

Industrial Hemp

Overview

Currently, U.S. legislation makes it illegal to raise industrial hemp (*Cannabis sativa*) commercially. However, numerous state and national initiatives are working to return industrial hemp production to the United States, where it once was a major crop. Fiber and food uses for industrial hemp are growing rapidly and have increased over 300 percent in the past few years. Much of that growth is coming from the increased sales of hemp food products. August 2011 ... [Industrial Hemp](#)

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Marketing

- [Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance](#) (CHTA).
- [European Industrial Hemp Association](#) (EIHA) - Founded in 2005, the EIHA today has 70 members from 24 different countries.
- [Hemp: A New Crop with New Uses for North America](#), Ernest Small and David Marcus, 2002.
- [Hemp Industries Association](#) - Association working to change regulations and policies prohibiting the use of hemp for commercial purposes.
- [Hemp Report](#) - A Canadian subscription-based online trade journal.
- [HEMPTECH](#), the Industrial Hemp Information Network - This network provides news services and other resources about the history and use of industrial hemp.
- [Illegally Green](#): Environmental Costs of Hemp Prohibition, Reason Foundation Policy Study 367, 2008.
- [Industrial Hemp: The Ultimate Web Resource for Hemp](#) - Extensive links to industrial hemp resources, news stories and trade associations.
- [Industrial hemp in Oregon](#), Oregon Department of Agriculture.
- [Industrial Hemp in the United States: Status and Market Potential](#), Economic Research Service (ERS), USDA, 2000 - Includes potential production and processing reports, markets and testing.
- [Industrial Hemp Report](#), Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 2010 - The commissioner of agriculture identifies and analyzes industrial hemp laws and procedures in Canada or one or more of the other 30 nations where industrial hemp is grown as an agricultural crop. In particular, the commissioner reports on how law enforcement and other authorities differentiate between industrial hemp and marijuana growing in the field.
- [Industrial Hemp Statistics](#), Statistics Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, 2008.
- [National Industrial Hemp Strategy Final Complete](#); Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiative and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; 2008.
- [North American Industrial Hemp Council](#) - News and government updates on the status of industrial hemp.
- [Report on European Industrial Hemp](#), European Industrial Hemp Association, 2010, p. 43 - This annual report discusses the newest developments and products from the European hemp industry.
- [Vote Hemp](#) - This nonprofit organization is dedicated to the acceptance of and free market for industrial hemp.

Processing

- [The Case for Hemp as a Biofuel](#), University of Washington, 2008 - This paper considers if using hemp to produce biodiesel and ethanol results in higher yields of ethanol than competing cellulosic crops including corn and switchgrass.
- [Global Hemp Website](#) - This Web site explores industrial hemp as a renewable resource, explaining how it can be used in food, cosmetics, fuel, textiles, paper, cleaners and paint and building materials.
- [Hemp: A sustainable raw material for bio-based composites](#), *Bioplastics* magazine, 2010, p. 36.

- [Hemp Biomass for Energy](#), Fuel and Fiber Company, revised 2006.
- [Hemp for car parts](#) - new eco businesses grow from plants with EU and EEDA funding, Innovation in Crops, or InCrops, University of East Anglia, United Kingdom (UK), 2008 - This five-year project in the United Kingdom will look at using plants in innovative ways such as using hemp for building and car components.
- [Hemp Fabric Goes High Fashion](#), Hemp Industries Association, 2008 - This association estimates that the North American retail market for hemp textiles and fabrics exceeded \$100 million in 2007 and is growing around 10 percent per year, about the same rate as the general hemp market.
- [Hemp Oil and Hemp Fiber](#), Crop Production Costs, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Manitoba, Canada, 2008.
- [Hemp Seeds and Hemp Oil as Food](#), European Industrial Hemp Association, 2009.
- [Industrial hemp \(Cannabis sativa L.\) as a papermaking raw material in Minnesota](#): technical, economic and environmental considerations, Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, 2001.

Production

- [An Assessment of Industrial Hemp Production in Maine](#), Maine Agricultural Center, 2006.
- [Growing Industrial Hemp in Ontario](#), Ontario, Canada, reviewed 2009 - Includes a cost and return budget.
- [Hemp](#), National Centre for Biorenewable Energy, Fuels and Materials, United Kingdom (UK), 2010 - Information on growing, harvesting and storing hemp in the UK and its uses as a non-food crop.
- [Hemp](#), The National Non-Food Crops Centre, UK.
- [Hemp](#), Alberta Agriculture and Food, Canada, 2007.
- [Hemp as an Agricultural Commodity - Updated Version](#), Congressional Research Service, 2007.
- [Hemp in Ontario](#), OMAFRA, Ontario, Canada.
- [Hemp heaven... and hell](#): A story in two parts, Rodale Institute.
- [Industrial Hemp](#), University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, 2009.
- [Industrial Hemp](#), Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ontario, Canada.
- [Industrial Hemp](#): A cropping guide for farmers, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, 2007.
- [Industrial Hemp Fact Sheet](#), Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- [Industrial Hemp Production](#), Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Canada, 2006.
- [Vote Hemp Report](#) - Comprehensive 2002/2003 industry overview.

Businesses/Case Studies

- [Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps](#), California - This 60-year-old company produces certified organic liquid and bar soaps that contain coconut, hemp, jojoba and olive oils.
- [Manitoba Harvest Hemp Foods & Oils](#), Canada - Founded five years ago, this manufacturer has grown from \$50,000 in sales its first year to more than \$1 million in sales today.
- [Nutiva](#), California - This company markets such organic hemp products as hemp oil, hemp protein and hemp seed.

Links checked May 2011.

Countries Producing Hemp

1. AUSTRALIA allows research crops. And in Victoria, Australia commercial production is now licensed.
2. AUSTRIA has a hemp industry including production of hempseed oil, medicinals and Hanf magazine.
3. CANADA started to license research crops in 1994 on an experimental basis. In addition to crops for fiber, one seed crop was experimentally licensed in 1995. Many acres were planted in 1997. Canada now licenses for commercial agriculture with thousands of acres planted in 1998. Over 30,000 acres were planted in 1999
4. CHILE grows hemp mostly for seed oil production.
5. CHINA is the largest exporter of hemp paper and textiles. (ma)
6. DENMARK planted its first modern hemp trials in 1997. Committed to utilizing organic methods.
7. FINLAND has had a resurgence of hemp (hampu) beginning in 1995 with several small test plots.
8. FRANCE harvested 10,000 tons in 1994. France is the main source of viable low THC hempseed. The French word for hemp is "chanvre".
9. GERMANY only banned hemp in 1982, but research began in 1992 and many technologies and products are being developed. Clothes and paper are being made from imported raw materials. Germany lifted the ban on growing hemp November, 1995. The German word for hemp is hanf.
10. GREAT BRITAIN lifted hemp prohibition in 1993. Animal bedding, paper and textiles have been developed. A government grant was given to develop new markets for natural fibers. 4,000 acres were grown in 1994. Subsidies of \$230 Eng. pounds per acre are given by the govt. for growing.
11. HUNGARY is rebuilding their hemp industry, and is one of the biggest exporters of hemp cordage, rugs and hemp fabric to the US They also export hemp seed and hemp paper. The Hungarian word for hemp is kender.
12. INDIA has large stands of naturalized Cannabis and uses it for cordage, textiles, and seed oil.
13. JAPAN has a religious tradition which requires that the Emperor wear hemp garments, so there is a small plot maintained for the imperial family only. They continue to import for cloth and artistic applications.
14. NETHERLANDS is conducting a four year study to evaluate and test hemp for paper, and is developing processing equipment. Seed breeders are developing new strains of low THC varieties. The Dutch word for hemp is hennep.
15. POLAND currently grows hemp for fabric and cordage and manufactures hemp particle board. They have demonstrated the benefits of using hemp to cleanse soils contaminated by heavy metals. The Polish word for hemp is konopij.

16. ROMANIA is the largest commercial producer of hemp in Europe. Total acreage in 1993 was 40,000 acres. Some of it is exported to Hungary for processing. They also export to Western Europe and the United States. The Romanian word for hemp is cinepa.
17. RUSSIA maintains the largest hemp germplasm collection in the world at the N.I. Vavilov Scientific Research Institute of Plant Industry (VIR) in Saint Petersburg. They are in need of funds. The Russian word for hemp is konoplya.
18. SLOVENIA grows hemp and manufactures currency paper.
19. SPAIN grows and exports hemp pulp for paper and produces rope and textiles. The spanish word for hemp is canamo.
20. SWITZERLAND is a producer of hemp. The Swiss words for hemp are hanf, chanvre or canapa depending on whether you are in the French, German or Italian speaking area.
21. EGYPT, KOREA, PORTUGAL, THAILAND, and the UKRAINE also produce hemp.

UNITED STATES granted the first hemp permit in 40 years to Hawaii for an experimental quarter acre plot in 1999. Importers and manufacturers have thrived using imported raw materials. Twenty states in the United States have introduced legislation. VT, HI, ND, MT, MN, IL, VA, CA, AR, & MD have legislated for support, research, or cultivation with bills or resolutions. Three states have initiatives pending: CO, AK, MI.

Bibliography:

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Jack Frazier, The Great American Hemp Industry
Richard Rose, Rella Good Cheese Co.
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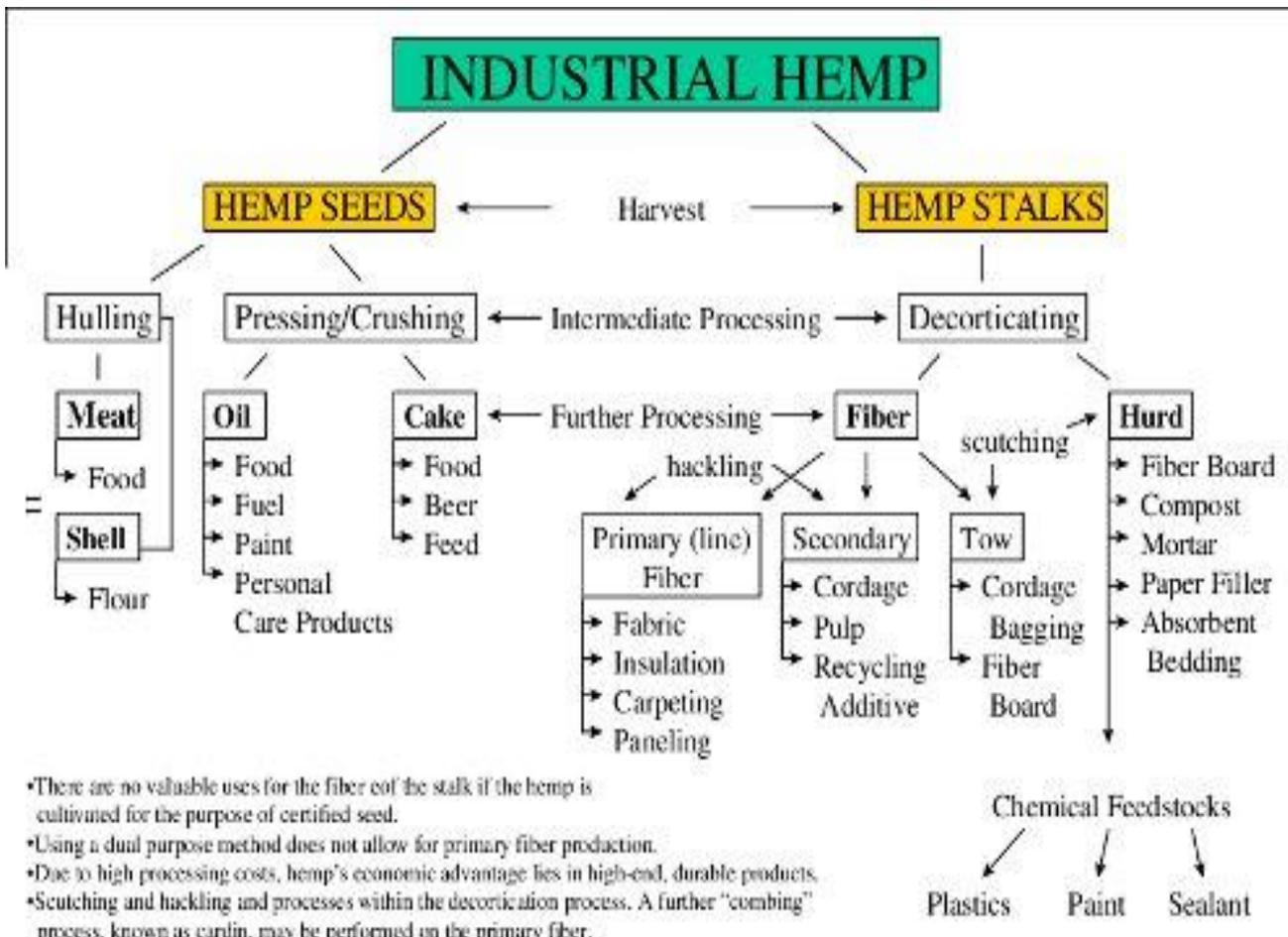


Figure 4. Hemp Products Flowchart. Processing to End Product Groups, Dustin Mahrem, Undergraduate, Jodi L. Young, Department of Agricultural Economics, North Dakota State University, 1988.