



# 17 Things Hemp Growers and Farmers Should Know

**It's official!** The Texas Industrial Hemp Bill (HB1325) has passed into law [[Bill details are here](#)]. What does this mean for those interested in cashing in on this cash crop? In short, this means that Texans will be able to grow, process and sell industrial hemp in 2020.

Hemp (Cannabis Sativa) products are already available to purchase as a consumer but until now it has been illegal for Texans to take part in the Hemp Industry. That is all about to change.

We have tried to narrow down the overflow of information available online and digest the +9500 words of Texas Bill HB1325 into a distilled summary specifically for Growers and Farmers.

## **Some things to know before you grow:**

- Rules have not yet been established by the Texas Department of Agriculture. The TDA has indicated that it intends to begin establishing its rules and begin issuing permits so that Texans can take part in the 2020 growing season. We are watching the rule making process closely and will try to keep everyone up to date with the latest news about the industry in Texas.
- Certified seed is expensive and hard to find but it is available. There are options, other than seed, where growers who will sell cloned plants which are good for isolating hemp varieties selected for high CBD and lower THC content as a for instance. [[Insert link to Herb's Herbs](#)]
- Hemp can be transported across state lines given proper paperwork is presented with the shipment and proof of licensure which will be issued by the state. Marijuana (Cannabis Indica) is not legal for any purpose in Texas and cannot be transported across state lines yet.
- Hemp grown for fiber or seed/grain is generally grown in a more traditional manner in an open and tilled field, while CBD hemp is grown in the horticultural method in which each plant is tended to individually.
- CBD Hemp is much more labor intensive but also fetches a much higher price in the marketplace. Depending on your grow method, you can generally expect to need one full time laborer for every 8,000 10,000 plants.
- CBD grown for fiber is the least developed and smallest portion of the American market (it also fetches the lowest price per unit). Many project that hemp-fiber is the future but it is safe to say that CBD will be the main driver in the American market for several years to come.
- In order to grow for CBD, you must use only feminized plants. Male plants will ruin your CBD crop if they pollinate. So, keep male plants out of your CBD grow!
- You can expect to use several types of soil additives and fertilizers for your CBD crop regardless of how you grow. It's different for everyone, depending on location, but you can generally expect to use 100-150lbs of nitrogen per acre (or 1,500-2,500 plants), 70-100lbs of phosphorus and 50-70lbs of potassium. We heard of various traditional fertilizers that work well (chicken and cow manure) but have also seen earthworm fertilizer used as well; regardless, you can expect to use about 2.5 tons per acre (1,500-2,500 plants).



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- CBD biomass is usually harvested at the 8-10-week mark but this is dependent on CBD and THC levels in the plants. It takes 1-2 weeks to cure the harvested biomass. You will want to cure it in a climate-controlled area between 70-80 degrees at about 60% humidity
- Buds, flowers and biomass: Generally, when we talk about Hemp grown for CBD oil, we talk about flower and biomass, in this instance, these terms are somewhat interchangeable. Essentially biomass, or flower, is the usable portion of the plant, i.e. the high CBD content areas.
- Though there are many different sub-types, there are two major hemp derivatives: CBD Isolate (pure CBD powder) and CBD Distillate (oil) both are highly sought after for their various health benefits. FYI, we manufacture both but more about that later.
- If you are in East Texas and wish to grow for CBD, it is recommended that your grow be set up indoors or in a greenhouse due to the relatively wet climate in the eastern portion of the state.
- Hemp prefers well drained soil in the 6.0-7.0 pH range. Moisture is the enemy in most cases as too high a moisture level and your seed will not germinate. Moisture also increases your chances for mold.
- CBD Content: you want your plants to test between 10-20% CBD content when you harvest them. We've heard of certain strains being as high as 25% but have not seen proof that that percentage can be reached with going over the 0.03% THC limit.
- Yield: Depending on method and CBD content, you can expect to harvest anywhere between 1-4.0 lbs. of "wet" biomass (i.e. the whole plant before its dried and pre-processed) from a single hemp plant grown for CBD. The current price per %CBD, which is dependent on total number of pounds to be sold and the average CBD content, is anywhere between \$3.00 and \$4.50/lb. per %CBD. If you base your calculations off acreage (1,500 - 2,500 plants per acre) on the low end, the worst case scenario, let's say you only get 1000lbs of viable flower biomass and your CBD content tests at 3% which would be relatively low for most strains sold. That's  $\$3.00 \times 3\% \text{ CBD} = \$9 \times 1000\text{lbs} = \$9,000/\text{acre}$ . On the high end we have seen estimates go as high as \$80,000.00/ acre though this is likely the exception not the norm. Most estimates on yield show between \$18,000 - \$40,000/acre.
- Hemp is most definitely a cash crop but do not believe all the extraordinary claims you read or hear about. Hemp is a significant earner for diligent growers but as with any commodity, it is subject to market fluctuations. Plan and be prudent with your investments, it's never a good idea to create your grow plan based on only the best-case scenario.

*Please note that the information provided above is simply a condensed version of what can be found from several sources online. This general summary is no substitute for your own research. We recommend speaking to a grow consultant such as Sciclone Farms [[website is here](#)]. As well as, an attorney familiar with Hemp specific laws and regulations such as Vicente Sederberg LLP [[website is here](#)].*

### **What we do at Corridor Biogenics:**

- Independent testing for THC content is required. State Authorities will require your crop to test below 0.03% THC content. This is an arbitrary requirement but a requirement, nonetheless. We



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provide informational only testing as part of our service, but will not be considered independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party testing and cannot be used as a substitute for the state required testing.

- Beginning in 2020, we will provide a full suite of processing services to including testing, pre-processing, transportation, and extraction of hemp derivatives.
- We will buy your crop outright based on its CBD content. This is the simplest arrangement; all you do is grow it and sell it to us.
- We will also process your product and you can then sell it on the open market.
- Generally, growers pre-process their Hemp to remove the stems before shipping to a processor/extractor. We provide pre-processing services, in addition to our other suite of extraction services.

We strive to be the grower's full-service extractor, taking much of the guess work out of this new industry. Have the peace of mind of knowing how much you will make on your grow before you grow it. Working with Corridor Biogenics allows you to focus on what you do best: growing a profitable crop!