

"Think, Work, Serve

## **Tennessee Hemp Producers Educational Workshop**

## Over 150 people attended our inaugural industrial hemp workshop!

Tennessee State University's Cooperative Extension hosted a Grower's Workshop on Friday, March 02, 2018. We were joined by **experts in our state** actively working to establish industrial hemp production in Tennessee.

- State Representative Jay Reedy shared his personal experience growing hemp on his farm in Erin, Tennessee. He advocates and networks across the state in support of Industrial Hemp as a new crop for Tennessee.
- Tennessee Department of Agriculture's plant pathologist and hemp specialist, Dr. Katherine Kilbourne explained the licensing requirements, including inspections required by the state to insure the quality of the plant in the field.
- Joe Kirkpatrick, President of the Tennessee Hemp Industries Association (TNHIA) discuss ways to join and get involved with TNHIA. In addition, he provided a list of current legislation for the audience to follow on the web.
- The remainder of the workshop included interactive presentations addressing marketing, production, harvesting, and processing considerations. State farmers and researchers were involved in these panel discussions, as well as Richard Pertile of Eufloria Medical of Tennessee, who graciously cosponsored this event while providing several years of experience working in Florida, Colorado, California, and North Carolina as President/CEO of the parent company, Acacia Diversified Holdings, Inc.

Registration sold out and several paid at the door, leaving standing room only. Tennessee State University, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperative Extension outreach thanks you and looks forward to future events as industrial hemp moves into Tennessee.