

For: State and County Offices

**Hemp License Numbers and Acreage Reporting**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, for Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

The 2018 Farm Bill directed USDA to establish a national regulatory framework for hemp production. AMS published final rule 86 FR 5596-5691 on January 19, 2021, that provides hemp production regulations and hemp crop acreage reporting requirements.

Producers planting hemp are required to file acreage reports with FSA. The acreage report must include the producer’s license number.

**B Purpose**

This notice provides guidance on the hemp acreage reporting procedure.

**2 Hemp Licenses**

**A Required Producer Hemp License**

Producers are required to provide a hemp license number for a certified hemp acreage report. The name on the hemp license must match the name on the acreage report.

If a producer reports hemp acreage on FSA-578 using a name that does not match the name on the hemp license, County Offices should accept the acreage report and include the hemp license number that is provided.

**Notes:** The producer must explain and document on FSA-578 why the hemp license name does not match the acreage report name.

County Offices will accept the acreage report even if the producer does not provide a hemp license number.

<b>Disposal Date</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
March 1, 2022 8-26-21	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 **Hemp Licenses (Continued)**

**B Hemp License Format**

The following link describes the required license number format for USDA approved State and Tribal hemp production plans:

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/StateandTribalPlanRequirements.pdf>

3 **Reporting Lots**

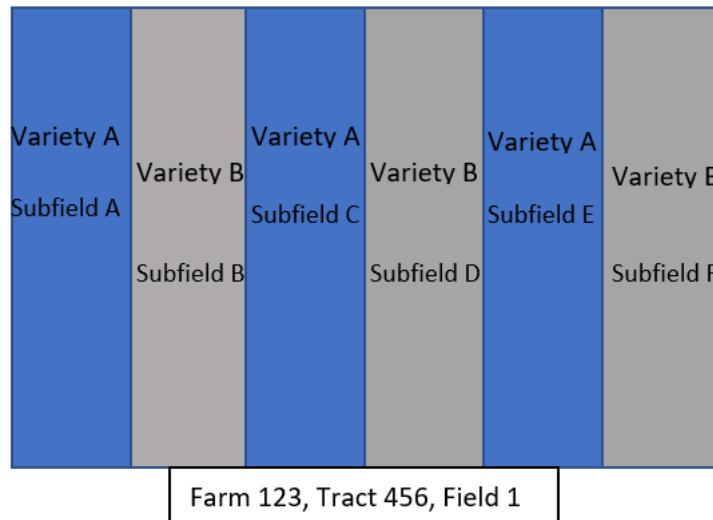
**A Lots Versus Fields**

License holders must designate the location and number of lots intended to be planted. For FSA purposes, the term “lots” refers to the specific subfield located within the field on the tract. The lot concept provides flexibilities to growers to manage risk; therefore, lots may be subsections of a field, without physical boundary, as is required for other crops. Growers **must** report each variety or strain as a separate “lot”.

**B Reporting Acres**

Crop fields are subdivided by variety and correspond with the lots the producer has registered to comply with the USDA, Tribal, or State approved plan.

**Example:** Producer has two varieties of hemp planted in the same field in an alternating pattern of six lots. Producer will report six subfields of hemp as follows:



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### 3 Reporting Lots (Continued)

#### C Research Lots

Hemp may be grown for research purposes only. Because the crop will never be sold commercially, the acreage report is not required to be broken down by lots. If the field was planted over several days, growers will report the average planting date.

**Example:** Producer is growing hemp for a university and has planted six lots with six different varieties. The lots were planted on June 1, 12, 18, and 29. The planting date of June 15 was entered into CARS as the average planting date.

#### D Hemp Grown in a Greenhouse, Warehouse, or Similar Indoor Facility

Growers who plant hemp in a greenhouse or indoor facility with the intention of transplanting or propagating the plant into an outdoor field before harvest are not required to report the initial indoor planting. The crop must only be reported when it is moved and planted in the field.

A producer growing, managing, and harvesting the crop in a greenhouse or indoor facility must follow the same guidance as a traditional grower. The hemp must be reported by location, subfield(s), and planting date(s) for all varieties and end-uses.

A producer growing the crop for propagation purposes to sell to other producers will report the crop using SE as the intended use when it is seeded in the greenhouse or similar facility. Because the producer will not be growing the crop to harvest and testing may not be required, the crop may be reported using the same method as a research grower.

**Note:** Hemp planted after the acreage reporting deadline should be reported immediately after planting; however, it must be reported 30 days before being harvested.

### 4 Action

#### A SED Action

SED's will ensure that:

- County Offices are immediately informed of the contents of this notice
- policy changes and procedures in this notice are adequately publicized.

#### B County Office Action

County Offices will ensure that all provisions of this notice are followed and applied to hemp acreage reports.