



Office of  
**INDIANA STATE CHEMIST AND SEED COMMISSIONER**

*Protecting Indiana's Agriculture and Environment - Feed, Fertilizer, Pesticide and Seed*

Robert D. Waltz, Ph.D.  
State Chemist &  
Seed Commissioner

Purdue University • 175 South University Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2063  
Telephone (765) 494-1492 • Facsimile (765) 494-4331

**January 16, 2020**

**Research Advisor Minimum Requirements**

The research advisor plays a critical role in furthering the development of the hemp industry in Indiana. This industry has more questions than answers at this point so university based research advisors are needed to help growers and hemp handlers do educated research projects.

Areas to be involved are:

- Assist grower/handler with a well thought out research proposal. This does not mean to write the proposal for them, but to be a sounding board of areas to do field research, measuring outcomes and testing more than one input against the other (s).
  - Areas of inclusion into the research proposal should be:
    - what is to be measured?
    - what variables will be tested and will results be potentially valuable information?
    - what planting, harvesting, cultivation, and in season management methods will be included?
    - who will be involved?
    - where the grow/handling of the crop will be done?
    - when will the crop be ideally planted and harvested?
    - do they have a buyer for the crop or a letter of intent? (This is not your responsibility to find this for them, just to verify that they have it)
- Be available for answering questions from the grower/handler in your areas of expertise in any of the following areas or others that may apply; general agriculture, economics, engineering, horticulture, entomology, botany and plant pathology, Plant Pest Lab, etc.
- Help facilitate conversations between your advisee and other university departments as needed.
- Help facilitate year-end report information by being available to edit data into useable, valuable information. This year-end report will be written by the advisee to help further the knowledge base in Indiana.
- Help the advisee with any questions about the year-end grower survey. This help should focus on areas where the research advisor was involved.