




INDIE HOPS STRATA® CGX™

  		HOP ANALYSIS: STRATA® CGX™	
		Alpha	23.1 - 23.5%
		Beta	9.3 - 9.6%
		Total Oil	3.1 - 3.2 ml/100g
5KG PACK	TYPE	CY2022 PER KG	CY2022 PER KG
Indie Hops Strata®	CGX™ Cryogenic Lupulin Pellets	£67.95	£68.95

Indie Hops Strata®'s distinctive aroma and flavours have broken new ground in the craft beer world, and the full depth of Strata®'s hop character that T90 Strata pellets introduced is now complemented by Strata® CGX™ concentrated cryogenic lupulin pellets.

CGX™ pellets have roughly twice the concentration of hop resins compared to T90 pellets, resulting in reduced vegetative matter and improved efficiency.

However, because certain desirable hop oil components are removed, and others amplified in CGX™ pellets, the flavour and aroma contributions from Strata® CGX™ differ a little from those in the Strata® T90 pellets you might be used to.

When using Strata® CGX™, it's crucial to use a foundation of Strata® T90 Pellet to maintain the full flavour Strata® flavour spectrum. Optimum ratios will vary, but in aggressively hopped beers, Indie Hops currently recommends 15-25% of T90 Pellet replaced by half that amount by weight of CGX™.

FLAVOUR DIFFERENCES: STRATA® T90 VS STRATA® CGX™ PELLETS

Indie Hops T90 pellets contain over 99% of the natural hop cone. A very small amount of resins and vegetative matter are lost in the pelleting process. Indie Hops T90s are a "high fidelity" representation of the natural hop flavours people have fallen in love with in beer.

CGX™ utilises a cryogenic process that allows for separation of lupulin glands from most of the vegetative parts of the cone. A portion of the vegetative parts are added back to reach a doubling of alpha acids. Some oils are potentially doubled as well, but some oils are left behind. For example, desirable Terpenoids are sacrificed to achieve better yields while certain other desirable components (i.e. Terpene hydrocarbons) become more concentrated.

Because certain hop oil components are concentrated, while others are removed, flavour and aroma contributions from CGX™ differ slightly from whole cone hops and Indie Hops T90 pellets. For Strata® in particular, to achieve the full depth of hop character you're used to with this variety, you will need to use a base of T90 pellets and build on this with Strata CGX™ pellets to enjoy the benefits CGX™ offers.

HOW IS STRATA® CGX™ BEST USED?

Because concentrated pellets amplify just a portion of the natural hop cone character, laying a foundation with T90 pellets is crucial in order to realize the full spectrum of aroma and flavour that sets Strata® apart as a hop.

In aggressively hopped beers, replacing a portion of your T90s with half that amount of CGX™ by weight can save you money while still achieving the full spectrum of hop character.

The ideal portion of T90s to replace with CGX™ varies. It could be 15%, or it might be 25%. You may even opt to add CGX™ as an addition to your regular hop bill to turn up the hop intensity. It all depends on the recipe and your preference as a brewer.



HOW CAN STRATA® CGX™ PELLETS INCREASE EFFICIENCY?

In aggressively hopped beers, increased beer yield is the big benefit to using CGX™ as a portion of your hop bill. Vegetal matter is cut in half from standard T90s, so less beer is lost.

Some key components (e.g. Terpenoids) are sacrificed in order to achieve better yields and to increase certain other key components (e.g. Terpene hydrocarbons). There is a small tradeoff when brewing with cryogenic pellets. Using them in conjunction with T90 pellets moderates this tradeoff to an acceptable/desirable level.

USE STRATA® CGX™ TO GUARD AGAINST 'HOP CREEP'

Even though early indications are that Strata® is less likely to cause 'hop creep' than other hop varieties that are heavily leaned upon in hoppy beers, it's still handy that the concentrated CGX™ pellets reduce vegetative matter and the propensity for hop creep.

If your aggressively hopped beer is taking on excessive vegetal notes, swapping out some T90s for CGX™ can mitigate excess vegetal character by reducing vegetative matter.