



Kia ora,

Welcome to your NZHIA December / January newsletter; here's a preview of the news, and events in this issue:

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Chair Update
- Save the Date: 25 - 26 August, iHemp Summit 2023
- Hemp Tourism (and a luxury treat if you are visiting Tasmania)
- Animal studies: an update on a trial with dairy cows
- Hemp Huifest - Golden Bay

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- 29 - 31 MARCH 2023  
[NoCo Hemp Expo](#)
- 7 - 9 APRIL 2023  
[Hemp Huifest](#)
- 3 - 5 AUGUST 2023  
[Cannabis Research Conference](#)
- 25 & 26 AUGUST 2023  
[iHemp Summit](#)

**An Update from the NZHIA Chair**

Welcome to the December/January 2023 Public Newsletter. Happy Holidays and best wishes for the coming year to all of the industry and our iHemp community.

The growing season is well underway with some late plantings going in around the wet weather we had in December, but all should be right with some sunny days in the new year.

2023 is going to a particularly big one for the iHemp Industry, our 3rd iHemp summit will be taking place in Christchurch 24-25th of August, we look forward to seeing you there, but numbers will be limited so keep an eye out when the tickets go on sale to the public in February.

The other big event happening this year will be the election. This is a great opportunity to canvas the political parties to see how they feel about the iHemp industry and how they are going to invest and support the industry to really make a difference in the future. Labour, National, ACT, Greens, Maori are the big ones with TOP, NZ First and others all having potential to be members of parliament post the election, so we have our work cut out for us.

Scaling the industry is a key focus this year, the feedback from the Mystery Creek field days, in November 2022 showed there was considerable farmer interest, with many potential growers looking at iHemp as an alternate land use in rotation with their current farming operations, whether they be dairy, sheep & beef or horticulture.

This supply side interest is going to support the existing iHemp business to scale and expand the local markets and enter new export market, where demand is growing at double digit, compound annual growth rates.

**Read more+**

The extent of this growth and the projected market size for iHemp food and fiber products, is a reflection of the consumers preference for sustainable, high quality foods, with great nutritional profiles. And fiber products with key qualities and characteristics which end users and manufactures are seeking, to improve the quality and consumer uptake of their products, this is an exciting time as more business get turned on to iHemp as an ingredient or raw material for their production processes.

Matching this growing demand with the supply from quality farming sources is key to scaling the industry. To be successful, especially in export markets, we need to maintain the highest possible quality of the foods and fiber we produce. Our fiber industry needs to meet the specification of the end users.

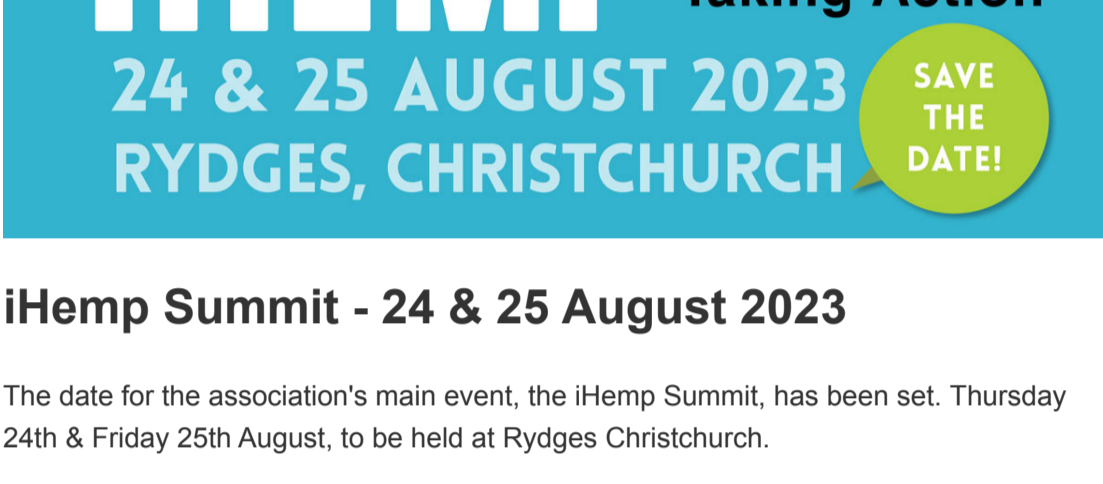
Our hemp food producers, Hemp NZ, Midlands, Brothers Green, Hemp Connect, Hopefield Hemp and others must exceed best practices to produce the type of quality required to be successful in export markets. We have a great story, from the care taken by our farmers during harvest and drying of the seed through the production chain to avoid heat, light and air that are the enemies of hemp seed oil, our product can be world class

The industry is full of challenges, quality control, standardisation, development of new products, penetrating new and existing markets, continuity of supply and telling our story better are all crucial to realising the massive economic, environmental and social out comes available from a sustainable iHemp industry.

We already have a great reputation for food and innovative production, combined with a great story gives us a very wide ranging social licence to operate.

As an industry we must respect this and live up the expectations of our customers and consumers, as we penetrate the market, moving from early adopters to mainstream. "Taking action" is the theme for the iHemp Summit, in Christchurch 24-25th August 2023, the tickets will be on sale to Members later this month and we look forward to offering early bird specials to the wider industry in February. The conference will be limited to 200 attendees, so if you are serious about the industry you will need to get in quick and secure your spot.

All the best,  
**Richard Barge**  
NZHIA Chair



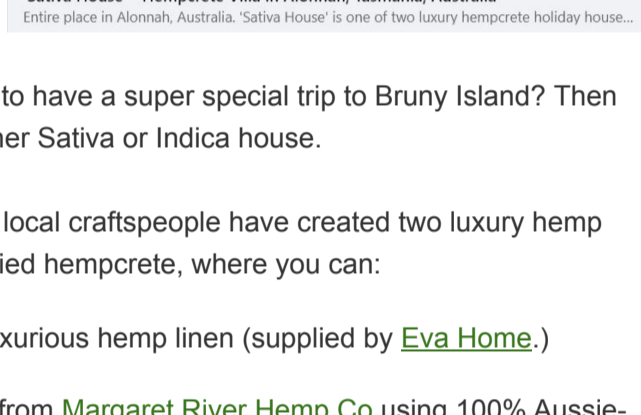
**iHemp Summit - 24 & 25 August 2023**

The date for the association's main event, the iHemp Summit, has been set. Thursday 24th & Friday 25th August, to be held at Rydges Christchurch.

**Early bird pricing will be released to NZHIA members then to our database.**

If you would like to exhibit at the event please get in touch - there is limited space is available at Rydges Christchurch. Please email [admin@nzhia.com](mailto:admin@nzhia.com) for an information pack.

**Hemp Tourism and a luxury treat if you are visiting Tasmania**



Another exciting aspect of the iHemp industry is hemp tourism, a great way to showcase hemp products.

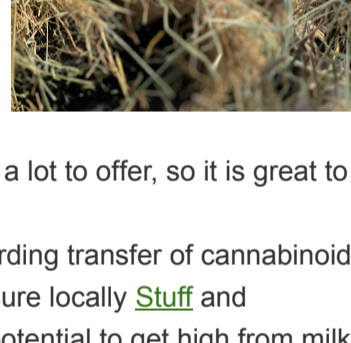
Are you going to Tasmania and want to have a super special trip to Bruny Island? Then you need to book a luxury stay at either Sativa or Indica house.

Andi Lucas, her team at X hemp and local craftspeople have created two luxury hemp holidays homes built from local supplied hempcrete, where you can:

- sleep on beds made up with luxurious hemp linen (supplied by [Eva Home](#).)
- Use hemp bathroom products from [Margaret River Hemp Co](#) using 100% Aussie-grown crops.
- The fridge and pantry are stocked with hemp hearts, protein powder, and oil, all grown and processed locally by [Ananda Food](#) and [Hemp Harvests](#).
- The front fence is made from hemp rope and hemp mulch covers the beds of the newly planted native gardens.
- Best of all, for those who like to imbibe, there is a stocked bar cart offering hemp gin ([New Norfolk Distillery](#)), hemp vodka ([Natural Distilling Co.](#)), and hemp rum ([Dead Man's Fingers](#)), so you can mix yourself a wee bevy while watching the sunset over the magnificent d'Entrecasteaux Channel.

If this sounds like you, booking can be made at [Air BnB](#) or by going directly to the amazing property manager Rae Smith at [info@tassiehempcretehouses.com.au](mailto:info@tassiehempcretehouses.com.au) to make a reservation

**Animal studies – A animal food trial involving cows**



**In the media:**  
**New Zealand via [Stuff](#)**  
**Internationally via [NewScientist](#)**

Animal feed and food is an important market and iHemp has a lot to offer, so it is great to see more studies being done. A report released on 14 November 2022 in [Nature food](#) regarding transfer of cannabinoids into milk of dairy cows fed with industrial hemp gained exposure locally [Stuff](#) and internationally [NewScientist](#), with headlines mentioning the potential to get high from milk.

This highlights the immediate need for foundational, New Zealand specific studies to be conducted on iHemp as an animal food. This needs to be allowed to happen so we can understand the situation with evidence and real world experience.

Many areas on farm need to be studied, to identify how iHemp and tech can help with, CO2 sequestration, reducing emissions, remediation and cleaning polluted soils, crop rotation etc and this will require significant government and primary producer funding and support.

**Read More+**

Two forms of industrial hemp silage were used to feed 10 cows. The silage from whole plants did not present any risks, whilst a second silage made from leaves, flowers and seed resulted in detectable levels of THC in the milk, during the exposure period and for a week after the hemp feed had been withdrawn.

The second silage mix contained levels of THC that were significantly higher than allowed for human consumption. This, and the other phytochemicals in the plant could explain the behavioural changes noted.

The report noted actual data and models were used and the levels quickly fell when the hemp was removed from the feed, suggesting a safe standdown period can be implemented to remove the risk of THC or CBD remaining in milk and meat products.

Ten cows went through a control and adaptation period for 14 days, where the corn silage was partially replaced with 2 mixes. One, a very low cannabinoid mix of whole plant industrial hemp silage, the other made from leaves, flowers and seeds only from a low THC crop of Finola.

The mixes were feed at 2 rates, low 0.84 KG dry matter per cow per day and a high of 1.68 KG dry mater/cow/day.

The Exposure was for 6 days, followed by a no hemp diet and daily monitoring for 8 days during a depuration period, giving 28 days in total.

"For humans, the lowest-observed-adverse-effect-level for delta 9 THC is 0.03mg per kg body weight". It was noted "on average, the cows ingested up to 86 times more delta 9 during the exposure period" This, and the other phytochemicals in the plant could explain the behavioural changes noted.

A range of cannabinoids were CBD during the exposure period. "Concentrations of up to 316 µg Δ9-THC and 1,174 µg THCV were detected per kg milk. Maximum values for other cannabinoids in milk were 1.9 (Δ9-THCA), 8.0 (Δ9-THCV), 2.5 (CBN) and 10.1 µg per kg body weight (CBDV). On the last day of the depuration period, Δ9-THC (group L: 1.4 ± 0.4 µg per kg; group H: 5.0 ± 0.6 µg per kg) and CBD (group L: 7.0 ± 1.9 µg per kg; group H: 16.2 ± 2.6 µg per kg) were still detectable in milk.

The cows were exposed to a range of feed variables and tested for the above cannabinoids, milk yield, heart rate and respiration. Actual results and models were used to come up with the results and conclusions that the health consequences of feeding industrial hemp silage to dairy cows varied depending on the cannabinoid concentration of the silage. Silage made from leaves, flowers and seeds had the biggest impact, while low-cannabinoid industrial hemp silage made from the whole hemp plant showed no effects on cow health and performance.

This highlights the main concern, particularly for cows. We need to know the stand down period for cannabinoids in the milk, meat and blood of cows so they can be appropriately managed in the farming rotation, we need the already established primary industries to show an interest in understanding the benefits of iHemp in the farming rotation and get involved with making it happen.

**Hemphui April 2023**

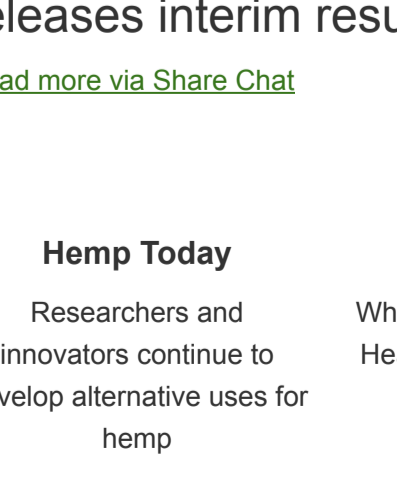
For those of you near the Golden bay area, the local hemp community are hosting a Hemp Huifest over the Easter Weekend 2023.

Contact [hempireofthesun@gmail.com](mailto:hempireofthesun@gmail.com) for more information.



**NEWS UPDATES**

**iHemp industry news from Aotearoa and around the Globe.**



**Greenfern Industries Ltd releases interim results**  
[Read more via Share Chat](#)

**Kiwi patients can now access NZ-made THC-based medicines**  
[Read more via NewsHub](#)

**Hemp Today**  
Researchers and innovators continue to develop alternative uses for hemp  
[See More +](#)

**Stuff**  
Where Is The NZ Economy Headed In The New Year?  
[See More +](#)

**Yahoo**  
New Hemp Fiber and Hurd Supply Chain Map Available  
[Read More +](#)

**RESOURCES**

The NZHIA website [www.nzhia.com](http://www.nzhia.com) is an information resource for members, hemp enthusiasts and those curious about the industry. You'll find information on:

- [Growing Hemp in NZ](#)
- [iHemp Magazine](#)
- [Licencing](#)
- [Webinars](#)

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