



Kia ora,

Welcome to your NZHIA April/May/June Public newsletter; here's a preview of the news, and events in this issue:

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Regulatory Review: Update
- Regulatory Review: Consultation open
- Field & Factory Visit: MPs and officials
- Support the industry like and share NZHIA posts
- Annual Reports Due - 31 July 2025
- Hemp Connect Forum: Tickets Still Available/Get your tickets now
- Hemp Innovation: The Brothers Green

NZHIA EVENTS:

20 AUGUST 2025
NZHIA 2025 AGM, Virtual Meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS:

25 - 27 JUNE 2025
[Hemp-Connect Forum](#)
Solutions, Growth & Opportunities for hemp in modern construction - La Trobe University, Melbourne, AUS

1 - 3 OCTOBER 2025
[Cannabis Research Conference \(CRC\)](#)
Colorado State University, USA

3 - 5 OCTOBER 2025
[13th International Hemp Building Symposium](#)
Minnesota, USA

REGULATORY REVIEW UPDATE

Regulatory Review Update: May 2025

What is the feedback from Government?

Although the MfR refers to a [comprehensive review](#) on their website, their [press release](#) says they are going to "reassess these nearly 20-year-old regulations." For a detailed update, please see [our blog post here](#).

We and the officials were hoping for a full review to get us out of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 (MoDA) and allow full plant utilisation; however, Minister Seymour has agreed to only look at the secondary legislation.

Therefore, MfR will be making recommendations on the licensing of iHemp based on the Misuse of Drugs Act (Industrial Hemp) Regulations (2006).

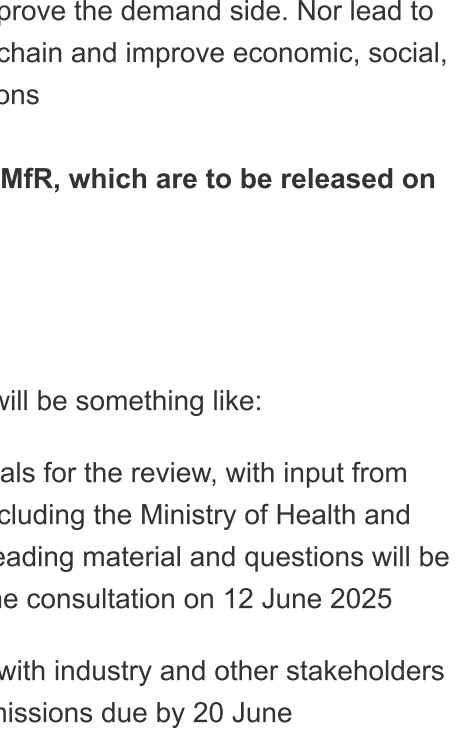
As [Mack MacIntosh \(retired chair of the NZHIA\)](#) reminds us, we are not a drug, and no one is misusing anything. The Ministry of Health is the wrong place to control our low-THC industrial hemp (iHemp for short) arable and horticultural industry.

See the next article for an opportunity to be part of the targeted consultation. **Please note written submissions need to be sent to reviews@regulation.govt.nz by 20 June 2025.**

We recommend you register by emailing reviews@regulation.govt.nz to receive the presentation and questions so you are ready to discuss them at one of the three online round table meetings or when making a written submission.

Your efforts are working - we have gained a lot of traction with your help and MPs are paying attention!

Every letter is making a real impact. But we need to keep the pressure on.



If YOU haven't contacted your local MP yet, now is the time. Make your voice heard today. We've made the process easy by creating a letter template and supplying the [contact lists for MPs and Mayors here](#).

The NZHIA has been discussing the workability and interpretation of the iHemp regulations with MOH for years, so the review now gives us a timeline and opportunity for the Government to improve the legal framework, reduce compliance, and help legitimise the industry.

The latest view of the Ministry of Health (MOH) and MfR that iHemp is of little (if any) risk should help the industry by making it easier to grow iHemp.

Of course, removing the need for a licence, changing to a permit/registration system, or making licensing easier (a lighter touch pathway to reflect the low risk of iHemp) will be useful for the supply of iHemp, but continuing to restrict markets and co-product uses will not improve the demand side. Nor lead to investment required to create the value chain and improve economic, social, and environmental outcomes in the regions

We await the recommendations from MfR, which are to be released on 12 June 2025.

Potential Timeframes

The potential time frame for the review will be something like:

- MfR have formulated their proposals for the review, with input from relevant government agencies, including the Ministry of Health and Ministry for Primary Industries. Reading material and questions will be provided to those registered for the consultation on 12 June 2025
- Late June: Targeted consultation with industry and other stakeholders will start 18-19 June; written submissions due by 20 June
- July: 1st recommendations to relevant Ministers and then Cabinet, seeking permission to draft the legislation
- Parliamentary Drafting Office work on the amendments to the regulations and any consequential secondary legislation changes
- 2nd presentation to Cabinet to have the changes adopted
- Changes released and made into law before the end of 2025

Next Steps

The NZHIA and coalition partners will continue working towards full plant utilisation, as the review won't include all the objectives in the ["Hemp Strategic Proposal for Regulatory Change"](#).

The NZHIA is committed to getting iHemp out of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 (MoDA) and full plant utilisation.

Next week we have meetings with government agencies not included in the review, such as MPI - the Agricultural Compounds Veterinary Medicines (ACVM), regarding access to the companion animal market and trials with production animals, to make use of the available co-product from the food industry.

MPI, policy insights, and horticulture, Ministry for Environment and Ministry of Health to discuss the pathway to fully enabling a local iHemp industry by allowing full plant utilisation.

GOV. UPDATE

REGULATORY REVIEW CONSULTATION ANNOUNCED

We have received the following from the Ministry for Regulation regarding the current review.

We recommend you register using the email link below to receive the presentation and questions so you are ready to discuss them at one of the three online round table meetings or when making a written submission, which needs to be sent to reviews@regulation.govt.nz by **20 June 2025**.

In February, the Minister for Regulation announced a review of the Misuse of Drugs (Industrial Hemp) Regulations 2006 (iHemp regulations) to reduce or remove licensing requirements and support the growth of industrial hemp.

To help us gather evidence for this review, the Ministry for Regulation is holding a series of online meetings with interested stakeholders. We are having dedicated meetings for each of **Hemp and Cannabis Industry group, R&D and Laboratories group, and Hemp products and wider primary industry**. We would like to invite you or a nominated representative to join us for an online roundtable of your choosing.

When:

R&D and Laboratories – 18 June, 1:15-2:00
Hemp products and wider primary industry – 18 June, 4:00-4:45
Hemp and Cannabis Industry – 19 June, 9:00-10:30

Where: Online – link provided on acceptance

RSVP: to reviews@regulation.govt.nz, preferably by COB 12 June 2025, but no later than 16 June 2025, with your preference of which group you would like to be invited to.

Reading material and questions will be provided in advance of the meeting, and we encourage you to provide feedback either through the online discussion or in writing (email to reviews@regulation.govt.nz) by **20 June 2025**. For written feedback from the hemp and cannabis industry group, we may be able to process some very limited feedback by 23 June 2025.

Ngā mihi

Dr Peter Clark
Manager, Regulatory Reviews
Ministry for Regulation

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Historic Milestone: MPs and Officials Visit Aotearoa's Industrial Hemp Fields

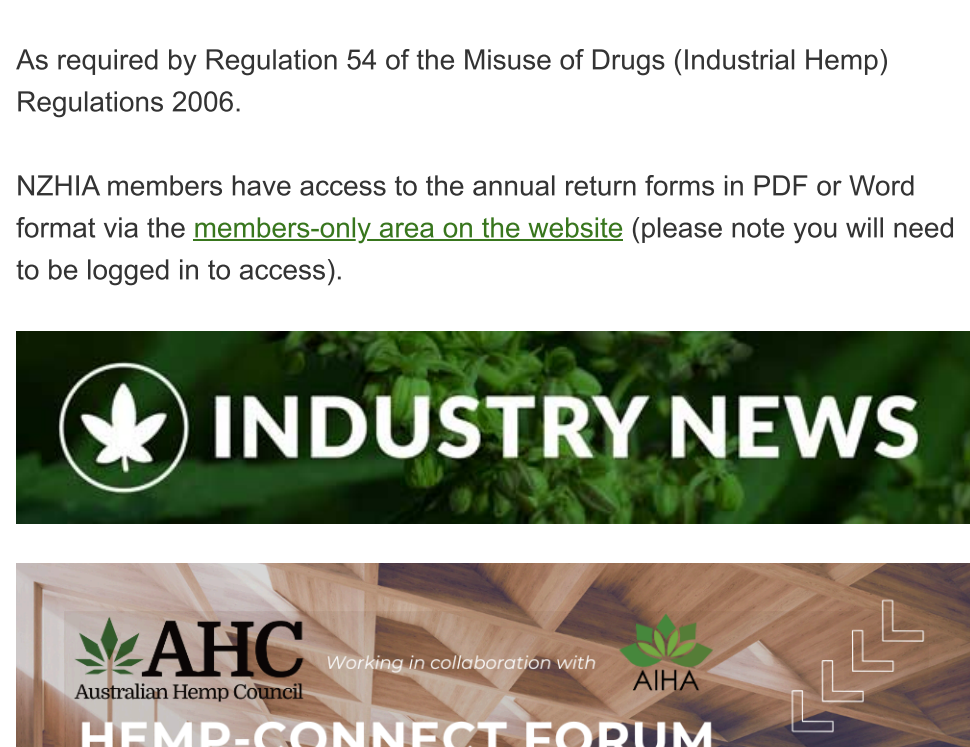
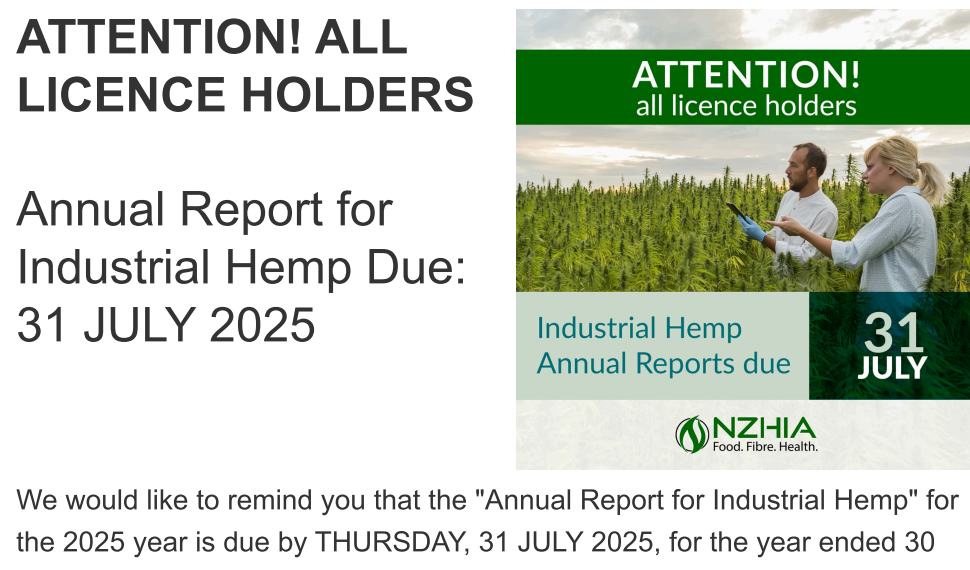


Government Engages with Industrial Hemp Industry in Historic Canterbury Visit

In a landmark move, Members of Parliament and government officials visited Canterbury's industrial hemp (iHemp) sector on March 24, 2025. Hosted by the New Zealand Hemp Industries Association (NZHIA), the event marked the first factory and field tour of its kind, showcasing the full potential of iHemp in Aotearoa's sustainable, circular bioeconomy. MPs acknowledged the sector's value, highlighting the need for supportive regulation to unlock opportunities from the ground up.

The visit demonstrated the plant's wide-reaching value across food, fibre, health, construction, and environmental solutions—presenting real-world applications from nutrient-rich seeds to carbon-sequestering building materials. MP Barbara Kuriger stated, "It seems obvious, given the opportunities of industrial hemp... that it needs a green light from Government." Discussions focused on modernising the regulatory framework to support innovation and growth.

With 11 government representatives engaging with 15 NZHIA coalition partners, this milestone event signals a shift in how the sector is viewed. As NZHIA Chair Richard Barge noted, "It's time for a new approach to unlock [iHemp's] full potential." The visit lays the foundation for meaningful reform, ensuring industrial hemp becomes a cornerstone of Aotearoa's regenerative future.



Things are moving forward so how can I support the Industry?

By joining the NZHIA! The New Zealand Hemp Industries Association is at the forefront of driving progress in the iHemp sector, creating opportunities across food, fibre, health, and more. If you're passionate about sustainability and innovation, now's the time to get involved. Join NZHIA and be part of the future of hemp in Aotearoa.

Support iHemp - Join the NZHIA

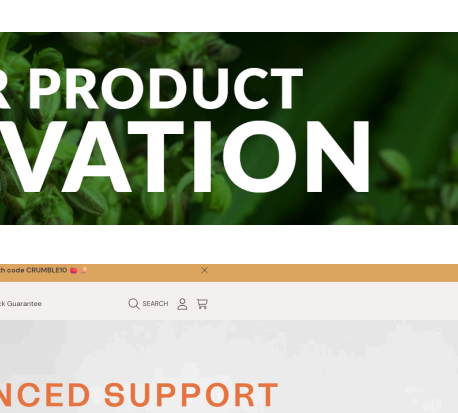
If you're looking for a simple yet powerful way to support the hemp industry, one of the most effective things you can do is help spread the word. By liking and sharing the posts below, you're helping to raise awareness, amplify important messages, and grow the reach of the movement.

Every LIKE and SHARE helps educate more people about the benefits of industrial hemp and the urgent need for regulatory change.



ATTENTION! ALL LICENCE HOLDERS

Annual Report for Industrial Hemp Due: 31 JULY 2025

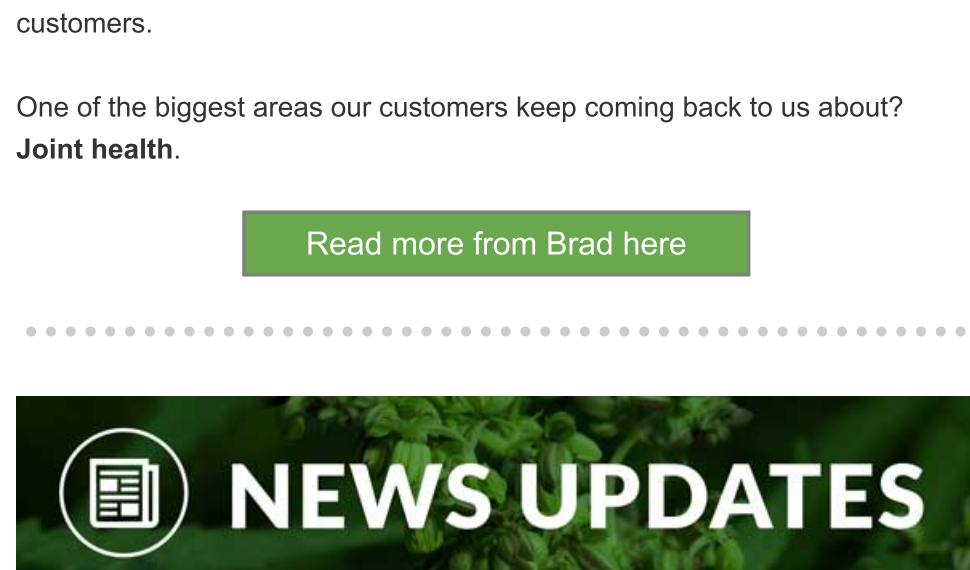


We would like to remind you that the "Annual Report for Industrial Hemp" for the 2025 year is due by THURSDAY, 31 JULY 2025, for the year ended 30 June 2025.

As required by Regulation 54 of the Misuse of Drugs (Industrial Hemp) Regulations 2006.

NZHIA members have access to the annual return forms in PDF or Word format via the [members-only area on the website](#) (please note you will need to be logged in to access).

INDUSTRY NEWS



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Last Chance to Join the Movement: Hemp-Connect Forum 2025

Build a Sustainable Future with Hemp – Don't Miss Out!

Hemp-Connect Forum 2025: Tackling the Housing Crisis with Sustainable, Scalable Hemp Solutions

📍 25–27 June 2025, La Trobe University, Melbourne | Hosted by the Australian Hemp Council

Australia's housing and building materials crisis demands bold solutions—and *hemp* is ready to deliver. The **Hemp-Connect Forum 2025** is the must-attend event for architects, builders, policymakers, growers, and innovators serious about building a sustainable future. Join us as we reimagine construction using hempcrete, composite panels, and next-gen insulation—materials that are *carbon-negative, fire-resistant, and affordable*.

Organised by the **Australian Hemp Council** in collaboration with **La Trobe University**, the Forum will showcase real businesses creating real impact—like Zeoform, Oletto, Murray Industrial Hemp, and Ciircl—pioneering regenerative solutions that are already reshaping the building industry. Hear from leaders across the supply chain: designers, farmers, researchers, and building standards experts all working to scale industrial hemp in response to the climate and housing emergency.

🎟️ **Tickets are still available—but places are limited.** Don't miss your chance to connect with innovators, see materials in action, and be part of the movement to future-proof construction and regional economies. Book now to help lead Australia towards climate-smart, economically viable, and scalable housing solutions.

👉 Learn more and secure your ticket at: [Hemp.Connect Forum – Australian Hemp Council](#)

SPONSOR PRODUCT INNOVATION

Why I'm backing Beta-Caryophyllene: NZ Cold-Pressed Hemp Seed Oil & Limonene for Joint Health

By Bradley Lake - Co-Founder of The Brothers Green

When we launched The Brothers Green in Christchurch, I had a gut instinct that hemp wasn't just a trend — it was the future of natural health and agriculture. Fast forward a few years and we're now shipping to thousands of homes across New Zealand and Australia every month. What started as a pipe dream has morphed into something that has reached over 50,000 customers.

One of the biggest areas our customers keep coming back to us about? **Joint health.**

Read more from Brad here

NEWS UPDATES

iHemp industry news from Aotearoa and around the Globe.

Farm, to factory, to tip: Tight regulations gagging potential \$2b hemp industry

[See More via The Press +](#)

Farmers Weekly USDA RNZ

Wood, hemp sectors want to join wool in new government construction rules National Agricultural Statistics Service: National Hemp Report Industrial hemp should be an 'agricultural crop' not a 'drug', says grower

[See More +](#)

[Read More +](#)

Don't forget to, LIKE & SHARE our posts

NZHIA
Food, Fibre, Health.

- New Zealand Hemp Industries Association -
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.