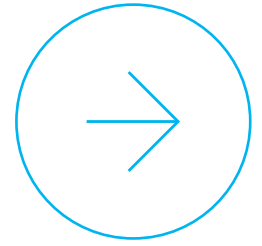


# New research collaboration to supercharge Australian hemp industry



The Australian Industrial Hemp Program of Research (AIHPR) is an exciting new collaboration designed to supercharge the Australian hemp industry over the next five years.

Funded by a \$2.5 million AgriFutures Australia's Emerging Industries Program, the AIHPR will be managed by Southern Cross University (SCU) with key theme leaders including the NT Department of Industry Tourism and Trade, NSW Department of Primary Industries and Charles Sturt University.

## Background

The Australian industrial hemp (*Cannabis sativa* L.) industry is in its infancy but is rapidly growing, and the timing is perfect to review the current situation and plan a pathway for future growth.

With the global industrial hemp market expected to reach \$18.6 billion by 2027, the new research program will help Australian producers and processors capitalise on the opportunity.

AgriFutures Australia's Emerging Industries Program is investing \$2.5 million over five years to deliver game-changing research into four key areas: hemp seeds and varieties, hemp primary production, hemp products and hemp sustainability.

The Australian Industrial Hemp Program of Research (AIHPR) is guided by the Australian Industrial Hemp Strategic RD&E Plan and developed in close consultation with industrial hemp growers, processors, agronomists and researchers.

The AIHPR will be led by Southern Cross University, who has more than 15 years' experience in industrial hemp research and managing significant programs of research.

SCU will implement internal governance mechanisms including a Monitoring, Evaluation and Review (MER) framework, an Annual Operating Plan (AOP) and an annual AIHPR workshop. Additionally, an AIHPR-external advisory mechanism will be implemented through an Industry Advisory Committee (IAC).

## Research key themes

The AIHPR will deliver research on the below themes:



### Hemp seeds and varieties

Focused on securing a steady supply of well-characterised hemp varieties by partnering with growers across diverse zones.



### Primary production

Empowers growers with insights into optimal agronomy for high yields and risk reduction.



### Product development

Investigates its use in livestock feed, high-quality peptides, and enhanced fiber and biomass value.



### Sustainability

Pioneers sustainability, providing tools to understand hemp's ecological impact, with emphasis on carbon emissions and sequestration



Learn more  
[www.agrifutures.com.au](http://www.agrifutures.com.au)



**Southern Cross  
University**



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Emerging  
Industries**

### Industrial Hemp fast facts



Hempseed has up to **30% protein**



**\$10M by 2026** Hemp industry growth projections.



**230% increase** in hectares under crop in last decade



Hemp can be **grown in every state and territory in Australia.**

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