

# Industrial Hemp in Kansas

## Part 2 – What about seed?

In 2019, Kansas residents who have acquired a license from the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) will be allowed to grow, handle, and/or process Industrial Hemp (IH). Kansas State University (KSU) will be conducting research to gain information valuable to growers across the state. Extension professionals can consult and offer advice, but KSU and its affiliates do not have seed or plants for sale.

### What is the recommended seeding rate?

- No research on this issue has been conducted at KSU thus far. However guidelines do exist.
- Fiber: 45-65 #/A, drilled ½ to 1 inch deep, 4 to 8 inch row spacing
- Grain & Dual Purpose: 10-40#/A, drilled ½ to 1 in deep, 8 to 16 in row spacing
- Cannabinoids: same as Grain if harvesting large quantity of plant material by combine. Also can be grown similar to high value specialty vegetable crops. Transplant plugs into plasticulture system in rows 6 ft apart with 4 ft spacing within the row.

### Seed suppliers

- Locating seed may be the most difficult task in this rapidly evolving industry. Here is a place to start.
  - Hemp Genetics International
  - Parkland Industrial Hemp Growers
  - Schiavi Seed
  - HempLogic

### Breeding, saving seed & wild collecting

- According to the rules and regulations for growing IH in Kansas, all hemp must come from Certified Seed of approved varieties.
- If you are breeding, saving your own open pollinated seed, or collecting seed from feral (naturalized) populations, those seed are not certified.
- According to the rules and regulation in place for growing season 2019, you cannot grow hemp from any source other than Certified Seed. Please do not save seed or wild collect.

### Challenges

- Seed is expensive (\$10 - \$20/lb or more) and difficult to locate. Prices as high as \$1/seed have been reported.
- No data exists evaluating approved varieties for production in Kansas. Do your homework and see what varieties have done well in other states
- Seeding date is important as it directly relates to plant height at maturity. There is no data evaluating recommended seeding dates in Kansas.

