Division of Research—Hemp Pilot Project

Presented by Charles A. Weatherford

Board of Trustees Meeting, March 4, 2020
Industry Partners

• Green Earth Cannaceuticals (GEC)

• Sunshine Hemp (SH)
Expected Results

• Identify hemp species that will thrive safely under Florida conditions.
• Identify good production and management practices for growers.
## Location of Research Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Partner</th>
<th>Site Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Green Earth Cannaceuticals (GEC)</strong></td>
<td>Bartow – Murphy Road</td>
<td>014</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tallahassee – Sams Lane</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Newberry – W. Newberry Road</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Newberry – NW 62(^{nd}) Ave</td>
<td>017</td>
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<td>High Springs – Five Oaks</td>
<td>018</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gainesville – NW 37(^{th}) Drive</td>
<td>030</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Palm City – SW 72(^{nd}) Avenue</td>
<td>032</td>
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<td><strong>Sunshine Hemp (SH)</strong></td>
<td>Kenansville – Hwy 523</td>
<td>013</td>
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<td>Punta Gorda – Neal Road</td>
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<td>Eustis – Bill Collins Road</td>
<td>028</td>
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Bartow Location – Hook R Farm (30 acres)

- 40,000 plants harvested
- Will replant 9,000 plants
- Varieties: Baox, Cherry Citrus & Cherry Wine
- Total harvest: 13,210 lb
- Processed in Miami
Newberry Location

GEC Headquarters (7 acres)
- 20,000 plants in containers and in greenhouses
- Varieties: CBD Therapy, Cherry Wine, Cherry Citrus, & Sweetened

Cherry Citrus
Sweetened
Cherry Wine
Program Status

Cherry Wine

Tallahassee Location

Henry Farm (3 acres)
- Planted 5,000 plants
- Harvested in November
- Varieties: CBD Therapy, Cherry Wine, Cherry Citrus, Cherry, Sweetened & Stout

Cherry Wine

About ready for harvest
Sunshine Hemp

Punta Gorda

- 20 acres + 100,000 sq ft bldg
- 10,000 feminized clones to be planted
Plans for 2020

Florida A&M University

• Continue research & data collection
• Recruit faculty for research program
• Establish research infrastructure
• Expand program to include small growers
Plans for 2020

Green Earth Cannaceuticals

• Continue research and data collection.
• Establish processing center/unit for CBD oil.
• Establish processing center/unit for fiber.
• Produce catalog for hemp cultivars.
• Start small growers program.

Newberry Location

• Evaluate new hemp genetics.
• Build greenhouse for stock plants and propagation.
• Maintain mother plants + clones in greenhouse.
• Build foundation seed + breeding stock. Seeds available in 2021.
• Produce 1.3 million clones for 2020 season.
Plans for 2020

Green Earth Cannaceuticals

High Springs Location (New)
• Establish farm for seed production. Seeds available in 2021.

Bartow (Hook Farm) Location
• Increase acreage from 30 to 50 acres.
• Continue evaluation of hemp genetics

Tallahassee (Henry Farm) Location
• Increase acreage from 3 to 5 acres.
• Continue evaluation of hemp genetics
Plans for 2020

Green Earth Cannaceuticals

Gainesville Location (New)

- Establish farm for clones.
- Evaluate hemp genetics

Palm City Location (New)

- Establish farm for clones.
Sunshine Hemp

Punta Gorda Location (New)
• Establish 100,000 sq. ft. propagation unit.
• Establish 20 acre farm + 10,000 feminized clones.

Kenansville Location (New)
• Establish new planting - 5 acres
• Evaluate new genetics

Eustis Location (New)
• Establish new planting - 2 acres
• Evaluate new genetics
Preliminary Results

Some Observations

- Latest date to plant in North Florida – mid July.
- Plants highly photosensitive.
- No adverse impact on environment.
- Plants susceptible to pest infestations:
  - White flies
  - Aphids
  - Caterpillars
  - Fungal diseases
Challenges for Industry 2020

• Lack of technical information on varietal performance
• Lack of technical information on management practices
• Lack of experienced growers
• Lack of proven hemp genetics – seeds and clones
• Lack of market infrastructures – storage, drying, processing
Seed/Planting Materials Certification:
State Proposed Legislation and FDACS Rules as of 2/24/20

- Original statute requires that all growers must use “certified seeds or planting materials (clones)”.
- The latest House Bill (HB) has removed that requirement. Any grower can now use any hemp seed or clone from any source that is registered with FDACS. The growers will have to use their own discretion in purchasing and using the planting materials and will have high risks.
- The latest Senate bill (SB) requires growers to use “certified planting materials” or planting materials produced from an Industrial Hemp Pilot Project.
At the last meeting with FDACS, it was not completely resolved as to how the rules will be finalized, but it was agreed that FAMU will be allowed to produce its own “approved” seeds or clones that could be made available to growers. Another suggestion is to use the term “Produced from Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Project” that will give growers some assurance of quality that the seeds/clones have been grown in Florida by a university. There will be no guarantee of THC level.

Growers and vendors who want to produce seeds or planting materials for sale will have to register with FDACS and comply with certain requirements. These seeds or planting materials will not be considered as “certified” as only AOSCA (Auburn) can certify the seeds.
“At FAMU, Great Things are Happening Every Day!”