



Industrial Hemp Production

FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions Industrial Hemp Production

What is industrial hemp?

Industrial hemp is a specific plant variety derived from the plant *Cannabis sativa* L and is among the same species as marijuana. It contains a low concentration of the psychoactive constituent known as Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) which means it cannot be used as a drug. The hemp plant is limited for use in textiles, fiber, forage, cosmetics, etc.

Is it legal to produce?

Under the limitations of 2014 U.S. Farm Bill Section 7606 and 2015 Nevada Senate Bill 305, industrial hemp can be produced in Nevada only in a research program certified by the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA). In order to grow hemp legally, THC concentrations must stay below a 0.3 percent threshold. Strict inspections, sampling and analyses will be conducted, and if a crop is found to have a THC concentration above the threshold, the NDA may order the destruction of the crop at the producer's expense.

Is there a restriction on acreage that can be produced?

The NDA has not incorporated an area restriction within its hemp regulations. The producer is free to produce as much industrial hemp as desired as long as research intentions are maintained and inspections are inclusive and current.

What can producers do with hemp post-harvest?

Producers can make hemp products with the crop post-harvest, as long as the components satisfy THC restrictions. Any use post-harvest must be indicated within the research synopsis and approved by the NDA. The sale of oils derived from industrial hemp may require approval by the FDA.

How much water does hemp need to grow?

Data will be collected from this research program related to industrial hemp water usage in Nevada.

What products are typically made with industrial hemp?

The plant can be processed into fiber for use as textiles,

refined into cosmetic products and/or pressed for oil. Hemp products include lotion, rope and insulation. Many producers are looking into innovative applications for hemp.

Does cultivation require pesticide applications?

There are not many pests in Nevada known to like hemp. This means industrial hemp will most likely involve fewer pesticide applications per season. Several pesticides that have been identified for use on medical marijuana can also be used for industrial hemp but may be expensive for use on large areas.

How do I apply for the research and development program?

An interested producer can access the application on the Industrial Hemp Program page at the NDA website. Prior to applying, producers should have the following information on hand:

- ▶ Location of crop production (specific GPS coordinates)
- ▶ Detailed outline of research intentions
- ▶ All relevant contact information
- ▶ Program policy found on the NDA website

Apply for the program online at http://agri.nv.gov/Industrial_Hemp/ or contact Russell Wilhelm, industrial hemp program manager.

Can I purchase my own seed?

Because hemp is a member of *Cannabis sativa* L family, it is considered a Schedule 1 drug by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The NDA has been issued an import permit by the DEA and can act as the liaison between seed suppliers and producers to purchase seed on their behalf. Producers may order any seed certified by an accredited entity. The producer will need to indicate the desired seed details on the application and prepay through the NDA before seed can be purchased. Contact Russell for information regarding sourcing certified seed.

Contact

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