

EXAMINING INDUSTRIAL HEMP PRODUCTION

*(Cannabis sativa L.)*

A Paper  
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By

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## ABSTRACT

Fox, Sheri Elizabeth; M.S.; College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources; Program of Natural Resources Management; Department of Animal and Range Sciences; North Dakota State University; May 2004. Examining Industrial Hemp Production (*Cannabis sativa L.*). Major Professor: Dr. Carolyn Grygiel.

This study examines current and past uses of industrial hemp (*Cannabis sativa L.*). This comprehensive paper also examines the drug enforcement policies, regulations, and some of the reasons it is now illegal to grow industrial hemp in the United States. However, it is legally shipped to the United States by the metric ton, where there is obviously a market for it. Agronomic aspects, comparisons of various varieties, and the plant known as marijuana are explored. The potential use of industrial hemp as a biological weed control method for noxious weeds is also discussed. Environmental benefits and nutritional value, as well as potential uses for its raw materials, are illustrated. Economic issues that are related to the production of industrial hemp are explored, as well as documented production problems associated with growing and harvesting of industrial hemp. Society and the Drug Enforcement Administration must be educated on the facts of industrial hemp. The media has created a situation in which the public has lost confidence in scientific data as their findings are used in convoluted ways.

Methods used to obtain information for this comprehensive paper were literature reviews, personal communications/interviews, industrial hemp test plot tours with the Parkland Crop Diversification Foundation, and visits to the University of Manitoba and the Alberta Research Counsel in Edmonton, Alberta.