September update

Welcome to our September eNews update. A warm hello to new members! This eNews is designed to inform, educate and inspire our Tasmanian hemp network. Please email secretary@hatas.org.au with any inclusions for next month.

In this newsletter:

- President Tim Schmidt invited to present at Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance Convention
- ECS Botanics strategic investment into TAP Agri Co.
- 45 Degree Latitude - a quality discussion with Charles Rose
- Hemp hectare growth projections for 2019-20 season
- Member profile: Morgan Leath talks Tas Seed Dressing and Tasmanian hemp seed quality

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Canadian taste for Tasmanian knowledge

Tim Schmidt, President HATas, will travel to Calgary, Canada, to take part on an international panel at The Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance’s National Convention between 26 - 28 November this year. Tim will present an update on the political and economic status of hemp in Australia, touching on Tasmania’s yield and quality performance. Tim will be joined on the panel by representatives from the USA, Europe, China and South Korea.

Established in 2003, the Alliance represents those involved in Canada’s hemp industry. Members include farmers, processors, manufacturers, researchers, entrepreneurs and marketers.
ECS Botanics & TAP Agri Co. establish industry facility

Last week, ASX listed Tasmanian hemp company, ECS Botanics, announced its strategic investment into Tasmanian Agricultural Producers (TAP Agri Co.), establishing a facility available to hemp industry operators.

ECS investment into TAP Agri Co. comes at a critical time in the growth of our local hemp industry here in Tasmania.

The fast facts:

- ECS has announced a significant investment in TAP Agri Co.
- The investment from ECS will fund the purchase of key infrastructure including a hemp seed dryer, storage and handling equipment which
will ensure hemp crops can be grown and processed in a timely manner
- The facility will also be accessible to other hemp producers in Tasmania.

ECS Botanics' CEO, Alex Keach, commented, “We are very excited to be working with the TAP Agri Co. team to execute a shared vision and significant opportunity at a time when Tasmania requires key infrastructure and capacity to support the expansion of the hemp industry. This investment enables ECS to position itself ideally for anticipated developments and growth in the local industry.”

Latitude key to quality, says Rose.

Widely published author and natural food innovator, Richard Rose, has released an opinion piece recently titled, *Oxymoron: Tropical Hemp.* The article questions the validity of growing hemp in non-temperate climates,
where controlling THC levels is riddled with risk. His research and experience working with hemp suggests temperate climates, such as ours here in Tasmania, are much more suitable for growing optimal, certifiable hemp.

"Keeping the hemp crop compliant (relating to THC level) in the flowers is a huge deal, the difference between success and financial ruin," Rose states.

Visit richardrosereport.com for full article.

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**Tasmanian hemp hectares growth prediction**

We expect approximately 2,000+ hectares of hemp to be grown in Tasmania in the 2019-20 season. *Prospective growers*, we can assist you through the process of licensing and discussions relating to contracting, cash flow, storage and logistics options to ensure you’re ready for harvest.

Visit DPIPWE website to download licensing forms.
Member profile: Morgan Leath of Tasmanian Seed Dressing & Storage

Morgan has contributed to the grain and seed industry his whole working life. He trained in seed cleaning, then soon became a supervisor. Interestingly, Morgan also trained with New Zealand Police and obtained the rank of Detective. Nowadays, Morgan works with South Island Seed Dressing, leading their Tasmanian based operation.

Morgan's hemp industry insights:

"The Tasmanian hemp industry has a strong future, provided it maintains a clear focus on brand marketing, cultivar selection, superior agronomy and farming practices. Tasmania has been producing high quality hemp seed for many years now, which has given us the edge over other Southern Hemisphere countries.

Tasmania really has become the godfather of hemp production and our knowledge is often sought by others entering the industry. We have done the hard yards, gone through various legislative changes and are now producing a superior product on a world stage. The hemp seed grown in Tasmania is rich in oil content and deep in colour, performing with the best hemp seed oil produced in the world.

With larger seed volumes being produced, there is a collective responsibility to ensure our island's infrastructure keeps up with demand requirements, ensuring hemp production is a long term sustainable commodity."

To ensure the best quality product, never leave harvested hemp in trucks over night and always maintain contact regarding when you expect to deliver. Connect with Morgan by contacting: morgan@tsdressing.com

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