

Proposed Georgia Regulations (as of January 7, 2019): Not Finalized by Georgia and Currently Under Review by USDA

The Hemp Regulatory Environment: A Brief History and Outline of Current U.S. and Georgia Regulations

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The United States (U.S.) hemp industry has a long history that dates back to the seventeenth century (Fortenberry and Bennett, 2004). Production was booming and the use of hemp was widespread, most notably for fiber. Strong demand existed for bagging, bale, paper, rope, sailcloth, and clothing such that production expanded rapidly in the mid 1800s. It was not until the 1890s with the advent of machinery for harvesting cotton, the cotton gin, and steam and petroleum powered ships when hemp production started to decline. At this point, however, hemp was still legal to produce in the U.S.

During the early 1900s, hemp continued to be grown, was part of Extension programming,

permits. The Drug Enforcement

All harvested lots of hemp must be separated in a manner that maintains a unique identity of each harvest lot, i.e. no commingling of the crop is permitted.

Storage and processing facilities must be secured with physical containment and reasonable security measures.

Areas that are licensed for the growth of hemp must include signage that identifies the area as a "Georgia Department of Agriculture Licensed Hemp Grower" with the name of the licensee, license number, and GDA phone number.

Any fields where hemp is planted must be scouted and monitored for volunteer cannabis plants for three years past the last date of last planting reported to GDA.

Specific recordkeeping defined by the rules to allow for identification and traceability. Furthermore, annual reporting to GDA and FSAs required.

GDA will perform pesticide residue tests to ensure only authorized pesticides are used in hemp production.

All hemp being transported in Georgia must be accompanied by documentation indicating the hemp was lawfully produced, that it does not exceed acceptable hemp THC levels, and has an appropriate bill of lading with identification of the owner of the hemp, point of origin and delivery, kind and quantity of hemp, and date of shipment.

Processors may only obtain hemp lawfully produced under an approved USDA hemp plan.

Any grower, handler, or processor of hemp must comply with all local, state, and federal rules, regulations, and ordinances.

This publication will be updated once final rules are approved by GDA. In the meantime T2 1 Tf .0159