

SECTOR PROFILE AT A GLANCE

Hemp



Highlights

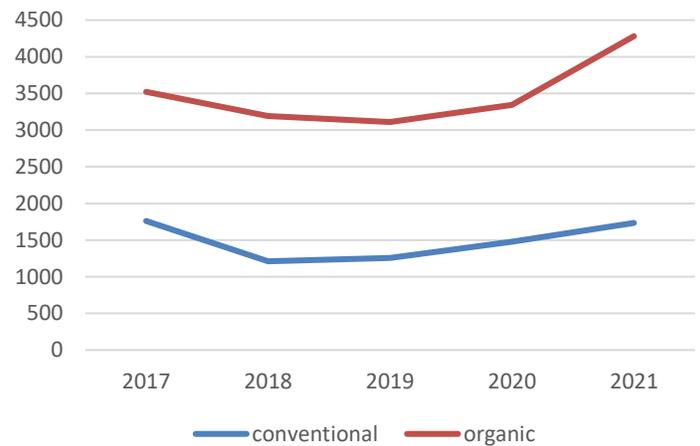
- Manitoba has been a leader in hemp production and processing since hemp was legalized in 1998 in Canada.
- Manitoba is home to major hemp food processors, including Fresh Hemp Foods and Hemp Production Services.
- In addition to processing Manitoba-grown hemp, Manitoba also processes hempseed produced in Saskatchewan and Alberta.
- In 2021, Manitoba exported over 15,000 metric tonnes of hemp products worth almost \$90 million, primarily to the United States.
- Manitoba was the third largest hemp producer in Canada in 2021, after Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- Hempseed yield averaged 863 pounds per acre in 2021 in Manitoba.
- Parkland Industrial Growers Cooperative Ltd., formed in 1999, provides a platform for producers to network and share information on hemp agronomy, breeding, handling, equipment and markets. It has developed and registered ten varieties for seed and fibre production.

Production (seeded acres)



Source: Statistics Canada

Prices (dollars per metric tonne)



Source: Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance and Manitoba Agriculture

Processing

- In Canada, industrial hemp is produced primarily to harvest the seed. The fibrous hemp stalk is considered a byproduct.
- Manitoba has a strong industrial hemp sector, with processors including Fresh Hemp Foods, Hemp Production Services, Hempco and Hemp Sense (fibre and seed).
- Fresh Hemp Foods, the parent company for Manitoba Harvest Hemp Foods (Winnipeg) and Hemp Oil Canada (Ste. Agathe), are the largest hemp processors in Canada, manufacturing shelled hemp seeds, hemp protein mix, hemp oil and other hemp-based food products.
- Hemp Production Services operates a hempseed processing facility in Arborg, Manitoba, offering contract manufacturing services for bulk hemp ingredients, including toasted hempseed, shelled hempseed, hemp protein powders and hemp oil.

Marketing

- Major markets for hemp seed and oil are natural and whole-food products, functional foods and nutraceuticals, food ingredients and personal care and health products.
- The hemp food markets are expected to grow as consumers embrace the health benefits of plant-based protein and polyunsaturated fatty acids from hempseed.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Industrial hemp includes cannabis plants that contain 0.3 per cent or less of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in the leaves and flowering heads.**
- **Health Canada regulates the importation, production, processing, possession, sale, transportation and delivery of industrial hemp.**
- **A licence from Health Canada is required for hemp production, hempseed processing and cannabidiol (CBD) extraction. However, hemp fibre processing is not subject to this requirement.**
- **With the legalization of cannabis in October 2018, licensed industrial hemp growers are allowed to harvest, store and sell hemp flowers, buds and leaves, which may contain cannabidiol.**
- **The Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance is a national organization that promotes Canadian hemp and hemp products globally and coordinates hemp research.**
- **Commercial production of industrial hemp in the United States was legalized by the 2018 Farm Bill.**

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