



March 17, 2020

University of Missouri- Industrial Hemp Research Guidelines

Industrial hemp is a variety of the *Cannabis sativa* L. plant that contains no more than 0.3 percent concentration (on a dry weight basis) of the psychoactive compound delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

Under the 2018 Farm Bill, industrial hemp is no longer categorized as a Schedule I Controlled Substance.

Missouri Law permits institutions of higher education to research the cultivation and marketing of industrial hemp.

Please note that the 2018 Farm Bill prohibits participation in hemp cultivation by anyone with a felony conviction related to controlled substances within ten years of the conviction.

Hemp research by University of Missouri researchers is allowed but must be conducted in compliance with both federal and Missouri laws, and University policies, including policies for on-going testing of THC levels and disposal of plants or their derivatives that exceed the legal level of THC.

Please direct any questions to: **Chase Bunger, Office of Sponsored Programs Administration, 573-882-0275, bungerc@missouri.edu**

Frequently Asked Questions

The following information is intended to assist campus researchers in understanding the requirements for cultivating and conducting research regarding industrial hemp.

- 1. Do University researchers need to register with Missouri Department of Agriculture in order to cultivate industrial hemp?**

No.

- 2. May a University researcher accept industrial hemp seeds or plant materials from outside entities?**

Yes, if the seeds or plants contain no more than 0.3% THC on a dry weight basis and there is confirmation that the outside entity is legally permitted to cultivate industrial hemp. Outside entities may cultivate industrial hemp pursuant to a USDA state approved plan or,

in the absence of a state plan, pursuant to a license obtained directly from the USDA. Hemp seeds may be imported from abroad for research purposes consistent with applicable USDA regulations.

Individual researchers are not authorized to enter into agreements on behalf of the University, and must work with their appropriate authorized campus office if they are contemplating agreements with hemp companies. For assistance with contracting, researchers may consult [campus business services personnel in the Division of Finance](#).

3. May University researchers sell or donate hemp plants or byproducts?

No. Under the current law, hemp cultivation by the University may be conducted solely for research purposes.

4. Are research projects that involve human or animal consumption of hemp or hemp derived materials allowed?

Research with industrial hemp or hemp derivatives, including hemp derived cannabidiol (CBD), involving humans or animals remains subject to legal requirements established by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in addition to the usual required approvals, including IACUC approval for animal subjects and IRB approval for human subject research. **Each project will be reviewed by the UM System's Office of General Counsel.**

5. May University researchers or Extension faculty provide advice to outside entities regarding the cultivation of industrial hemp?

Yes. University researchers and Extension faculty may provide advice to Missouri companies who are licensed by the Missouri Department of Agriculture to cultivate or produce industrial hemp. Such consulting must be performed and reported in compliance with University conflict of interest policies, which can be found through the [Office of Research and Economic Development website](#). University researchers and extension faculty in their professional capacity may not advise or assist marijuana companies or cultivators because marijuana remains illegal under federal law.

6. What happens if marijuana growers are a part of a general audience, where marijuana and industrial hemp growers might both be present or have access to the information?

If your presentation is based on the University's industrial hemp research activities, you may present the information to the general audience.

7. May the University accept funding from outside donors or industry sponsors in order to conduct industrial hemp research?

Proposals for external funding should be submitted to the Office of Sponsored Programs for review. OSPA will work with OGC on any sponsored research agreement or Material Transfer Agreement. It is critical that anyone wanting to work in this space contact OSPA very early in the process so that critical issues are identified and responses can address important deadlines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. McIntosh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mark A. McIntosh

Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development