

## Seamons, Colleen

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**From:** Catherine Saxelby [saxelby@foodwatch.com.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 April 2011 7:21 PM  
**To:** submissions  
**Subject:** Submission on Low THC Hemp  
**Attachments:** Hemp - Low THC submission\_FSANZ\_120411.doc

**Categories:** Blue Category

Standards Management Officer  
FSANZ  
Via email on 14 April 2011

### **SUBMISSION**

Application A1039  
Low THC Hemp as a Food

### **IN FAVOUR of Low THC Hemp**

As an accredited nutritionist, I am in favour of FSANZ's approval of the use of Low THC hemp foods on the following grounds:

- 1) Low THC Hemp is a highly nutritious oil seed with significant nutrients such as ALA Omega-3 fats, protein and Vitamin E as detailed in your Clause 5.1.3.
- 2) Approval brings Australia in line with other countries including our neighbour New Zealand.
- 3) I do not foresee that Low THC hemp foods will create differences in recognised High THC Cannabis, if the sale of whole hemp seeds is managed via existing controls on licensing and FSANZ sets a maximum limit for THC content (your Clause 6.4).
- 4) Hemp is a valuable raw material for non-food uses. I have already purchased and valued hemp hand cream and hemp clothing.
- 5) Hemp can be grown in an environment-friendly manner, requiring little or no pesticide and fertiliser and yielding a viable crop in under 6 months, according to my reading.
- 6) Perhaps requiring two specific descriptor names and keeping them distinct could assist e.g. hemp for food use vs. cannabis for illicit drug terminology (your Clause 8.4).
- 7) I am NOT in favour of manufacturers being licensed to use hemp as an ingredient or supplier as asked in your Q14. There are already too many food regulations restraining manufacturers.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Saxelby  
B Sc, Grad Dip Nutr Dietetics, AN, APD, MAIFST  
Accredited Nutritionist  
Foodwatch Pty Ltd

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**Background and qualification of submitter**

Catherine Saxelby has worked as a consultant nutritionist and food writer for 30+ years including projects for oilseed-related clients Meadow Lea Foods and Aust Oilseeds Federation. She has a special interest in food ingredients, oils/fats and omega-3 in particular and believes most Australians do not consume sufficient omega-3 for health.

[Note: This same submission is attached as a Word document if required]