

submissions

From: blue earth skincare [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 25 August 2016 8:40 PM
To: submissions
Subject: SUBMISSION - P1042 - Low THC Hemp Seeds as Foods- from Warren Bryson

Dear FSANZ,

Please find below my submission on P1042, Low THC Hemp Seeds as Food.

I first applied for a license to grow hemp in New Zealand in 1994. This was done to get the ball rolling so to speak although sadly it has hardly moved since then. In 1995 I moved to the United Kingdom and set up a company , Hempseed Organics, which imported many tonnes of certified organic hempseed from Hungary and distributed it through a network of health-food stores throughout the UK. There was no difference in the rules, regulations ,fees or processes between hemp seed and importing/distributing retailing any other raw seed food. I could walk down to a local shop and purchase a packet of biscuits-Cannabiscuits they are called. Pet shops sold raw whole hempseed for a few dollars a kilo. In that time I enjoyed the following vegan foods where the main ingredient was hempseed : milk, cheese, ice cream, yogurt, hummus, dukkah, nut butter, burger patties, etc .

No one was getting high as a result of this. No harm caused, people (and animals) only became healthier and enjoyed the great taste. You will not find any research which shows a link between hemp food and people feeling the urge to use marijuana. With this in mind I returned to New Zealand in 1998 thinking it wont be long before New Zealand law allows a similar industry to grow and we will have another food industry — good for the health, excellent for business, great for the environment, fantastic for New Zealand.

18 years later and all we have is hemp oil. We are being denied and missing out on so much more. I have done much research into the viability of growing hempseed and making hemp milk IS commercially viable. Not only is there a market niche to fill but also a need. We cannot rely on current dairy production and pollution. Dairy farming is the single biggest emitter of greenhouse gases worldwide and we urgently need to offer alternatives. Of course there is soy, almond, rice , etc. All which have their benefits but none which offer the complete nutritional, environmental, animal welfare and taste benefits of creamy hemp milk.

When making your decision please consider that the number of people choosing to eat more vegetarian / vegan food in their diet is increasing significantly therefore we need to have a selection of nutritious adaptable food ingredients to meet this demand. Hemp is perfect. I am sure you are all well aware of the nutritional benefits of hemp seed but just incase it has slipped by here is a basic breakdown.

Protein: the amino acid structure in hempseed is fantastic being of the edistin variety which is easily dismantled by the body and re configured into the proteins our body needs.

Carbohydrates: fantastic source of fibre

Oil: perfect balance of omega 3 to 6 with super subset of linoleic, linolenic oils

Heaps of minerals and vitamins

Stuff all traces of thc from the plant material. So minuscule is the thc it is not even worth mentioning really.

All packed in a life preserving rancidity delaying shell. (which is why when you allow me to posses and purchase hemp seed I should be able to buy it in the same state I get pumpkin, sunflower, amaranth etc i.e raw untouched by irradiation or any other denaturing process.

I hope the forum no longer considers any weight in the false argument that legalising hemp food might 'send a message that marijuana use is OK" . Any hemp food marijuana debate is pretty much invalid these days being taken over by the medical cannabis / marijuana debate. Society is well aware there is no correlation between allowing hemp food and it being interpreted as a sign that marijuana is acceptable as well

I have read the 'about us" of the board. All of them look like very well educated responsible knowledgable people. I am sure as individuals you are all great people, conscious and really wanting what is best for the individual, society business , health and economics. Please do not take any comments below to be directed to you as individuals but as a forum I think the decision making on hemp food since inception has been woefully wrong, irresponsible, weak and ignorant of fact and common sense and it makes me soo ANGRY AND FRUSTRATED ;-(. it is wrong , undemocratic and if i knew enough law i would say unlawful to deny me a food which causes no harm to either person, property or planet, so why am i denied my choice.

I truly hope the committee makes it recommendations based on fact and logic, food , health and safety rather than some political reason .

Despite trying to understand with an open mind, a closed mind, an ignorant mind I cannot fathom why we only have hemp oil when in a similar culture 18 years earlier I could obtain a whole array of delicious food?

I sit here and I ponder this question. Should I have bothered spending any time writing a submission when, despite so much knowledge and effort we still have an incredibly limited hemp food industry due to governmental rules which , to my mind, have no logic to them. My heart and head tells me I am wasting my time.

I hope you prove me wrong

Thank you for reading and considering these words

ps if you can please make the time to google and watch the excellent documentary Cowspiracy

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