

Texas A&M AgriLife Hemp Crop Survey—2020

Download from <http://varietytesting.tamu.edu/hemp>

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This information solicited from first-time growers of hemp in Texas in 2020 is voluntary. Feedback from hemp growers will help Texas A&M AgriLife better identify common items for success and improvement of Texas hemp production. Your information will be kept private and no personally identifiable information will be made public.

You do not need to answer all questions as this survey is lengthy. In that case answer what you are able or have time for. We suggest that you answer in stages as your crop progresses through the season rather than wait until after the crop is complete.

What county is your crop planted in?

Do you own the land you planted on?

(I will have a separate survey edition for indoor growers, posted by late July.)

What is the goal of your hemp growing?

Fiber

Grain

Extractable cannabinoids

Smokable non-narcotic cannabis

Dual purpose (list combination of grain/fiber, cannabinoid/fiber, etc.)

Is your hemp production organic?

Do you have a contract with a buyer for your crop?

What was the previous crop in the field (and when planted and when harvested)?

If you know, what herbicides were applied to the previous crop where you will plant hemp?
(rate, timing, application method)

Do you believe you had any type of herbicide injury (from your soil, whether from your own physical drift, or from an adjacent field)?

Variety(ies) you planted

How did you decide what seed or planting stock to purchase?

Did you purchase your seed from an internet reseller (probably not a seed company)?

What type of seed or planting stock did you use?

- straight-run seed (produces a 50:50 mix of female and male plants)
 - If you planted straight-run seed, did you remove male plants?
- feminized seed
- transplants,

- clones
- For any planting type, what was the cost per unit? (e.g. lb. of seed, or individual feminized seed, transplant, or clone)

What are your observations on germination (none, poor, fair, good, complete)?

What are your observations of early seedling vigor (grew slow, grew OK, grew fast)?

Did you have seedlings die after emergence? (if so, low, moderate, high death.)

At one month after planting do the plants generally look uniform?

When plants are producing floral structures, do the plants look uniform? (If not, please describe, and estimate the % of plants that look like they might be off-types, or different from the general appearance)?

To what degree did you find pollination and seed development in female plants grown from feminized seed, clones, or transplants? (none, trace, minimal, some, moderate, a lot; or use an estimate of percentage)

Planting/establishment

What date(s) did you plant?

If you could, would you have planted earlier?

Did you have any problems in planting?

What was your planting pattern? (for example, drilled on 8-inch rows, row crop on 40-inch rows, 5' X 5' rows)

Did you use plastic or weed barrier mulch? Did you use any other type of mulch including a cover crop?

How many seed/transplants/clones planted per acre? (an acre is 43,560 square feet)

Number of acres?

Weeds

Was the field free of weeds before you planted? (If not, what weeds were present?)

What weeds, if any, were a problem in your crop?

How did you control weeds in your crop? (hoe by hand, mulch, mechanical cultivation)

If you hoed weeds by hand, during the life of the crop about how many hours of hoeing or other weeding did you do per acre?

Insects

Did you have any insect problem in your field?

If so, what insects were they? What stage of growth was the hemp?

If you would like to know what insects are present in your hemp contact your local county Texas A&M AgriLife Extension agent (find name and office contact) at <https://agriflifepeople.tamu.edu/extensionLists/counties> (You can submit digital pictures to the county agent. Please submit pics of the insect and the damage they cause.) These will be relayed to Dr. Holly Davis, AgriLife Extension entomologist, Weslaco, and Dr. Trostle.

Plant Diseases

Did you have any visible plant diseases?

If so, when did they occur (stage of growth, age of plant, etc.)?

What was the severity? (none, low, moderate, high)

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension cannot yet receive and assess hemp plant parts for analysis of plant diseases. We are working with Texas Dept. of Agriculture to be permitted to do so. In the interim, please submit digital pictures of any leaf or stalk symptoms with a brief description of your growing conditions and location to AgriLife Extension plant pathologists Dr. Tom Isakeit, College Station, t-isakeit@tamu.edu or Dr. Ken Obasa, Amarillo, ken.obasa@ag.tamu.edu (and copy Dr. Trostle).

Do not send or bring plant tissues (which would require a transport permit) until further notice.

Other pests

Did you have trouble with deer, wild hogs, or rabbits?

If so, what type of damage and when did it occur?

Was it severe?

Soil type

What kind of soil did you plant your hemp on? (sandy, loamy, clayey)

Did you have a problem with poor drainage?

Did you take a soil test?

If so, which lab did you use for analysis and recommendations? (Texas A&M AgriLife's soil testing lab welcomes soil samples for hemp. See <http://soiltesting.tamu.edu>)

Based on the soil test, what were the recommendations?

What fertilizer or soil amendments did you apply?

Irrigation

Was the field irrigated?

If so, what type of irrigation? (furrow, sub-surface drip, surface drip, sprinkler)

If irrigated, what was your frequency and interval between irrigation?

How much irrigation do you think was applied from one month before planting to harvest (approximate inches)?

How much rainfall did you receive from one month before planting to harvest (approximate inches)?

Overall, do you feel the crop grew well? (none, poor, fair, good, excellent)

Environmental Issues

Did you have any storm damage on your crop (wind, hail, pounding rain)?

If so, when did it occur?

About how tall was the crop?

Do you think it hurt plant growth or yield? (if so, please describe, including if the plants recovered.)

What was the approximate highest temperatures your crop experienced? Did that occur before or after the reproductive growth (flowering) began?

THC Testing

Did you check your crop for THC over time, apart from the legally mandated THC sampling within 15 days before harvest?

If you checked more than once or on a regular interval, what did you observe for THC in your lab analysis?

Harvesting

How did you harvest your crop? (cut by hand, swather, combine, etc.)

How did you decide WHEN to harvest your crop?

And when was your crop harvested?

- How many days before actual harvest did you notify Texas Dept. of Agriculture of your intent to harvest?
- How many days after that notification were field samples collected for THC analysis?
- How many days from the time of official THC sampling until you harvested?

If you have the results back, what was the % of THC in your crop?

Do you have any indication or actual yield numbers per acre? (lbs. of grain, tons of fiber, pounds of dried biomass, yield of CBD or other cannabinoids after extraction)

Drying Your Crop

Did you dry your crop in the field? If so, how long did it take?

If you used hand harvest, did you cut the whole plants off to take to drying?

If so, did you have enough drying space?

If you used other means of drying please describe?

Was your drying adequate to prevent mold and other potential rotting pests?

Regulations

Do did you have a clear understanding of the Texas Department of Agriculture hemp production rules?

If not, what did you have trouble understanding or fulfilling?

Based on your 2020 experience, will you consider growing hemp again? Why or why not? _____

If you grow hemp again in 2021, what will you consider doing differently? _____

Looking back at your first attempt to grow hemp, what do you wish you had known beforehand? _____

What are the one or two best things you did to grow your 2020 hemp crop? _____

If you feel your hemp crop (cannabinoids, fiber, or grain) did not yield well or did not grow well, what do you think were the main limiting factors (rank up to three choices—1 for main issue, 2 for secondary issue, 3 for additional issue).

- No problems Bird damage Disease Drought Hail
- Poor seed establishment and growth Herbicide damage Insects
- Plants did not stand up well Weeds Vandalism
- Other (describe: _____)

Did you use a crop consultant or advisor in growing your hemp crop?
If so, was it helpful?

Economics

Texas A&M AgriLife is not requesting economic information, but if you would like to estimate your approximate cost of growing your hemp (preferably per acre), this information would be helpful.

Were there any unexpected expenses in your 2020 hemp production?

What was your largest unexpected expense?

Was there any aspect of your 2020 hemp production that cost much more than expected?

How many hours of labor do you estimate it took per acre to produce, harvest, and dry your hemp crop?

Do you believe you will make a profit on your 2020 hemp production?

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If you have questions about your 2020 hemp production experience and would like to visit with a member of Texas A&M AgriLife, you may provide your name, e-mail, and cell phone number. You can also e-mail Dr. Trostle, and he will relay your question to the appropriate AgriLife Extension faculty.

Your name: _____

County of hemp production: _____

E-mail: _____

Cell phone: _____

If you have questions about your hemp production but prefer your survey information be anonymous, please contact Texas A&M AgriLife Extension separately.