

THE EMERALD CONFERENCE

Produced by MJBizScience

March 1-3, 2023

www.TheEmeraldConference.com

A New Sustainable Perspective on Utilizing Fresh Outside Air Inside of Cultivation Facilities: Protecting Plants and People with Improved Indoor Air Quality

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Abstract: Fear of contamination has led operators to keep outside air from entering the building with recirculation. This short-sighted approach has perhaps allowed plants to stay somewhat healthy; however, it has caused significant impacts to worker health in the industry. For this reason, Byers Emissions Analysis' team of scientists recommends efficiently and effectively treating the air inside of the facility to create cleaner air for both plants and people to breathe. As a preliminary step to a more comprehensive integrated pest management system, removing microscopic airborne contaminants, such as biosecurity threats of *Aspergillus*, powdery mildew etc., as well as particulate matter that can be threatening to human health, improving indoor air quality safely and with proven technology is critical to a sustainability cannabis industry. Whether operating in a greenhouse-style facility with exhaust fans or a fully indoor environment there are significant energy savings when you are able to take advantage of free cooling (using outside air) coupled with proper indoor air filtration. Hear from world-renowned air chemist and Sr. Scientist at Byers Emissions Analysis, Alex Guenther, PhD, as he unpacks the ins and outs of current indoor air quality in the cannabis industry and data-driven, forward looking actionable steps operators can take right now to safeguard their plants and people.