

# HEMP CROP FACT SHEET

Interreg



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North-West Europe

Hemp4Circularity

## INDUSTRIAL HEMP

Industrial hemp belongs to the plant species *Cannabis sativa* L. Although the name of the crop might sound familiar, there is no link to marijuana. In fact, the concentration of the hallucinogenic compound tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is low in industrial hemp (up to 0,3%).

All parts of the plant are used to produce a wide variety of products, such as insulation, textile, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, food and many more!



## HEMP USES



### Seeds

Hemp can be sown for the production of seed for food or feed. Seeding density is average (35-50 kg/ha).



### Technical fibre

Hemp sown for the production of technical fibre used in biocomposites or insulation requires an average seeding density of  $\pm 35-50$  kg/ha and an adapted forage harvester.



### Textile

Hemp sown for the production of long fibres used in textile requires more effort. Long slim stalks and specialised harvesting equipment are needed to obtain high quality long fibres.

# LONG FIBRE TEXTILE HEMP: CROP ITINERARY

# 1

## SOIL



All soil types, avoid compressed, saturated & stony soils.



pH: 5-7



Fine-textured & even seedbed.



Beginning of May. Soil temperature > 12°C. Avoid frost.



500 seeds/m<sup>2</sup> or ±80 kg/ha, at 2-3 cm depth (soil type, humidity). Use bird control.



Based on soil analysis, add: 70-90 kg N/ha, 70 kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/ha, 200 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/ha.

# 2

## SOWING & FERTILISATION

# 3

## HARVEST & POSTHARVEST



Harvest hemp like flax with specialised hemp harvest equipment (at 50% flowering). End of July until mid August.



Dew retting in the field: 5-6 weeks. 1-2 times turning of the hemp straw (depending on the weather conditions).



Baling: mean straw yield of 6-8 tonnes/ha (10-20% long fibre, 20-10% short fibre). Max. humidity 15%.



Before sowing

- ✓ take national or regional laws into account;
- ✓ make sure you have an agreement with a buyer who buys your straw.

 [hemp4circularity.nweurope.eu](http://hemp4circularity.nweurope.eu)

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 Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp

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FIBRE IS OUR DRIVETRAIN

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 Avec le soutien de la Wallonie

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