver efficiency, as well as
147 which variation results in the overall worst-case power quality (THDi and PF).
 - 148 ○ This testing must include the input current and wattage; the output voltage, current,
149 and wattage; and the THDi and PF for each driver, at each nominal input voltage.
 - 150 ○ In-house (i.e. non-accredited lab) benchtop electrical testing is sufficient for
151 demonstrating the driver variation that yields the overall minimum K_p (PPE) and

152 minimum power quality at the applicable loading conditions and at the applicable input
153 voltages.

- 154 ○ From this electrical characterization testing, the product and conditions representing
155 worst-case efficacy must undergo formal whole-fixture LM-79 testing by an accredited
156 testing lab.
- 157 ○ For questions about testing requirements for family grouping applications, please refer
158 to the [Family Grouping Application Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting](#)
159 [policy](#). *Note: Family grouping applications will follow an interim application process*
160 *utilizing both the application portal and email communication from April to June 2021.*
161 *Please reference the [Interim Application Period Guidance for V2.0](#) for submission details.*
- 162 ● Drivers that result in explicitly different nominal fixture performance (for example, if a driver
163 change results in different flux output by the product, determined at the DLC’s discretion) are
164 not permissible variations within a single model number and are required to submit a family
165 grouping application for QPL listing. If alternate driver variations result in different input
166 wattage, worst-case will be published on the QPL.
 - 167 ○ Please refer to the [Family Grouping Application Requirements for LED-based](#)
168 [Horticultural Lighting policy](#) for specific testing and reporting requirements for product
169 families. *Note: Family grouping applications will follow an interim application process*
170 *utilizing both the application portal and email communication from April to June 2021.*
171 *Please reference the [Interim Application Period Guidance for V2.0](#) for submission details.*

172 Long-Term Performance:

173 The DLC requires the following performance data to characterize the long-term performance of the
174 fixture:

- 175 ● **Flux Maintenance, Φ_p (PPF) and $\Phi_{p,fr}$ (PF_{FR})**
176 This is a characterization of the ability of the device to maintain its output within the given
177 parameters over time. Given that device output of interest is measured in quanta of photons,
178 and not in lumens, the DLC will use the general engineering term for quanta, “Q”, instead of the
179 more-familiar “L” prefix used within general illumination applications.
 - 180 ○ The DLC requires either LED device-level or whole-fixture testing and projections in
181 accordance with the (LM-80 and TM-21) or (LM-84 and TM-28) industry standards
182 sufficient for a Q₉₀ of ≥36,000 hours within the Φ_p (PPF) range (400-700nm).
 - 183 ■ The “Q” in the Q₉₀ value is based strictly on the value shown in cell I42 of the
184 ENERGY STAR [TM-21 calculator](#) or cell I45 of the ENERGY STAR [TM-28 calculator](#).
 - 185 ○ All TM-21 or TM-28 projections must be made at the maximum ambient temperature on
186 the fixture’s specification sheet. See [In-Situ Temperature Measurement Testing \(ISTMT\)](#)
187 information below for additional details.
 - 188 ○ The DLC requires testing and projections to report Q₉₀ for the $\Phi_{p,fr}$ (PF_{FR}) range of 700-
189 800nm, but does not make determinations or qualifications based on this data. Please

- 190 see a description of PFM_{FR}-specific testing requirements in the “[For fixtures using](#)
191 [multiple types of LEDs](#)” section below.
- 192 ○ To support PFM_P and PFM_{FR} projections, LM-80/LM-84 information must be provided for
193 both the 400-700nm and the 700-800nm range.
 - 194 ■ All new product submissions using the LM-80/TM-21 approach are required to
195 provide LM-80 data in appropriate (PPF, PFM_{FR}) units, measured as such at all time
196 points in the LM-80 procedure. The DLC reserves the right to request additional
197 information for all reports referring to “photon flux” that are ambiguous (based
198 on product SQD) about the division of said flux between the PPF and PFM_{FR}
199 categories to determine approval.
 - 200 – Products qualified with non-PPF units that were converted into PPF
201 units during the provisional period (i.e. prior to V1.2) will be required to
202 provide LM-80 data in appropriate units to requalify under the V2.0
203 Technical Requirements.
 - 204 – Provisionally qualified products will be allowed to update their listings
205 to remove any caveats by submitting actual data by December 2021.
206 The DLC will process these update applications through the month of
207 December, 2021. *Note: The DLC will begin accepting update applications*
208 *for V1.2 listed products in June 2021. Please refer to the [Interim](#)*
209 *[Application Period Guidance for V2.0](#) for more information.*
 - 210 ■ Products may not be qualified and listed on the QPL without long-term
211 performance data for flux degradation. Products that use LEDs for which no LM-
212 80 data is available are required to undergo LM-84 testing for TM-28
213 projections.
 - 214 ○ *In-Situ Temperature Measurement Testing (ISTMT):*
 - 215 ■ ISTMTs must be conducted and provided for the hottest LED in the fixture, and
216 LED-device level drive current must be reported.
 - 217 ■ ISTMTs must be conducted and reported in the same manner as thermal testing
218 for safety certification. Specifically, applicants must report the operating
219 temperature of the LED at the fixture’s highest rated ambient temperature
220 within the ISTMT report. This must be done in accordance with acceptable
221 procedures from safety certification standards for measuring and projecting
222 operating temperatures. For example, if a fixture is rated for operation at 40°C
223 ambient, ISTMTs are not accepted if they only show the temperature of the LED
224 when measured during a 25°C ambient condition. In this example, appropriate
225 steps must be taken to characterize the LED operating temperature when the
226 fixture is in a 40°C ambient environment, as defined by the thermal portions of
227 the relevant safety standards.
 - 228 ○ For fixtures using multiple types of LEDs:
 - 229 ■ LM-80 reports (if being used instead of whole-fixture LM-84 data) must be
230 provided for each type of LED device present in the fixture.

272 warranty must cover the complete luminaire and must clearly explain the terms and conditions
273 associated with the warranty. Note that “luminaire” includes light source, housing, heat sink,
274 power supplies, and other electrical components, optics, and any other components such as
275 cooling fans or controls (if present).

276 Warranty terms and conditions can vary widely from manufacturer to manufacturer. The DLC
277 explicitly defines a warranty period of five years and does not have specific requirements for
278 warranty claim terms (e.g. labor, recommissioning, etc.) other than those listed above. The DLC
279 does not verify or validate a manufacturer’s terms, conditions, or process for customer warranty
280 claims. The DLC does not monitor field failure rates of qualified products or warranty policy
281 redemption or history among manufacturers. Industry stakeholders are urged to review
282 warranty terms and conditions as part of the purchasing decision process.

- 283 • **Driver ISTMT**

284 Applicants must supply a technical specification sheet for the driver(s) they use in their product,
285 showing the lifetime of the driver based on operating temperature and the temperature
286 measurement point (TMP) for monitoring the operating temperature of the driver. In-situ
287 temperature measurement testing must be conducted, and a report must be provided with the
288 application showing an operating temperature consistent with the driver specification sheet
289 information and demonstrating that the driver will have a lifetime of at least 50,000 hours when
290 operating at or above the highest rated ambient temperature on the fixture’s specification
291 sheet.

292 As noted in the [ISTMT](#) description within the flux maintenance section, driver ISTMTs must be
293 conducted and reported in the same manner as thermal testing for safety certification.
294 Specifically, applicants must report the operating temperature of the driver at the fixture’s
295 highest rated ambient temperature within the ISTMT report. This must be done in accordance
296 with acceptable procedures from safety certification standards for measuring and projecting
297 operating temperatures. For example, if a fixture is rated for operation at 40°C ambient, ISTMTs
298 are not accepted if they only show the temperature of the driver when measured during a 25°C
299 ambient condition. In this example, appropriate steps must be taken to report the driver
300 operating temperature when the fixture is operating in a 40°C ambient environment, as defined
301 by the thermal portions of the relevant safety standards.

- 302 ○ For products that may use multiple drivers, specification sheets for each driver must be
303 provided with the details above. Testing must be conducted on each driver at its
304 appropriate worst-case input voltage. If a product uses multiple drivers from the same
305 manufacturer product line or series, then the single worst-case thermal ambient
306 environment of the product line or series requires a driver ISTMT. The DLC will operate
307 with the expectation that the operating condition at the highest wattage in the driver
308 manufacturer’s product line or series is the worst-case thermal ambient environment,
309 but the DLC may ask the manufacturer to provide detailed evidence to document the
310 worst-case driver thermals.

- 311 • **Fans**

312 Products that employ on-board cooling fans must provide a technical specification sheet for
313 each fan type employed in the product, family group, or spectral sub-group, as applicable. The

314 fan specification sheet must state the lifetime of the fan and a reference operating temperature
315 rating for that lifetime claim. The lifetime must be at least 50,000 hours, at an operating
316 temperature at or above the fixture's highest rated ambient temperature.

317 If the product is available with multiple fan models:

- 318 ○ If fan model variations result in substantively different component temperature or
319 wattage consumption by the fixture (determined at the DLC's discretion), a family
320 grouping application is required with model numbers to represent the different fan
321 variations. DLC reviewers will examine fan model power levels and flow rate to
322 determine this distinction. Products that offer fan variations without substantively
323 different component temperature or wattage consumption by the fixture are allowed to
324 qualify using bracketed variations within a single model number. *Note: Family grouping
325 applications will follow an interim application process utilizing both the application
326 portal and email communication from April to June 2021. Please reference the [Interim
327 Application Period Guidance for V2.0](#) for submission details.*
- 328 ○ Multiple fan variations require a similar testing and reporting plan to multiple driver
329 variations, as noted in the efficacy section.

330 **Electrical Performance/Power Quality:**

331 The DLC requires testing and reporting of the following items to characterize the electrical performance
332 of the fixture:

- 333 • **Power Factor**
334 Products must have a measured power factor of ≥ 0.90 at any rated input voltage at full output
335 or non-dimmed state.
- 336 • **Total Harmonic Distortion, current (THDi)**
337 Products must have a measured THDi of $\leq 20\%$ at any rated input voltage at full output or non-
338 dimmed state.

339 For products with driver variations, including input voltage variations, electrical testing of each product
340 must be performed, sufficient to characterize the power quality of each driver, at its applicable nominal
341 input voltages and maximum designed output power. Testing to demonstrate that products are
342 compliant with the power factor and total harmonic distortion requirements may be done on an in-
343 house or benchtop setup for practical simplicity, and results must be documented and included in the
344 application materials. Please see the efficacy section regarding the use of this electrical testing for
345 worst-case efficacy driver variation determination. Please refer to the [Family Grouping Testing
346 Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting policy](#) for specific testing and reporting requirements
347 for product families. *Note: Family grouping applications will follow an interim application process
348 utilizing both the application portal and email communication from April to June 2021. Please reference
349 the [Interim Application Period Guidance for V2.0](#) for submission details.*

350 **Safety:**



351 Products must be certified by an OSHA NRTL or SCC-recognized body to ANSI/UL 8800 (ANSI/CAN/UL
352 8800) which is applicable for *horticultural lighting products* by that safety organization.

353 For illustrative and reference purposes, practices of acceptable safety organizations are described
354 below:

- 355 • **UL**
356 Fixture manufacturers who use UL for safety certification purposes are required to be listed on
357 the UL Certification Directory under the designation IFAU.
- 358 • **ETL/Intertek**
359 Fixture manufacturers who use ETL for safety certification are required to be listed on the ETL
360 Certification Directory, specifically as Horticultural Fixtures.
- 361 • **CSA Group**
362 Fixture manufacturers who use CSA for safety certification are required to be listed under CSA
363 Group's Classes defined for horticultural lighting equipment in Canada and the US.
- 364 • **TÜV SÜD**
365 Fixture manufacturers who use TÜV SÜD for safety certification are required to be listed on the
366 TÜV SÜD Certification Directory, specifically as a light fixture for use on horticulture purposes.
- 367 • **SGS**
368 Fixture manufacturers who use SGS for safety certification are required to be listed on the SGS
369 Certification Directory, specifically as horticultural lighting equipment.
- 370 • **Other safety organizations**
371 To be added to the DLC's approved list of safety organizations who certify horticultural lighting
372 equipment per ANSI/CAN/UL 8800 requirements, please contact horticulture@designlights.org.

373 **Special Considerations for Spectrally-Tunable Products**

374 Spectrally-tunable products (those with varying output channels beyond simple, single-axis dimming of
375 the whole product) are eligible with the following conditions:

- 376 • The threshold-qualifying state to be tested must be the manufacturer-designed state with the
377 highest power consumption ("maximum power"). This may or may not be the same as an "all
378 channels on" condition, since fixtures may not be designed to use all their channels
379 simultaneously. Test reports must specifically indicate that the product is operated in this
380 "maximum power" condition during the testing, with a description of the control narrative to
381 ensure that the power state is at its maximum designed level.
- 382 • In addition to the "maximum power" condition, applicants must perform PPF testing for each
383 control channel, in which the channel under test must be set to the maximum designed output,
384 while all other channels must be set to their minimum designed output for this state. The test
385 report must present an identifying name of this channel and setting, the PPF (400-700nm total
386 and 400-500nm, 500-600nm, and 600-700nm "bins" PPF) and PF_{FR} (700-800nm) for each of the
387 single-channel scenarios, and a description of the control narrative to achieve each setting. For
388 each channel tested, a corresponding graphic for the SQD produced in that setting must be
389 provided in the application. Refer to the SQD section for reporting requirements.

- 390 ○ The flux output of each specific channel testing is displayed on the DLC Horticultural
- 391 QPL, with the per-channel test outcomes and identifying information for each setting.
- 392 These data are intended to support standardized communication of information about
- 393 the product’s spectral tuning range, aiding product selection and user acceptance.
- 394 ● Applicants must provide user-facing documentation narrating the control protocol and input
- 395 parameters employed in controlling the output.
- 396 ● For PFM_P and PFM_{FR} evaluation:
- 397 ○ Provisions for products utilizing multiple types of LEDs must be followed as described in
- 398 the [For fixtures using multiple types of LEDs](#) section.
- 399 ○ ISTMT testing must be provided on the hottest of each of the LED types. For each
- 400 unique LED type, ISTMT testing must occur at the operating mode that produces the
- 401 highest operating temperature in the fixture, for this LED type.
- 402 ○ The DLC asks any applicants considering LM-84-based maintenance testing on a
- 403 spectrally-tunable fixture to contact horticulture@designlights.org to discuss their
- 404 proposed testing plan.

405 Tolerances

406 The DLC accepts measurement tolerances to most metrics listed in the Technical Requirements. Please
 407 refer to **Table 2** below for additional tolerance information.

408 **Table 2: DLC Horticultural Lighting Technical Requirements Tolerances**

Parameter/Attribute/Metric	V2.0 Tolerances
Photosynthetic Photon Efficacy	-5%
Power Factor	-3 percentage points
Total Harmonic Distortion	+5 percentage points
ISTMT Temperature Measurements	1.1°C or 0.4%, whichever is greater
LM-80 Drive Current	-5%

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410 Tolerances are intended to account for all testing variation, rounding, and significant digits. The
411 requirement values and tolerances will be interpreted by DLC review staff as exact requirements. While
412 test labs will be expected to follow the requirements of their accreditation and relevant test standards,
413 DLC staff will not employ additional “rounding” to interpret values below the absolute thresholds as
414 passing. For example, if a horticultural lighting product is required to have a PPE of 1.9 with an efficacy
415 tolerance of -5%, any value for efficacy less than 1.81 will be interpreted as a failing value. It is the
416 applicant’s responsibility to check all data presented in an application before submission to ensure
417 compliance with the DLC requirements.

418 **Supporting Documentation**

419 **Test Reports**

420 The DLC requires that all testing be conducted at appropriately accredited laboratories except where
421 noted otherwise. Specifically:

- 422 • Testing of flux, intensity, and electrical characteristics must be conducted at laboratories that
423 are accredited to ISO 17025 and the appropriate reference test standard by accreditation bodies
424 that are signatories to the ILAC-MRA.
 - 425 ○ Labs conducting whole-fixture performance testing must also follow the [DLC](#)
426 [requirements for LM-79 labs](#).
 - 427 • Labs conducting testing of device-level and/or fixture-level photon flux maintenance must also
428 follow the [DLC requirements for LM-80/LM-84 labs](#).
 - 429 • Labs conducting *In-Situ Temperature Measurement Testing* (ISTMT) must meet at least one of
430 the following:
 - 431 ○ Approved by OSHA as Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories (NRTLs)
 - 432 ○ Approved through an OSHA NRTL data acceptance program or OSHA Satellite
433 Notification and Acceptance Program (SNAP)
 - 434 ○ Accredited for ANSI/UL 1598 or CSA C22.2 No. 250.0-08, including Sections 19.7, 19.10-
435 16, by an accreditation organization that is an ILAC-MRA Signatory

436 **TM-33-18 Reporting and Photometric/Spectral Reporting Alternatives**

437 The DLC requires all applicants to submit accompanying .xml files per ANSI/IES TM-33-18 for each parent
438 or single product to represent the spatial and spectral distribution of the tested fixture.

- 439 • The .xml file must be based on measured data from an accredited lab, accompanying the LM-79
440 testing requirements for spectral and spatial measurements.
- 441 • The .xml file must include the spectral power distribution data, with an interval resolution of
442 5nm or smaller over the photosynthetic and far-red range of wavelengths defined by
443 ANSI/ASABE S640 (400-800nm). The DLC also requires the distribution of photon flux per photon
444 wavelengths over the PBAR range (280-800nm) in the case that applicants provide PF_{PBAR} and

445 PE_{PBAR} data. Spectral data in 1nm intervals are acceptable. The spectral measurement
446 represents the integrated flux in all directions from the fixture, without directional spectral
447 information. Per TM-33-18, the data is reported in W/nm, not spectral quantum distributions.
448 All DLC developed and interim manufacturer submitted SQD images will report in $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times$
449 nm^{-1} .

- 450 • The .xml file must also include the Photosynthetic Photon Intensity Distribution (PPID), reported
451 in $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{sr}^{-1}$, over the photosynthetic wavelengths defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 (400-
452 700nm). PPID is the distribution of photosynthetic photon intensity per unit solid angle leaving
453 the fixture. Each measurement is integrated across the 400-700nm range leaving the fixture and
454 contains no granular spectral distribution information (i.e. color over angle).

455 To facilitate time for accredited labs to develop or purchase TM-33-18 reporting software, the DLC
456 offers a 9-month grace period for applicants to provide .xml files compliant with TM-33 reporting for
457 parent products. If TM-33-18 reports are not available, applicants must submit LM-63 and TM-27 (i.e.
458 .ies and .spx files, respectively) for parent products or single products.

- 459 • For manufacturers choosing to submit .ies and .spx files instead of .xml files in the interim
460 period, they must resubmit data compliant with TM-33-18 reporting requirements by December
461 31, 2021, or the products will be delisted.
- 462 • The .ies files must contain [_OTHER] keywords to describe the units of intensity values and a
463 conversion factor relating photosynthetic photon intensity to luminous intensity (conversion
464 factor = PPF/lumens).

465 **Additional Application Details**

466 In addition to the test data noted in the sections above, the DLC requires the following for all
467 submissions:

- 468 • A completed web-based application form
- 469 • Specification sheets (or “cut sheets”) for the product that include maximum ambient
470 temperature
- 471 • Specification sheets for all drivers and fans employed in the product, including lifetime-at-
472 temperature information
- 473 • Safety certificates of compliance as issued by the relevant safety body, attested to by the DLC
474 self-certification statement
- 475 • If demonstrating flux maintenance at the device-level, a completed TM-21 calculator must be
476 provided for each LED device present in the fixture, with the applicable LM-80 and ISTMT
477 information for that LED device. If demonstrating flux maintenance at the fixture-level, a
478 completed TM-28 calculator must be provided for the fixture, with the applicable LM-84
479 information accompanying it.

480 The DLC will only accept applications for products with testing on the product submitted, with only
481 limited variations permitted as detailed in the sections above. Given the multiple options within product
482 families, the DLC offers the [Family Grouping Application Requirements for LED-based Horticultural](#)

483 [Lighting policy](#), which describes a method to determine “worst-case” product family members. *Note:*
484 *Family grouping applications will follow an interim application process utilizing both the application*
485 *portal and email communication from April to June 2021. Please reference the [Interim Application Period](#)*
486 *[Guidance for V2.0](#) for submission details.*

