

Gerald Taylor

For Topical Hemp Cream.

The hemp industry is being held back by its perceived connection to narcotics. This connection is illusory as hemp does not cause intoxication although it does help keeping all creatures with feet and a heartbeat physically and mentally balanced. The department of primary industry oversees hemp growers during cultivation and processing of hemp crops. Once processed hemp farmers come under the auspice of the therapeutics goods administration. The TGA is the lobbying arm of the pharmaceutical companies and unsympathetic to the needs of primary producers.

As hemp farmers we need to utilise all forms of hemp from building materials to fertilisers, from nutrition for all animals to cosmetics and wellness products.

It would be a great improvement for farmers if the DPI were to retain control of all facets of the hemp industry. Treating hemp as a dangerous drug does nothing positive for the hemp industry, it merely holds us back.

Another handbrake on the industry is the amount of over site applied. For example harvested crops or seedlings need reports and checks that actually make no sense. If all crops are checked before harvest for thc content as happens now, then why check seed stock etc until the plants are grown? Multiple bottlenecks only slow the flow of a useful but harmless plant.

Proscription of hemp products for human and animal use is there only to protect competing crops and the pharmaceutical industry. It makes no sense other than to cripple a useful plant.

Bear in mind there are already 65 thousand products created from hemp, it is arguably the most useful plant on the planet and yet in Australia we treat it like a dangerous, toxic agent.

In fact cannabis, including the illegal thc dominant plants, have never caused a single death. In the 10000 years of recorded history, unlike sugar, salt or Panadol not one death has been attributed to cannabis.

The best way forward is to simplify and leave hemp crop regulation to the DPI. The DPI have the expertise and experience of working with farmers and primary producers. Let them do their job and regulate us small farmers, Big pharma can regulate their own pharmaceuticals.