



Headlines

NMSU's Cooperative Extension Service to host hemp production workshops

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Following the United States Department of Agriculture's approval of the New Mexico Department of Agriculture's state hemp production regulatory plan in October 2020, New Mexico State University's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences Cooperative Extension Service has created a series of workshops to help stakeholders learn more about the emerging crop for agriculture producers in the state.

The first workshop will focus on research-based information and business advice about growing and processing hemp. NMSU Extension and ACES faculty will offer a virtual workshop, "Cultivating a Hemp Based Business in New Mexico: Production, Processing and Profitability," from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 25.

"The goal of the workshop is to provide research-based information to anyone interested in developing a hemp business in the state," said Amanda Skidmore, NMSU Extension Los Lunas Agricultural Science Center Integrated Pest Management Specialist.

NMDA representatives will present crop regulation sessions in the morning, while the afternoon sessions will be focused on production, processing or business operations and marketing. Participants can select a session to attend the day of the event and will receive links to watch recordings from the other two sessions. After the event, registration will remain open for anyone who missed the workshop and would like access to the recordings.

Presentations focusing on growing hemp will include cultivation, soil health, pest management, plant diseases and disorders, and processing options. Results from variety trials conducted at NMSU at locations across New Mexico will be shared. Other presentations include a discussion regarding the technical and business opportunities for hemp processing and manufacturing, as well as conducting feasibility studies, preparing budgets and general marketing considerations.

Registration is \$70. Current NMSU students can attend for \$25. Online registration is available at <https://hempbusiness.ezregister.com>. The fee includes access to recordings of sessions.



New Mexico State University's Cooperative Extension Service will host the first workshop in a series about hemp production in New Mexico Feb. 25. (Courtesy photo)

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Link to registration site: <https://ezregister.com/events/33782/>