

## **USDA Launches Nation Survey of 20,000 Hemp Farmers to Inform Policy and Industry Stakeholders**

*Kyle Jaeger | August 27, 2021*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is moving forward with a large-scale survey to gain insight into the hemp market that's emerged since the crop was federally legalized under the 2018 Farm Bill.

After requesting permission from the White House earlier this year to conduct the survey of about 20,000 hemp farmers, the agency's National Agricultural Statistics Service announced on Thursday that the forms are being finalized to be filled out via mail or online.

USDA is asking questions about plans for outdoor hemp production, acreage for operations, primary and secondary uses for the crop and what kinds of prices producers are able to bring in. The questionnaire lists preparations such as smokeable hemp, extracts like CBD, grain for human consumption, fiber and seeds as areas the department is interested in learning about.

The survey also goes over whether farmers are hand-trimming the hemp they produce, if they plan to extract cannabinoids or terpenes from the crop, what kind of yields they've harvested and how they obtain the seeds and clones they use.

"The purpose of the proposed initial survey is to develop national and State estimates of the hemp planted and produced in 2020," a USDA explanatory document says. "The survey will be conducted annually. The questionnaires used for this survey will collect data for hemp produced in the open as well as under cover (greenhouses, low or high tunnels, hoop houses, etc.)."

To read the full article: <https://www.marijuanamoment.net/usda-launches-national-survey-of-20000-hemp-farmers-to-inform-policy-and-industry-stakeholders/>

## Could Legal Hemp Put Your Security Clearance at Risk?

*On Behalf of The Devadoss Law Firm, P.L.L.C. | January 3, 2020*

Just because something is legal doesn't mean it's a good idea. This is even more true when the legal product is almost the same as one that's still illegal.

Government Executive recently pointed out that CBD oils are often loosely regulated—or completely unregulated. Manufacturers often fail to list their product's THC levels. Buy the wrong product, and you might find yourself in possession of marijuana instead of hemp. This could be trouble for anyone, but it could be a disaster for federal employees who need to maintain their security clearances.

### What should you know about hemp and CBD oils?

The 2018 Farm Bill lies at the heart of Government Executive's reminder. It removed hemp from the FDA's list of controlled substances. And that change prompted an explosion of new hemp products, many of which aren't yet legal.

The confusion owes largely to the fact that hemp is closely tied to marijuana. In fact, the differences between the two are often misunderstood and hard to identify:

- Hemp and marijuana are both names for different types of Cannabis plants
- Hemp is a term used to describe Cannabis plants with less than 0.3% tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
- The plants look and smell alike
- Hemp generally doesn't get people high
- Hemp and its derivatives are legal, but marijuana is illegal in many states and at the federal level

Cannabidiol, or CBD, is a hemp derivative. It's legal, but as The Washington Post recently noted, it's still not legal in food. But that hasn't stopped manufacturers from making it available in food. Nor has it stopped them from selling CBD in places they're not supposed to. The Post noted that it purchased 11 different CBD items from Amazon, even though the online giant claims it bans the substance.

To read the full article: <https://www.fedemploymentlaw.com/blog/2020/01/could-legal-hemp-put-your-security-clearance-at-risk/>

## Biden's New Science Adviser Shares Views on Foreign Influence, Research Budgets, and More

*Chris Bennett / June 8, 2021*

American farmers are asleep as a thief strips machinery, barn, bins, and fields of all valuables—and then returns for more. China has breached the inner walls of the U.S. agriculture industry in what has arguably been the most expansive heist in farming history, and is currently attempting to steal or hack every conceivable facet of U.S. agriculture technology.

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) openly has declared its intent to dominate high-tech industries across the world, including agriculture, by 2025.

To read the full article: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2021/06/biden-s-new-science-adviser-shares-views-foreign-influence-research-budgets-and-more>



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