

Annual Hemp Commercial Production Application, 2025



Agricultural and Environmental Services Division

Updated December 04 2024

Dear Annual Hemp Commercial Production License Applicant:

This application is directed at those entities planting an annual hemp crop.

Under a single annual hemp license, there is no acreage limit for a single contiguous growing area. For the purposes of this license, contiguous growing areas are defined as touching along a boundary or at a point. Boundaries such as private roads and irrigation ditches do not divide a contiguous growing area. Growing areas divided by public roads and property owned by entities other than applicant would be considered non-contiguous. Applicants may register multiple growing areas (non-contiguous fields) on a single license under the following restrictions: all growing areas are within a 2.5 mile radius, all growing areas shall be planted within a three week period, and total number of acres under a single application is less than 10.

If you are planning on maintaining viable hemp plants throughout the year (e.g. mother plants, breeding purposes, seed production) other licenses that may be required include the following:

- [Continuous Hemp Commercial Production License](#): Year-round greenhouse production.
- [Nursery Plant License](#): Required by state law for any business selling live plants, including hemp clones.

License applications, including nursery, can be found at nmdeptag.nmsu.edu. Questions regarding hemp applications, nursery applications, and licenses can be addressed at (575) 646-3207. After your application has been approved, New Mexico Department of Agriculture will mail your Annual Commercial Production Hemp License to the physical address provided. Understand that the license is proof that you have registered with the state as a hemp producer with the intent of producing hemp.

IMPLEMENTATION OF USDA HEMP RULES

As required by the 2018 Farm Bill, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) developed the U.S. Domestic Hemp Production Program to provide regulatory oversight of the cultivation of hemp in the United States. The program includes provisions for the USDA to approve plans submitted by states and Indian tribes for the domestic production of hemp and establishes a federal plan for producers in states or territories of Indian tribes that do not have their own USDA-approved plan and the production of hemp is legal. As of January 1, 2022, New Mexico will be operating under a USDA-approved state plan administered by NMDA.

BACKGROUND CHECK

A criminal background check is required to process your application. Although you may have submitted one for the 2023 growing season, an updated background check is necessary for 2024. Hemp commercial production licenses cannot be issued to individuals with felony convictions related to controlled substances within the last ten (10) years. NMDA will conduct a national background check with applicants required to obtain state background records from the Department of Public Safety. **The state background report/stamp from the Department of Public Safety must be included with your Annual Hemp Commercial Production application.** For your convenience, the Department of Public Safety's Records Request form is located at the end of this application. Reports or a no-records stamp can be obtained from the Department of Public Safety either in person (Santa Fe) or through the mail with your notarized signature. A \$15.00 charge is required by the Department of Public Safety. Applicants are required to comply with New Mexico's Child Support Enforcement Act. Failure to meet child support obligations will result in the denial or revocation of a hemp commercial production license.

If you have questions or comments, feel free to call us at (575) 646-3207.

Respectfully,

Brad Lewis
Division Director

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Annual Hemp Commercial Production License is intended for growers that will be planting only for annual production of hemp. The Annual Hemp Commercial Production License is not intended for growers maintaining viable hemp plants throughout the year as part of a greenhouse or plant nursery operation. Forms can be filled electronically before printing or printed and filled by hand before mailing. Ensure fees are submitted with a complete application. Applications that contain errors or are illegible will be returned for corrections. **License expires 240 after date of issuance, please ensure you will be harvesting within the 240 day period.** Federal law precludes the state from issuing a hemp commercial production license to an applicant that has been convicted of a felony related to controlled substances within the last ten (10) years. Applicants are required to fill out the Annual Hemp Commercial Production License application, calculate fees, sign the acknowledgment form, and return a completed application (including state background information, check or money order) to:

Physical Address:

New Mexico Department of Agriculture
Entomology and Nursery Industries
1050 Stewart St.
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Mailing Address:

New Mexico Department of Agriculture
Entomology and Nursery Industries
MSC 3BA
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30005
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Applicant Information:

_____	_____	_____
Legal Last Name	Legal First Name	Middle
_____	_____	_____
E-mail Address	Telephone	
_____	_____	
Additional Contact Person (i.e. Farm Manager)	Telephone	
_____	_____	
E-mail Address	Business name to include on license (if applicable)	

Business Mailing Address:

Business Physical Address:

NMDA USE ONLY

Previous license holder? _____ OR new applicant? _____

Background check _____ Background check approved _

Name on check: _____ Check #: _____ \$ _____

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Growing Area 1:

There is no acreage limit for a single contiguous growing area. Multiple growing areas (non-contiguous) can be included in one license under the following conditions: each growing area is within a two and one half (2.5) mile radius of a central point, the total acreage for all locations does not exceed ten (10) acres under one license, and all acres shall be planted within a three (3) week period. Growing areas covered under one license must be owned or leased by a single licensee. Growing areas outside a two and one half (2.5) mile radius or in excess of ten (10) non-contiguous acres are required to be registered under a separate license.

1. Growing area location: Latitude (Decimal Degrees i.e., 32.86312): _____
Longitude (Decimal Degrees i.e., -106.294074): _____
County: _____ Nearest Town/City: _____

(Open Google Maps in your internet browser, navigate to growing location and click the mouse. White box will appear at bottom of screen with decimal degree coordinates in gray text.)

2. Are you the owner of the property? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the answer is no, you are required to complete the Hemp Cultivation Landowner Affidavit document and include it with this application. This document is available on the NMDA website.

3. Township/Range/Section data:

Go to www.earthpoint.us/TownshipsSearchByLatLon.aspx and enter GPS coordinates from line 1 above to get your Township, Section, and Range. If results for this growing area are a part of a land grant and survey data does not exist, please enter N/A below and fill in name of land grant: _____

Township (T) _____(Ex: T17S)	Range (R) _____(Ex: R6E)	Section (S) _____(Ex: S2)
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4. Total number of acres (Single decimal accuracy, e.g. 4.1) designated for hemp production at this growing area _____ acres. Estimated planting date: _____ Estimated harvest date: _____

5. Description of operation, check all that apply:

☐ Bio fuels ☐ CBD extraction ☐ Clonal production ☐ Cosmetic/beauty products ☐ Dietary supplement
☐ Genetic development ☐ Fiber ☐ Food/drink additives ☐ Grain ☐ Hempcrete ☐ Seed production
☐ Smokable flower/pre-rolls ☐ Other: _____

6. Provide hemp varieties to be maintained at this growing area. Amendments to your variety list can be made by submitting changes, in writing, to New Mexico Department of Agriculture. Additional varietal fee may apply.

	Variety Name/Identifier	Estimated number of acres		Variety Name/Identifier	Estimated number of acres
1			6		
2			7		
3			8		
4			9		
5			10		

Additional growing area forms are available on the NMDA website. Fill out additional growing area forms as needed and include them with this application. If number of varieties exceed 10 for this growing area (#1), include additional varieties on a separate sheet of paper (include growing area number, i.e., 1, 2, 3...).

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Growing Area Map/Sketch:

In the space provided below, provide a sketch of the field **including dimensions** (in feet) and **areas planted to specific hemp varieties** for growing area #1. Alternatively, you may attach a printed map or satellite imagery with dimensions and hemp varieties listed in this application.

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Fees: (auto-fill not available to calculate fees, enter manually)

1. Base registration/Inspection fee \$650.00
2. Total acres for all growing areas= _____(acres) X \$6.00 / acre = \$_____ (minimum \$6.00)
3. Total number of hemp varieties= _____ X \$10.00 = \$_____ (minimum \$10.00)
4. Total fee enclosed with application (sum of dollar amounts in 1, 2, and 3 above).....\$ _____

Ensure fee payment, in the form of check or money order, is included with your application. Fees based on: \$650.00 registration fee + \$6.00 / acre of hemp production + \$10.00 per variety. Once payment is processed, refunds are not available or transferable to another license.

Acknowledgments:

1. **Terms of this application and license are subject to NMDA Hemp Production Regulatory Plan and USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Domestic Hemp Production Program final rule published on January 19, 2021.**
2. Licensee understands hemp produced under the terms of this license is part of the USDA Hemp Production Program and data on hemp production will be requested of the license holder.
3. Understand that commercial production of viable hemp plants without a valid Annual or Continuous Hemp Commercial Production License is a violation of state law. Annual or Continuous Commercial Hemp Production License cannot be transferred to another individual, business, or entity.
4. Licensee has reviewed all local laws and ordinances for any provisions prohibiting production of hemp at the growing location specified in this application. E.g., water sources, agricultural limitations, zoning.
5. Understand that possession of an NMDA Annual Hemp Commercial Production License does **NOT** imply or constitute ownership of a given hemp crop.
6. Understand hemp, covered under this license, cannot be harvested without NMDA issued documents authorizing harvest of specific varieties listed.
7. Field inspections and plant samples will be collected by NMDA staff within thirty (30) days of an estimated harvest date. Understand hemp varieties, not harvested by the required harvest date may be subject to additional sampling to determine THC values or may be subject to destruction or disposed of in a manner approved by the NMDA.
8. Agree to complete post-harvest crop destruction or remediation activities within specific dates provided by NMDA. A Destruction or Remediation Inspection report requiring license holder signature will be completed for all crop destruction or remediation events.
9. Accept financial responsibility for expenses associated with destruction or disposition of non-compliant cannabis varieties (i.e., in excess of three tenths of one percent, 0.3%, THC) and for post-harvest crop destruction or disposition.
10. Understand licensees involved in the production of clones or seed for the purpose of marketing shall maintain records including variety, quantity, buyer, and destination for each transaction for a period of three (3) years.

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Acknowledgments continued:

11. Allow NMDA staff access to all hemp growing areas and relevant documents as determined by the department.
12. Understand licensee or representative is required to be present for all inspections, and licensee is responsible for the delivery of samples to a NMDA approved laboratory for the purpose of determining THC levels (post-decarboxylation) prior to harvest.
13. Understand licensee shall be responsible for additional charges associated with addressing non-compliant issues incurred by NMDA.
14. Understand specific data contained within this application may be subject to release under the Inspection of Public Records Act and may be shared with other state or federal agencies, including law enforcement. Applicants will be screened for compliance to New Mexico's Child Support Enforcement requirements and federal background check requirements.
15. Understand copies of any information related to the production of hemp at this location may be provided to the landowner upon request.
16. Licensee has reviewed and understands regulations contained within the Hemp Cultivation Rule and violations of regulations or policies may result in crop destruction, license suspension, or license revocation.
17. Understand reporting responsibilities of hemp production acreage with respect to USDA Farm Service Agency as required by the USDA Hemp Production Program final rule.

APPLICATION CHECK LIST

- ☐ GPS Coordinates are in decimal degree format. Make sure coordinates line up with exact growing area location.
- ☐ Growing area sketch/map completed on provided page or attached to application.
- ☐ Completed landowner affidavit form attached (if needed).
- ☐ Completed New Mexico Department of Public Safety background check attached.
* NMDA does NOT process background check forms. They must be sent to NM DPS separately prior to submission of your application.*
- ☐ Check or money order for correct fee total attached. Double check your fee calculations, payment for too little OR too much will not be processed.

NOTE: If also applying for a nursery license, please submit a separate check or money order with nursery application and appropriate fees.

Signature below acknowledges the following: applicant has provided accurate and complete information; has reviewed and agrees to statements contained under the Acknowledgments section; provides New Mexico Department of Agriculture authorization to conduct or obtain information related to background checks regarding possible criminal convictions that may preclude the issuance of an Annual Hemp Commercial Production License.

- Do not utilize electronic signature; print, sign, date, and mail
- Incomplete applications, including incorrect fee, will be returned
- Ensure appropriate fee is enclosed with your application

Signature

Date

Background Check

Applicant is responsible for completing this form and for obtaining a New Mexico Background report in person or through a designated agent. This official New Mexico background report must be included with your Annual Hemp Commercial Production license application. If you have questions regarding this form or process, please contact New Mexico Department of Public Safety at (505) 827-9297.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY / P.O. BOX 1628 / SANTA FE, NM 87504-1628 ATTN: RECORDS \$15.00 PER RECORD CHECK

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I, _____
NAME (MUST BE PRINTED-LEGIBLY) (SSN#) (DOB)

PURSUANT TO NMSA 1978, SECTION 29-10-6(A) (Repl. Pamp. 1990), OF THE NEW MEXICO ARREST RECORD INFORMATION ACT, HEREBY APPOINT:

NAME (MUST BE PRINTED) (IF NO AGENT, PRINT "SELF")

ADDRESS: _____

AS AN AUTHORIZED AGENT FOR ME FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSPECTING (AND /OR OBTAINING COPIES OF) ANY NEW MEXICO ARREST FINGERPRINT CARD SUPPORTED ARREST RECORD INFORMATION MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, INCLUDING INFORMATION CONCERNING FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS AND INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM RELEVANT FINGERPRINT DATABASES.

TO THE CUSTODIAN OF THE RECORDS IN QUESTION, I HEREBY DIRECT YOU TO RELEASE SUCH INFORMATION TO THE AUTHORIZED AGENT AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

I HEREBY RELEASE THE CUSTODIAN OR CUSTODIANS OF SUCH RECORDS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, INCLUDING ANY OF THEIR AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, OR REPRESENTATIVES IN ANY CAPACITY, FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS OF LIABILITY OR DAMAGE OF WHATEVER KIND OR NATURE, WHICH AT ANY TIME COULD RESULT TO ME, MY HEIRS, ASSIGNS, ASSOCIATES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OR REPRESENTATIVES OF ANY NATURE BECAUSE OF COMPLIANCE BY SAID CUSTODIAN OR CUSTODIANS WITH THIS "AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION" AND MY REQUEST CONTAINED HEREIN FOR THIS RELEASE OR BECAUSE OF ANY USE OF THESE RECORDS. THIS RELEASE IS BINDING, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE AND IS VALID FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO 120 DAYS FROM THE DATE SIGNED, ON MY HEIRS, ASSIGNS, ASSOCIATES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OR REPRESENTATIVES OF ANY NATURE.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

(*ATTN: NOTARY-ENSURE DOCUMENT IS SIGNED BY BOTH APPLICANT AND PARENT (GUARDIAN) IN YOUR PRESENCE AND NAME, DOB, SOC INFO IS VERIFIED WITH A VALID ID)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 20____.

(SEAL) _____
(SIGNATURE OF NOTARY PUBLIC)

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: _____.

For Department of Public Safety Use Only