

# Industrial Hemp

## Part 1: A Legal Distinction



**Featuring:** Dr. Zack Brym

### Main Ideas

- UF/IFAS started an industrial hemp project to support the potential of a sustainable and viable hemp crop in Florida.
- In order for the Cannabis sativa plant to be classified as hemp, the crop cannot exceed a 0.3% concentration of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).
- The 2014 Farm Bill and the Pilot Project Statute reintroduced hemp production into Florida.
- Hemp can be used for grain, fiber, and oil.
- When used as a cover crop, hemp can improve soil quality.

### Discussion Questions

1. Why is the introduction of new crops important to the agriculture industry?
2. Were you aware of the distinction between hemp and marijuana prior to this podcast?
3. How has this podcast changed your opinion on the hemp industry?
4. What challenges do farmers who are new to hemp production face?

### Tips from the Speaker

1. Before making assumptions about a crop like hemp, research credible sources to fully understand the topic.
2. Be aware of legislative actions that affect agriculture in the United States, like the Farm Bill.

### Other Resources

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ss689>  
<https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/hemp/news/events/>  
<https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/hemp/>

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## Part 2: What's Florida's View?



**Featuring:** Dr. Shelli Rampold

### Main Ideas

- Many study participants could not differentiate hemp from marijuana. Approximately 25% incorrectly believed that hemp was used recreationally and cannabidiol (CBD) was psychoactive.
- The majority of participants supported the legalization of hemp, citing health benefits and the diversity of its use.
- People with positive attitudes towards legalizing hemp are more likely to have a positive attitude towards legalizing marijuana.

### Discussion Questions

1. What are contributing factors that can lead to a misinformed public related to hemp production?
2. How can communicators better educate the public on the hemp industry?
3. Perceived understanding does not always align with scientific facts. What are some ways you can distinguish fact from opinion?

### Tips from the Speaker

1. Product information must be available in order to achieve consumer support.
2. Comparing facts with perceived understanding can help communicators better inform the public.

### Other Resources

<https://piecenter.com/2020/10/05/stakeholder-engagement-and-on-farm-research-for-industrial-hemp-commercialization-in-south-florida-seedit/>

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