Industrial Hemp Production In SC

Justin Ballew and David DeWitt
Horticulture and Agronomy Agents
End use will determine production techniques.

- Fiber
- Seed
- CBD
- Dual Purpose
Varieties

• No data for SC yet.
• Extreme differences among varieties.
• Varieties can perform differently based on environment.
• Seed size variability. 15-25k/lb
• KDA maintains a list of varieties.
  • Divided into 3 categories based on THC testing.
    • Prohibited Varieties
    • Varieties of Concern
    • Additional Varieties
Fiber Production

Planting Date: Early spring, Soil temp upper 50’s
Seed Rate: 60 lb/ac
Spacing: 4-8 inch
Planting Depth: ¼ inch
Fertility: 30 bu soybeans plus 50 units of N
Harvest Timing: 20% male flowering
Equipment Needed:
• Planting: grain drill
• Harvest: sickle bar mower and hay baler
Seed Production

Planting Date: Early spring, Soil temp upper 50’s
Seed Rate: 20-40 lb/ac
Spacing: 7.5-20 inch
Planting Depth: ¼ inch
Fertility: 120 bu corn
Harvest Timing: 70% grain maturity, shattering an issue

Equipment Needed:
- Planting: grain drill or narrow row planter
- Harvest: combine
Dual Purpose Crops

Planting Date: Early spring, Soil temp upper 50’s
Seed Rate: 20-40 lb/ac
Spacing: 7.5-20 inch
Planting Depth: ¼ inch
Fertility: 120 bu corn
Harvest Timing: 70% grain maturity
Equipment Needed:
• Planting: grain drill or narrow row planter
• Harvest: combine first, sickle bar mower and baler after
Cannabidiol (CBD) Production

May be prescribed by processor.

Planting Date: mid summer
Seed Rate: ?, transplant clones
Spacing: 40”-6’
Fertility: ?, 120 bu corn
Harvest Timing: Dictated by processor

Equipment Needed:
• Planting: transplanter or by hand
• Harvest: hand harvest
Potential Pest Issues

• Weeds!!!!

• Insects
  • Spidermites
  • Japanese Beetles
  • Corn Earworms

• Diseases
  • Powdery mildew
  • Leaf spots
  • Fusarium

• Birds