



With Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors



Kia ora,

Welcome to your **NZHIA December/January Public** newsletter; here's a preview of the news, and events in this issue:

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Progress Update: Meetings with the Government
- 2025 Aotearoa iHemp Industry Catalogue: Do you have a hemp business? Let us know to include in the catalogue.
- iHemp Statistics
- Summer Media Campaign Part II: Write a letter to your MP or Mayor
- Save the Date: Hemp Connect Forum
- Hemp NZ: Be the Seed of Change

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 10 -12 APRIL 2025
[NOCO Hemp Expo](#)
Estes Park, Colorado, USA
- 26 - 28 MAY 2025
E Tipu - [The NZ Future Food and Fibre Summit](#)
Palmerston North, NZ

- 25 - 27 JUNE 2025
[Hemp-Connect Forum](#)
La Trobe Institute for Sustainable Agriculture & Food, Melbourne, AUS
- 1 - 3 OCTOBER 2025
[Cannabis Research Conference \(CRC\)](#)
Colorado State University, USA

We thank our new 2025 sponsors:



Progress update on meetings with the Government

We have received cross party support for the review of the iHemp Regulations, which is required to finally "enable" our industry.

Encouraging feedback has been received from various ministries, who all agree a "full review" of the regulations is required.

On 21 November 2024, we made a presentation to the Primary Production Select Committee, which summarises the discussion we have been having with MPs and officials.

A recording is available [here](#); the briefing covered:

- Remove low THC from Misuse of Drugs Act and Medicines Act; we are not a drug!
- Full plant utilisation: access to revenue from all parts of the plant is a must for the industry to develop.
- Allowing a horticultural industry growing female plants for leaf and flower as food and natural health hemp products is the key to achieving export success.
- The ACVM is stopping hemp products being used by production and companion animals due to the trade issues around CBD and THC. We need a process to allow industry to get involved in these markets.
- Export potential and joining up various sectors, iHemp industry collaborating with NZ Inc, the R&D ecosystem, and government, to bring them all together over [common ground](#)
- Role of Government - they can start by getting out of the way! They can get involved by supporting the creation of foundational knowledge for the industry to commercialise and providing a level playing field with "enabling" regulation.
- Government support would remove uncertainty and allow investment and job creation in the regions.
- Low risk: iHemp THC levels are so low it has little or no risk; therefore, we require a very light regulator touch. Or even better, no regulations at all for low THC iHemp as defined by the 2006 regulations.
- The Government promises made in 2006 to review the regulations, move us to another ministry, and adopt an enabling interpretation of the regs must happen in 2025.

Want to know more about the progress being made? [JOIN](#) the NZHIA and receive the members newsletter for more detailed information.



AOTEAROA IHEMP

Products and Companies across New Zealand

DRAFT



FARMING



FOOD



FIBRE



HEALTH

2024 Catalogue



2025 Aotearoa iHemp Industry Catalogue

As part of the media campaign, we will be promoting the "2025 NZHIA Aotearoa iHemp Catalogue.". This will be a PDF document that can easily be shared with the wider Hemp Army and the public.

The aim is to encourage consumers to support and purchase hemp products. The 2025 annual will be a snapshot of the iHemp industry—who in New Zealand is doing what!

Any member with a hemp-related product/service to sell will get a free listing.

We want to be inclusive, so if you know of any iHemp products being made in Aotearoa/NZ, please email their details to admin@nzhia.com so they can be invited to share their products in this annual catalogue.

iHemp can turn up in unlikely places, and consumers are very interested in knowing where to get "hemp products," for example, [fire lighters](#) and [hemp jeans](#).



NZ iHemp Industry statistics - Number of licences and area grown by region and variety

The 2023 / 2024 NZ iHemp Industry Statistics: We have received the response to our Official Information Act (OIA) request regarding the statistics for the growing season

Here is the high level review:

NZ iHemp Statistics	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
General Licences	130	214	148	77	43	41
Processing Licences	20	29	24	19	21	21
Research and Breeding	19	17	20	15	19	15
Total # of Licences	169	260	192	111	83	77
Area cultivated - Hectares	754	1335	862	278	182	180
Approved area - Hectares	2627	3978	2602	1501	649	679

The year-by-year comparison data is [here](#), and this year's OIA response is [here](#).

Noticeably the numbers are pretty consistent with last year, with similar area grown and number of licenses. 87% of the hectares grown are in the South Island: Canterbury 70 hectares, Southland 30, and Nelson 56. The 13% in the North Island was mainly in Hawkes Bay, 24 hectares.



NZHIA Media Campaign Part II: Taking Action - What are YOU going to do about it? Write a letter to your MP or Mayor!



[Part II of the summer media campaign](#): Getting regulations changed to allow a new horticultural industry!

The NZHIA's #1 aim is to get out of MODA, and the first step is to have a "full review" of the iHemp regulations. In Part II, we zero in on the review of the regulations and the need to take action by encouraging our letter-writing campaign.

We are currently handcuffed by the Ministry of Health; the compliance and uncertainty are putting investors and farmers off being involved. To grow we need regulations that work for farmers, businesses, and investors.

This requires fit-for-purpose regulations, and a review is way overdue!

With the success of the letters to the Ministry of Regulation and our meetings with MP's, ministries, and officials, we are making good progress, and there is considerable goodwill for a review.

We learnt from the meetings with MP's that if they receive even a couple of letters from their electorate, they are encouraged to look into the topic/issue. So the big push for Part II is to get the [Hemp Army](#) involved, take action, and be part of our letter-writing campaign to make first contact with your [local MP's and mayors](#) and identify regions and communities that want a local iHemp industry.

If you need help with writing a letter or to find your local MP/Mayor, [go here](#). Using our [standard letter](#) is easy to do, and we can even create a personalised letter for you - [click here](#) for more information.

Everyone, especially the Hemp Army, needs to share this good news widely; NZHIA content is simple, direct, and easy to share. You can add your flavour with comments and notes when you repost the information about the iHemp industry in Aotearoa/NZ.

When people are talking about the environmental and economic opportunity of iHemp around the BBQ this summer, we want to make sure the core messaging comes out:

- Get us out of the drugs act (MODA) - review the regulations.
- Full plant utilisation - making money from the whole plant!!
- Access to the animal food/feed market - OK for humans but not animals?

Other ways you can help the industry

- Follow, like and share our content on social media, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#)
- Send these emails to interested people in your network and encourage them to subscribe to the public newsletter at [nzhia.com](#)
- Buy NZ-made hemp food and fibre products
- Contact your local [MP and Mayor](#)
- [Join the NZHIA](#)

Summer Media Campaign Part II

Save the Date: Hemp Connect

The Australian Hemp Council (AHC) invites you to the **Hemp-Connect Forum**, an enlightening two-day event at the AgriBio Building, La Trobe University, Melbourne from **25-27 June 2025**.



Interested in sustainable building? This event is for you!

Connect and learn from investment-ready hemp building businesses working with high-performance, carbon-negative hemp building materials for modern construction.

Discover the exceptional benefits of industrial hemp for building materials: fire, pest, and mould resistant, aesthetic, non-toxic with superior thermal properties, carbon-negative, lightweight yet with a strength that rivals steel.

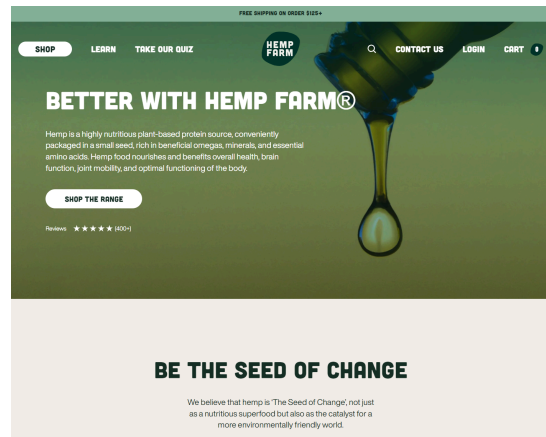
Register your interest now: hemp-connect-forum-registration



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Hemp Farm® are on a continuous journey to provide you with nutritious and delicious hemp products that nourish and care for you, your family, and the environment we cherish.

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iHemp industry news from Aotearoa and around the Globe.



[Proceedings of the 4th Australian Industrial Hemp Conference](#)

The 4th Australian Industrial Hemp Conference brought together growers, experts, researchers and industry leaders to discuss advancements in industrial hemp cultivation, processing and utilisation.

[Packaging Dive](#)

[Hemp Gazette](#)

[Vimeo](#)

New moulded fibre
company will use industrial
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Promoting the Economic, Environmental, Health and Social Benefits of the NZ Hemp Industry

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You have received this email as someone who has contacted or been contacted by the NZ Hemp Industries Association Inc.