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# WHY DO CARBON BASED FERTILIZERS WORK?

*Specially Formulated*

Carbon-based fertilizers are becoming increasingly popular in agriculture due to their numerous benefits. These fertilizers are derived from organic sources and contain high levels of carbon, providing a variety of advantages to the soil, plants, and the overall ecosystem. In this article, we will explore five educational paragraphs that highlight the benefits of carbon-based fertilizers in agriculture and how they can contribute to sustainable and productive farming practices.

## 1. ENHANCED SOIL HEALTH AND FERTILITY

Carbon-based fertilizers have a profound impact on soil health and fertility. When these fertilizers are added to the soil, they enrich it with organic matter, which improves its structure and water-holding capacity. By increasing the carbon content in the soil, carbon-based fertilizers enhance microbial activity, which aids in nutrient cycling and improves soil fertility. These fertilizers also promote the growth of beneficial microorganisms that help in breaking down organic matter and inorganic minerals, releasing essential nutrients for plant absorption.

## 2. IMPROVED PLANT GROWTH AND YIELD

The use of carbon-based fertilizers significantly improves plant growth and yield. The organic matter present in these fertilizers acts as a slow-release source of nutrients, allowing plants to access nutrients over a more extended period. This has a positive impact on plant development, root growth, and overall vigor. Carbon-based fertilizers also

enhance water retention capacity in the soil, reducing the risk of water stress for plants. Additionally, the increased microbial activity in the soil facilitated by these fertilizers promotes nutrient availability, leading to improved plant growth and higher crop yields.

## 3. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

One of the key benefits of carbon-based fertilizers is their positive impact on environmental sustainability. Unlike synthetic fertilizers, carbon-based fertilizers are derived from organic sources such as compost, manure, and bio-waste and lignite. These organic materials help to recycle nutrients from waste products, reducing the need for synthetic fertilizers that can contribute to soil degradation and water pollution. By promoting organic farming practices, carbon-based fertilizers contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, soil health, and the overall well-being of the environment.

## 4. CARBON SEQUESTRATION

Carbon-based fertilizers play a crucial role in carbon sequestration, which helps in mitigating climate change. When these fertilizers are applied to the soil, they increase the carbon content, thereby storing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. This process of carbon sequestration helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and acts as a natural carbon sink. By using carbon-based fertilizers, farmers can actively contribute to climate change mitigation efforts while simultaneously improving soil fertility and crop productivity.

## 5. SUSTAINABLE FARMING PRACTICES

Adopting carbon-based fertilizers in agriculture promotes sustainable farming practices. As these fertilizers are derived from organic sources, they minimize the reliance on synthetic chemicals and promote natural nutrient cycling. By embracing sustainable farming practices, such as organic fertilization methods, farmers can reduce environmental degradation, conserve natural resources, and protect the long-term productivity of their land.

Carbon-based fertilizers provide a valuable tool for farmers to transition towards more sustainable and environmentally friendly agricultural systems.

Carbon-based fertilizers offer a wide array of benefits in agriculture. They enhance soil health and fertility, improve plant growth and yield, contribute to environmental sustainability, promote carbon sequestration, and encourage sustainable farming practices. By harnessing the power of carbon-based fertilizers, farmers can cultivate healthy and productive crops while preserving the health of the soil, the environment, and future generations.

# REVOLUTIONIZING AGRICULTURE

## SMART CARBON HUMATE FERTILIZER



- IMPROVES SOIL STRUCTURE
- ADDS ORGANIC CARBON
- REDUCES BIOTIC-ABOTIC STRESS
- IMPROVES WATER RETENTION

In recent years, there has been a growing concern for sustainable and environmentally friendly agricultural practices. The advent of smart carbon humate fertilizer has brought about revolutionary changes in the field of agriculture.

### CARBON-BASED FERTILIZERS FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Carbon-based fertilizers, derived from natural sources, have gained immense popularity due to their eco-friendly and sustainable nature. These fertilizers are derived from carbon-containing lignite. Which are then transformed into a nutrient-rich organic fertilizer. One of the primary components found in carbon-based fertilizers is humic and fulvic acid.

### HUMIC ACIDS: THE KEY INGREDIENT

Humic acids are a class of organic acids that are abundant in smart carbon humate fertilizers. These complex substances are derived from lignite, mineralized decayed organic matter found in soil. Humic acids have shown significant benefits in agriculture, primarily due to their ability to improve soil fertility, stimulate root growth, and enhance nutrient absorption. They act as a natural chelating agent, improving nutrient availability and preventing nutrient leaching. Humic acids enhance water-holding capacity and soil structure, leading to increased soil porosity and aeration.

### FULVIC ACID: UNLOCKING PLANT POTENTIAL

Another essential component found in smart carbon humate fertilizers is fulvic acid. Fulvic acid, derived from lignite, is a key player in promoting plant health and growth. It acts as a natural bio-stimulant, enhancing enzymatic activities and nutrient uptake in plants. Fulvic

acid aids in the transport and absorption of essential nutrients, thus ensuring their accessibility to plants. Furthermore, it aids in the detoxification of plants, protecting them from heavy metal toxicity. Fulvic acid also improves soil structure, water retention capacity, and microbial activity.

### BENEFITS OF SMART CARBON HUMATE FERTILIZERS

The utilization of smart carbon humate fertilizers offers numerous benefits in agriculture. Firstly, these fertilizers improve soil fertility by enhancing nutrient availability and promoting microbial activity. This, in turn, leads to increased crop yields and improved plant health. Furthermore, smart carbon humate fertilizers aid in soil moisture retention, reducing the need for excessive watering and minimizing water wastage.

Moreover, the use of these fertilizers reduces the dependence on synthetic chemical fertilizers, which can have harmful effects on both the environment and human health. By providing a natural and sustainable alternative, smart carbon humate fertilizers contribute to a more eco-friendly agricultural system. These fertilizers contribute to improved soil structure, prevent soil erosion, and increase the resilience of plants to environmental stressors.

Smart carbon humate fertilizer has emerged as a game-changer in the field of agriculture. The inclusion of carboxylic acids, humic acids, and fulvic acid in these fertilizers has proven to be beneficial in enhancing soil fertility, nutrient availability, and overall crop yields. Furthermore, the eco-friendly nature of smart carbon humate fertilizers aligns with the global efforts towards sustainable and organic farming practices. As we continue to prioritize the preservation of our environment, smart carbon humate fertilizers offer a promising solution for a greener and more sustainable agricultural future.

STAGE 2

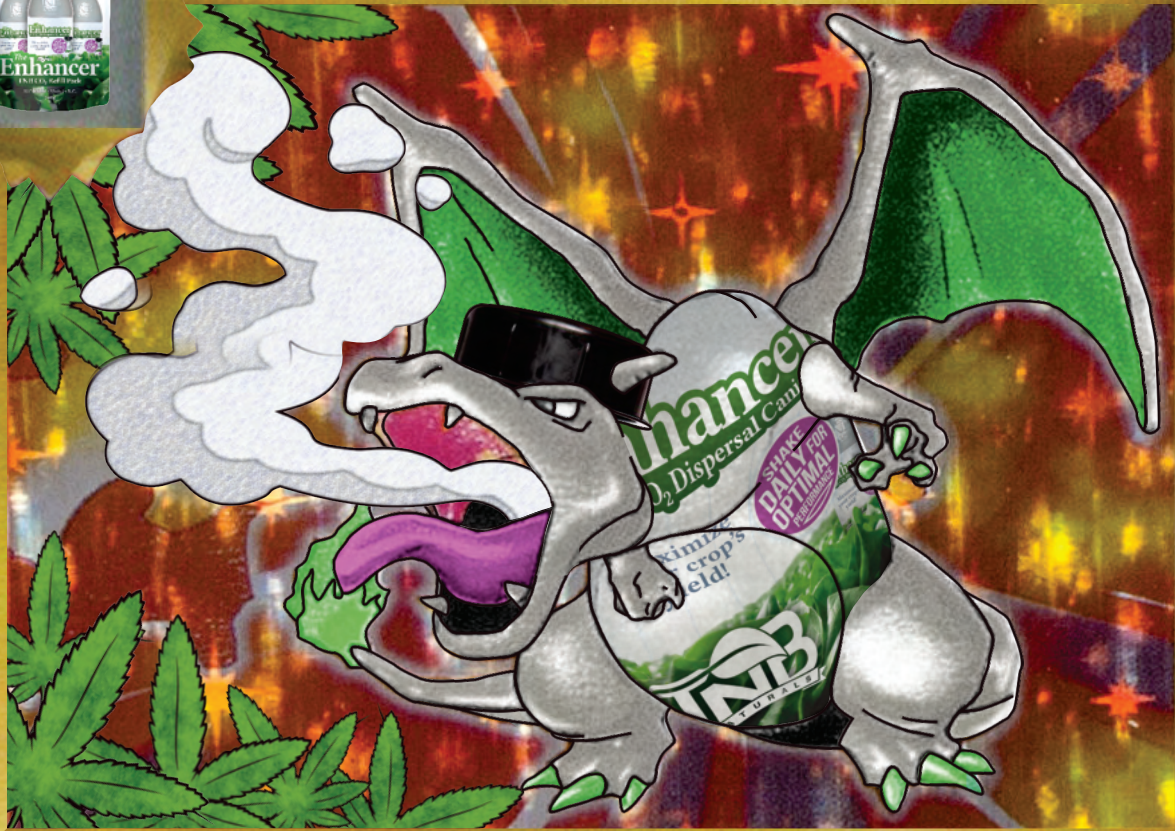
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*Spits CO2 at levels comparable to a burner. Known to unintentionally cause people to never use mushroom bags again. TNB CO2 #1*

# 7 TIPS FOR USING HIGH-INTENSITY LED

High-Intensity LEDs aren't plug-and-play systems. Due to higher photosynthetic rates, several other inputs must change to achieve optimal plant growth, yield, and potency. Here are some tips for using high-intensity LEDs:

## ADJUST YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Under efficient LEDs like FOHSE, energy is converted more efficiently into PAR light and operates at lower temperatures. With this in mind, room temperatures should increase to meet an optimal leaf surface temperature, and additional dehumidifiers may be needed to account for faster production, higher transpiration rates, and your A/C working less.

## UTILIZE THE CORRECT SPECTRUM

A higher concentration of blue photons within a full spectrum will compact plants, while spectra with a higher percentage of red will increase plant height.

## DIM LIGHTS AFTER DEFOLIATION

After a heavy defoliation period, transpiration and photosynthetic rates decrease, so it is important to dim the light fixture slightly and alter your irrigation strategy to avoid burning your crop.

## EXPERIMENT WITH HIGH-INTENSITY

Experiment with higher light by increasing peak intensity values by 100 micromoles. Afterward, examine how your plants react and determine what parameters may need to be adjusted to optimize your crop at that intensity further.

## RUN HIGHER INFLOW AND SUBSTRATE EC

Light intensity drives a plant's photosynthesis rate, and studies have shown if CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) supplementation is readily available, plants will demand a higher feed and substrate concentration under high light intensity to achieve optimal crop yield and quality.

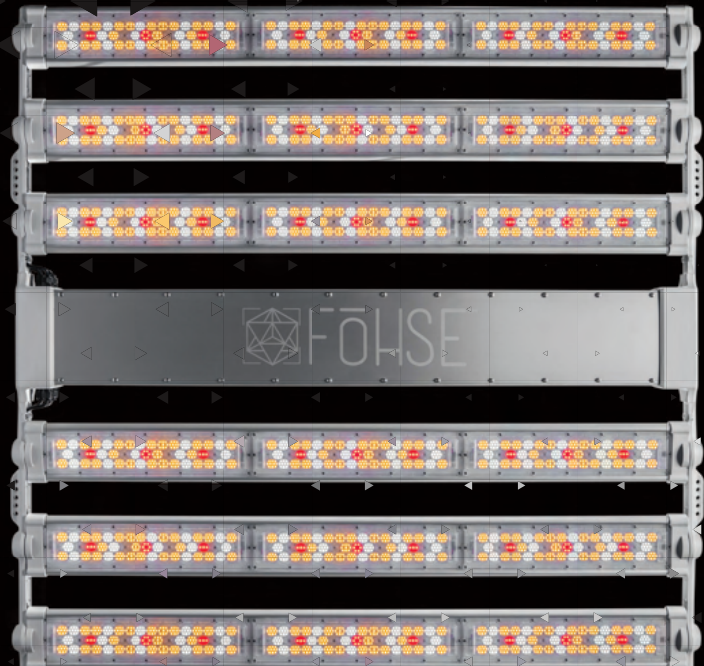
## RAMP INTENSITY

Light intensity should slowly increase as substrate EC increases during the cycle. As the plants begin to ripen, it becomes advantageous to ramp intensity downward as feed and substrate EC begins decreasing.

## DROP TEMPS AT THE END OF THE CYCLE

Dropping room temperatures at the end of the cycle typically affects the color of cannabis flowers positively. This promotes ripening as it mimics the naturally occurring temperature decreases outside.

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# THIS MOMENT

## WINTER 2023/2024

**M**ay all the healers of the earth find their own healing. May they be fueled by passionate love for the earth.

*May all the healers of the earth find their own healing.*

*May they be fueled by passionate love for the earth.*

*May they know their fear but not be stopped by fear.*

*May they feel their anger and yet not be ruled by rage.*

*May they honor their grief but not be paralyzed by sorrow.*

*May they transform fear, rage, and grief into compassion and the inspiration to act in service of what they love.*

*May they find the help, the resources, the courage, the luck, the strength, the love, the health, the joy that they need to do the work.*

*May they be in the right place, at the right time, in the right way.*

*May they bring alive a great awakening, open a listening ear to hear the earth's voice, transform imbalance to balance, hate and greed to love.*

*Blessed be the healers of the earth.*

-- Excerpt from 'The Earth Path' by Starhawk

I have been feeling the wisdom of winter. The wise invitation that the land itself is asking



us to follow. As the land prepares for winter, It prepares to rest, to give itself time and space so that when the moment comes to regenerate and be reborn in spring, there will be enough energy to be ready for the task. To grow new medicine,

flowers, fruits, and vegetables, and to birth life once again after the cycle of death. It

is important for the land not always to be producing, just as it is important for us. Our world is plagued with the idea of scarcity, that we are not enough and that we will never be enough, and that we can never do enough, but that is simply not true. Just by being present, we are enough; the key is to listen and flow with the natural cycles and rhythms of rest and action that are constantly vacillating through time.

The world itself is traveling through a dark night of the soul; it is time for change and so we descend just as Persephone did into the underworld. We go where things die so that things that must die can exit and so that we can be reborn in the spring with new forms and new vitality.

The dark night always gives us a great reward, but traversing it tests every part of our being. We are all being tested right now. The key is to rest, to nourish, to seek sustenance and insight so that when the time comes to act and regenerate and

birth new forms, we will be ready. We will hit our mark for a new, more sustainable world.

We will succeed.



*Julie Chiariello*

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# THE CANNABIS CONSUMPTION REVOLUTION HAS ARRIVED IN EUROPE

WORDS | ALEX ROGERS

ART | BRANDON PALMA / 8THDAYCREATE.COM

**C**annabis prohibition has served as the law of the land in most parts of the world for decades. Largely led by the United States in the 1930s, the world started to prohibit cannabis despite the plant's long history of being effectively used by humans for medical, spiritual, and recreational purposes.

Eventually, pockets of toleration started to spring up, such as in Amsterdam and parts of Spain. However, that is not the same as outright legalization. After all, there is a big difference between toleration and embrace, and that is evidenced by the evolution of how cannabis is acquired and consumed, both of which have clearly hit warp speed since reform started to spread.



Momentum for cannabis reform has picked up considerably in recent years, particularly in Europe. The continent is now home to two legal cannabis nations - Malta and Luxembourg. Additionally, low-THC products, or 'cannabis light' as they are often called, are widely available in several European countries. Pilot programs are also ramping up, and with Germany on the cusp of legalization, it's a truly exciting time for cannabis in Europe. The metaphorical European prohibition dam is about to burst.

The commercial side of cannabis policy modernization in Europe is proving to be more difficult than the personal freedom components of legalization. It's becoming clear that full cannabis commerce at a national level will be difficult in Europe until EU-level agreements are amended. However, the freedom to consume is going to be a constant across the board in every legal jurisdiction in Europe (and beyond).

Cannabis consumers in legal jurisdictions will no longer have to live in fear as cannabis policies continue to be modernized across the European continent. The new freedoms for consumers will, in turn, create opportunities for entrepreneurs and innovators to offer new products and experiences.

Noncommercial cannabis clubs are likely to be a popular component of legalization models throughout Europe in the coming years, and the demand for cannabis tourism options will also increase. Cannabis consumption will not just be tolerated; it will be embraced in many ways.

The cannabis club model will almost certainly differ from nation to nation, with Spain's clubs looking different than what will eventually be found in countries like Malta and Germany. It will be very interesting to see what creative club concepts people launch and, equally, what regulators will permit.

Cannabis tourism is particularly exciting for consumers, entrepreneurs, and local leaders alike. Consumers get to experience the obvious benefits of visiting a cannabis farm or staying at a cannabis-themed resort, entrepreneurs get to generate profits, and local communities benefit from the boost in local economic activity.

Cultivation and sales on a large scale may take time to become a reality in Europe, however, personal cultivation will presumably be a common provision in many jurisdictions. Consumers in those jurisdictions will be able to cultivate their own cannabis and decide what inputs and cultivation methods



**“CANNABIS CONSUMERS IN LEGAL JURISDICTIONS WILL NO LONGER HAVE TO LIVE IN FEAR AS CANNABIS POLICIES CONTINUE TO BE MODERNIZED ACROSS THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT. THE NEW FREEDOMS FOR CONSUMERS WILL, IN TURN, CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURS AND INNOVATORS TO OFFER NEW PRODUCTS AND EXPERIENCES.”**

to incorporate. It's an amazing freedom that many consumers already take advantage of in established legal jurisdictions.

One area of the cannabis consumption sector that is not on as many people's radars as it should be is consumption technology. Consumers will not just want to cultivate and consume their cannabis in Europe when permitted to do so; they will also want to consume cannabis in new and interesting ways.

That increase in demand for cannabis consumption devices and gadgets is already being met by inventors and innovators that are bringing truly revolutionary consumption technology to the market.

The rise in technological consumption options will no doubt increase as more nations permit cannabis use. If you think that laser bonges are amazing, and they definitely are, just wait and see what people come up with over the next five years.

Cannabis consumption history will be measured before and after this current era that we live in, and the significance of that cannot be overstated. For far too long, cannabis

consumers have needlessly served as the target of ridicule and stigma.

We had to consume cannabis in the shadows while paranoidly always looking over our shoulder. The consumption methods were rudimentary, and if you had a friend that could incorporate gravity and a bucket, it was a cutting-edge experience. Thankfully, those dark days are going away.

As the cannabis consumption revolution unfolds across the European continent in the coming years, there's no limit to what consumers may encounter. If North America is any guide, people can basically name a business concept in another industry, and it will surely be adapted in some way to the cannabis industry to try to capture the interest of consumers.

Over the years, the International Cannabis Business Conference has held events in California, Hawaii, Vancouver B.C., Zurich, Rovinj, Barcelona, Berlin, and Slovenia. As the global cannabis community grows, it will be exciting to see nations continue to learn about each other's cannabis pursuits, cultures, and customs.

Our events always feature the latest consumption technology and current updates regarding policies that affect consumers.

Check out [Internationalcbc.com](http://Internationalcbc.com) to find out more, and join us at an upcoming event! 🌿





ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:  
**THE PHOTOGRAPHY  
 OF BENJAMIN NEFF**

WORDS & PHOTOS | BENJAMIN NEFF



**H**ello, I'm Ben Neff. Also known as Bneff420 on Instagram. I'm a professional part-time cannabis photographer nestled amongst the redwoods of the Emerald Triangle. Originally from a small town in Southern Illinois called Smithton, I moved to Humboldt County, California, in 2014 to attend college for Forestry and Natural Resources. In 2017, I received my Forestry Degree, and with it, I embarked on an arduous journey to start my own company with a few classmates/friends, utilizing drones for environmental data collection that was ultimately unsuccessful. Pivoting from that setback, I found myself some odd jobs working with cannabis until I landed a position working for an edible manufacturing facility, Space Gem, in 2020 as a packager. That position quickly turned into an administrator position and is where I currently still am.

My interest in photography dates back to 2008 with my first camera phone, but my passion for it blossomed in 2014 when I first moved to Humboldt County and bought a pair of hiking boots and a camera. Immediately, I was engulfed with my camera and wanted to learn everything I could about it and how to take good photos. With the abundance of natural beauty found in Humboldt County, I had plenty of subjects to practice on. I gave myself one rule with my photography: only shoot on manual. And I did! For the most part... I learned everything I know from trial and error. I would only shoot on manual unless I couldn't produce a clean image, which then I would shoot on auto to get an idea of proper settings, switch it back to manual with those settings, then start adjusting those to understand them better and fine-tune my image. Nature was my only focus for photography up until the summer of 2020, after I left my company and became more entangled with the cannabis community. With my new broader

accessibility to cannabis and the pandemic starting, I found myself sitting at home with more cannabis than I knew what to do with, and out of boredom, decided to start photographing it for fun. Up until this point, I had never looked much into cannabis photography, and while I had photographed two farms before this, I had really never seen or even knew what a trichome was. Then, when I first saw them in my photos, it was like an irresistible itch. I had to get in closer! I learned tricks to magnify my lenses until I could afford a 1:1 macro lens; I purchased studio lighting, learned about focusing stacking, upgraded lighting again, upgraded lenses, and got more and more tools. Flash forward three years, and my photos have been featured in Skunk Magazine and Hightimes. I've photographed for California Leaf Magazine, won the Emerald Cup Professional Photographer in 2022, and now have over a dozen farms/brands that I'm photographing for regularly.

Photography gave me the ability to share with the world the things I find to be beautiful in one way or another. It's a way for me to help others see the beauty in things that are often overlooked and underappreciated. But more recently, it has helped me to help others, such as the small farmers who have devoted their lives to a plant we all love. The ones who've fought the fight for all of us to be able to enjoy cannabis freely while they struggle more than ever to keep their heads above the weeds. Helping these farmers is why I became and continue to be a cannabis photographer. I can't purchase enough cannabis to pay their bills, so the next best thing I thought I could do is provide them with high-quality photography that's affordable so they can compete with these companies that are benefiting off of the blood, sweat, and tears of these legacy farmers. The ones who don't grow just for profit, but those who are stewards of the land who care for their environment, their community, and the medicine they grow. 🌿



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# NATURAL REMEDIES FOR RESPIRATORY HEALTH

WORDS | BRIGITTE MARS    ART | BRANDON PALMA / 8THDAYCREATE.COM    PHOTO | BRANDON LOVE

**W**e can live for weeks without food, days without water, yet only minutes without air. Our lungs expand and contract about 20,000 times daily; the average person draws in twelve breaths a minute. This process brings oxygen and prana (life force) into our bodies and eliminates carbon dioxide. There is a connection between the words; respiration, spirit, and inspiration!

On an emotional level, the lungs correlate to the emotion of grief. Crying and self-expression can help clear the lungs of emotions that make one more prone to lung weakness. Laughter and exercise bring fresh oxygen into the lungs, help clean them out, and increase energy! Singing and playing a wind instrument can also increase respiratory capacity. Yoga and pranayama (the yoga of breathwork) are time-tested traditions that improve lung capacity.

Foods that nourish the lungs include high beta-carotene green and dark orange foods like apricots, bell peppers, carrots, cherries, collards, kale, peaches, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, and winter squashes. Chlorophyll in green leafy vegetables brings more oxygen into the body. The pungent foods cayenne, daikon, garlic, ginger, horseradish, mustard greens, onions, scallions, and watercress help disperse lung congestion. Pungent culinary herbs that improve lung capacity include basil, bay, cardamom, cayenne, cinnamon, clove, coriander, dill, fennel, nutmeg, black pepper, and thyme. Lemon in water helps thin mucous secretions. It is best to avoid

eating dairy products, white flour products, white sugar, and other refined carbohydrates, all of which can be lung congesting and phlegm-producing.

Many herbs improve lung function. Antispasmodics calm bronchial spasms. Bronchodilators help open congested airspaces. Demulcents soothe irritation. Expectorants stimulate the natural process of removing excessive mucous from the lungs. Mucilaginous herbs help soothe irritated mucous membranes and bind with phlegm to carry it out of the body. Mucolytics, high in essential oils, help break up mucous. Tonic herbs help tone and strengthen the organs.

Cannabis bud's effects can vary in different people. Still, most noted is the dilation of blood vessels and alveoli sacs in the lungs, resulting in deeper respiration and increased heart rate. Though cannabis is most often smoked to achieve a therapeutic effect, smoking, in general, can be hard on the lungs, and though cannabis buds have been used to treat asthma and bronchitis, smoking them can aggravate those conditions.

Switch to a water pipe, which cools and filters the smoke and tars. Using a hemp wick rather than inhaling the vapors of a butane lighter is smart, as holding in butane fumes is not cool. Vaporizing is a technique that does not burn the herb and reduces smoke inhalation. However, some processed products contain chemical additives like vitamin E acetate, pesticides, fungicides, propylene glycol, flavors, and exposure to metals from the vape cartridge, which are best avoided. Cannabis can also be consumed as food, tinctured, encapsulated, or made into a sublingual spray.

Here are some of the herbal allies that can help strengthen and





improve lung health, no matter what your relationship is with cannabis. (Though I do like to Praise and Blaze.) If you are pregnant, please consult a qualified health practitioner or check with my book, *The Desktop Guide to Herbal Medicine*, which lists any contraindications.

Eleccampane root (*Inula helenium*) helps fight deep lung infections and prevents bronchial spasms. It improves asthma, bronchitis, chest colds,

emphysema, hay fever, pneumonia, tuberculosis, wheezing, and whooping cough. Eleccampane is an antiseptic, astringent, expectorant, and rejuvenative.

Fenugreek seed (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*) reduces asthma with copious white phlegm, bronchitis, catarrh, cough, mucous congestion, sore throat, and tuberculosis. It is anti-inflammatory, demulcent, expectorant, mucilaginous, and rejuvenative.

Grindelia flower (*Grindelia squarrosa*) liquefies and binds with thick mucous secretions, then carries it out of the body. It is a relaxing expectorant that stimulates the repair of the epithelium tissue. Grindelia benefits asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, colds, chronic coughs, emphysema, hay fever, pneumonia, sinus congestion, tuberculosis, and whooping cough. It is an antispasmodic, demulcent, expectorant and sedative.

Horehound leaf (*Marrubium vulgare*) relieves lung congestion, expels mucus, and cools infection. It is used to treat dry asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, colds, coughs, croup, emphysema, upper lung problems, laryngitis, sore throat, tuberculosis, and whooping cough. Horehound is an antispasmodic, demulcent, and expectorant.

Licorice root (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*) soothes irritated mucus membranes. It slows the breakdown of corticosteroids, thus prolonging the effects of anti-inflammatory cortisol. It nourishes adrenal glands exhausted by asthma. Licorice helps reduce the symptoms of allergies, asthma, bronchitis, colds, cough, debility, laryngitis, pleurisy, pneumonia, sinusitis, sore throat, and smoker's cough. It is an adrenal tonic, anti-inflammatory, antiseptic, antispasmodic, antiviral, demulcent, expectorant, nutritive, and rejuvenative.

Marshmallow root (*Althaea officinalis*) moistens dryness, soothes irritated tissues, and stimulates white blood cell production. It helps relieve asthma, bronchitis, dry cough, laryngitis, pleurisy, sore throat, tuberculosis, and whooping cough. Marshmallow is an antispasmodic, demulcent, expectorant, immune stimulant, mucilaginous, nutritive, and rejuvenative.

Mullein leaf (*Verbascum thapsus*) tones the mucous membranes. It reduces inflammation of the trachea and soothes irritated tissue. Consider mullein to relieve asthma, chronic bronchitis, catarrh, chest colds, coughs, hay fever, laryngitis, pleurisy, pneumonia, sinusitis, sore throat, tonsillitis, tuberculosis, and whooping cough. It is antiseptic, antispasmodic, astringent, demulcent, and expectorant.

**“CANNABIS BUD’S EFFECTS CAN VARY IN DIFFERENT PEOPLE. STILL, MOST NOTED IS THE DILATION OF BLOOD VESSELS AND ALVEOLI SACS IN THE LUNGS, RESULTING IN DEEPER RESPIRATION AND INCREASED HEART RATE.”**

Osha root (*Ligusticum porteri*) strengthens the resiliency of alveolar sacs and soothes irritated lung tissue, including bronchial inflammation. Use osha to treat allergies, asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, colds, coughs, emphysema, mid and lower lung problems, pneumonia, sinusitis, sore throat, and whooping cough. Osha is an antiseptic, antiviral, bronchial dilating, expectorant, and immune stimulant.

Slippery Elm bark (*Ulmus rubra*) clings to mucous and facilitates its elimination through the colon due to its own mucilage content. It helps build up very deficient people that are “wasting away.” Consider this herb for bronchitis, convalescence, coughs, debility, laryngitis, upper lung problems, sore throat, and tuberculosis. Slippery Elm is anti-inflammatory, demulcent, expectorant, nutritive, and restorative.

Usnea lichen (*Usnea barbata*) is very effective in treating streptococcus and pneumococcus. It is used to treat bacterial infections, bronchitis, pleurisy, pneumonia, sinusitis, sore throat, strep throat, and tuberculosis. Usnea is an antifungal, antiseptic, and an immune stimulant.

White Pine bark (*Pinus strobus*) dries mucus, fights infection, and promotes tissue healing. It helps relieve bronchitis, cough, croup, emphysema, laryngitis, pneumonia, sinusitis, sore throat, tonsillitis, and tuberculosis. White pine bark is anticatarrhal, antiseptic, antispasmodic, antiviral, astringent, demulcent, expectorant, and tonic.

Yerba santa herb (*Eriodictyon californicum*) stimulates the cilia of the lungs, decreases phlegm, and reduces inflammation. Use yerba santa for allergies, wet asthma, bronchitis, colds, cough, hay fever, excess mucous, upper respiratory congestion, pleurisy, and tuberculosis. Yerba santa is antispasmodic, astringent, bronchial dilating, decongestant, expectorant, stimulant and tonic.

Essential oils that benefit the lungs include clary sage, cypress, eucalyptus, ginger, lavender (best one for kids), marjoram, oregano, peppermint, pine, rosemary, sage, and tea tree.

Essential oils can be inhaled from the bottle, used in an aromatherapy diffuser, seven drops added to a tub or water, or diluted in vegetable oil and used for massage.

How we breathe can affect our health and consciousness. Be proactive in avoiding chemical cleaning products, artificial air fresheners, paraffin candles, and body care products made with synthetic fragrances, all of which can be toxic to the lungs. If you can smell it, you are getting particles in your lungs and bloodstream. Breathing through the nose warms the air and helps trap microbes and particles before they reach the lungs. Breathing into the belly rather than only into the chest is better. When inhaling, visualize taking in life force and let go of tensions and toxins with the exhale. Breathe deep, the breath of life! 🌿



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# GENERATIONAL WEALTH VERSUS GENERATIONAL DISPLACEMENT

## 25 YEARS IN PRISON FOR 100 POUNDS: THE STARK REALITY OF CANNABIS INJUSTICE

WORDS | ANTHONY ALEGRETE PHOTOS | SAM LONG

**40RTY TONS™**

The U.S. cannabis industry's trajectory is nothing short of impressive. In the U.S. alone, the cannabis industry is projected to surpass \$40 billion by 2025. Yet as we revel in the success and benefits of this booming market, an unsettling reality exists; many are still imprisoned for the very substance that's turning a hefty profit.

Take a second to think about the fact that while some are cashing in on the green rush, celebrating at cannabis expos, and planning the next big strain, others, like Mohamed "MOE" Taher, are serving time for the very same thing we are all profiting on.

It's unjust for some to build generational wealth while others face generational displacement!

### MOHAMED 'MOE' TAHER FATHER, BROTHER, SON, CANNABIS DEALER!

25 long years Moe received. For what? 100 pounds of weed. Dispensaries can sell more than that, in individual products, in a day. Yet Moe got hit with 25 years!

They slapped him with the Kingpin charge because he refused to testify on his partners and has now spent over a decade behind bars with another decade-plus to go. Here is a man who didn't hurt anyone but has been labeled a villain by a system that's out of touch and, quite frankly, out of control. It's wild, isn't it?

In a heartfelt letter Moe sent to me, the brother calls himself a "hope-dealer." Every word he penned screams of resilience. But you know what caught me the most?





His vibe wasn't about pity. Nah, it was about hope, change, and redemption. Like Moe, many of us from 40 Tons have carried heavy burdens, but it's how we push on that defines who we are.

Just because someone carries it well doesn't mean it isn't heavy!

His story is one of many – a testament to the deeply rooted systemic issues that still grip our society. He wasn't caught in an act of violence or

harm; his offense revolved around a plant that today secures futures, funds retirements, and garners worldwide acclaim.

**“IT’S ESSENTIAL TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND DEEPLY UNDERSTAND THAT WITHOUT THE LEGACY MARKET, THE INDUSTRY WE SEE TODAY WOULD BE NON-EXISTENT.”**



**FIGHTING FOR EVERY MOE: 40 TONS AND THE PUSH FOR CANNABIS EQUITY**

At 40 Tons, we align ourselves with legacy operators – those who faced adversity so today's industry could flourish. Our brand stands as a beacon for every individual affected by the war on drugs, and our mission remains clear: advocate, uplift, and effect transformative change. We're more than just a brand; we're a movement seeking true and sustainable restorative justice.

Through collective efforts, countless advocates, and unwavering determination, we celebrated the release of my lifelong friend, Corvain Cooper, who had a life sentence without the possibility of parole over a nonviolent cannabis offense in 2021. Yet, our battle is far from over. This isn't about one individual's freedom: It's about achieving justice for MOE and every other MOE (Marijuana Offenders Everywhere) out there.

Our collective voice – advocating, voting, and demanding equity & justice – is the most potent weapon. We need to ensure that as the industry thrives, the imprisoned don't just survive but regain their rightful place in society. While enjoying the bounties of this industry, we must not lose sight of those still entrapped by outdated regulations and draconian laws.

Addressing this issue might be uncomfortable for many. It's frequently sidestepped or brushed under the rug. But turning a blind eye is not an option! Complacency is our enemy. We cannot reduce organizations advocating for change to mere background noise, thinking, "Oh, it's them again." It's essential to acknowledge and deeply understand that without the legacy market, the industry we see today would be non-existent.

We might not always see eye to eye with every group or organization out there, and sometimes, we might even question their choices. But here's the real deal; every one of them plays a vital role. If we let our differences pull us apart, our message could easily get lost amid all the political noise, big business interests, and those higher-ups with their own agendas. I'm genuinely thankful for every group doing their bit. Because when we come together, our shared cause becomes a force to be reckoned with. 1+1+1+1 = 40

While ambition drives us towards new horizons, it's paramount to remain rooted and honor our origins. Always remember the foundation from which you've risen.

In the face of adversity, remember that change is not the task of a select few but the responsibility of all. For every enthusiast, grower, and advocate – let's keep the fire burning. Together, we can and will rewrite the narrative.

No longer can some create generational wealth while others get generationally displaced!

Free Mohamed Taher! Free ALL the Cannabis Prisoners! 🌿



Anthony Alegrete is the Chief Operations Officer at 40 Tons Brand. He oversees day-to-day organizational functions, including marketing, branding, and macro strategy. Anthony took an unconventional path to receive his education by first getting a Ph.D. in the system and the streets, then went back to school in his early thirties to get his bachelor's and master's in the books after incarceration. An entrepreneur for 23 years, Anthony has been instrumental in the rapid growth of 40 Tons, helping the enterprise and team realize its vision. Anthony went on to earn a master's in organizational leadership at Point Loma Nazarene University.



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# VERMONT ROOTS AND COMMUNITY; MEREDITH, MAGIC MANN AND THE GLOBAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLE FUND

WORDS & PHOTOS | DAN POMERANTZ (GANJA D)

**I**n recent years, SKUNK has largely focused on sharing the stories of craft cannabis culture in California. But we are a global community and source of cannabis culture media. Our cannabis friendships and family extend to the East Coast, Canada (where SKUNK started), Australia, Barcelona, Argentina, South Africa, and really any place where like-minded people have a passion for the herb and living and preserving the culture.

Life and cannabis took me from Massachusetts to Vermont, to the Palo Verde Appellation of Southern Humboldt County, California, and back to Vermont’s secluded nature-abundant Northeast Kingdom (The Neck).

I’m excited to be starting a new series of stories from the East Coast, beginning with a focus on Vermont’s cannabis roots and an exciting new legal scene.

Vermont is known for its natural beauty, rolling hills, and wildflower-filled meadows overlooking ski-sloped mountains and fresh deepwater glacial lakes. People may usually know Vermont for Phish, Ben & Jerry’s, and Bernie Sanders, but to me, Vermont represents a connection to nature and has an inspiring history of a back-to-land movement and cannabis culture similar to Northern California’s sacred Emerald Triangle.

In the late 1960s, when hippies were leaving the Bay Area and settling in Humboldt and Mendocino counties, the same thing was happening on the East Coast. Some of the very first communes in the country were established in

Vermont in the mid-60s. Vermont acquired a reputation for being a haven for hippies and a hotbed of counter-culture communal living by the early 70’s.

In an article for Playboy in 1970, John Pollack estimated that there were 35,800 hippies in Vermont, who accounted for roughly 33 percent of the total 107,527 people in the state between the ages of 18 and 34 and counted 75 communes in Vermont between 1968 and 1974. (Source: Back to the Land communes in Vermont, 1968; vermonthistory.org)

Much of this legacy is lost in rotted wood from collapsed cabins in overgrown forests, real estate developments, and forgotten stories, but there are places where you can still feel the nostalgic energy of past lives in the shadows. (Please visit breadandpuppet.org)

The movement lives on, and now, with legal cannabis in Vermont, there is a chance to preserve a vibe of the togetherness and peace that the plant harnesses. The counterculture’s influence in Vermont was always synonymous with its cannabis culture. By the 90s, Vermont was famously known for its “kind bud” all throughout the East Coast. That’s what first brought me here as a teenager in 1997.

Vermont’s kind bud and counterculture also lured Meredith Mann, owner of Magic Mann dispensary in Essex, Vermont, and founder of The Global Indigenous People Fund, our feature of SKUNK’s first East Coast Vermont story. Coincidentally, Meredith and I are from the same hometown and went to two of the same high schools, where



we were expelled from one nearly ten years apart. Aside from getting to know each other over the last year, we had an awesome discussion recently where I could interview her and learn more about her story.

Meredith settled in Vermont after high school to attend Champlain College. She chose Vermont because she heard it was about to secede from the Union, and as a cannabis person, she knew of the state's reputation for craft cannabis. She didn't stay at Champlain College long due to her beliefs in non-traditional education and soon enrolled at Goddard College, one of the nation's most unique progressive liberal arts schools, originally founded as a self-sufficient anti-fascist institution.

Through Goddard, Meredith signed up for an off-campus program and traveled to the Four Corners region in Arizona to live on a Navajo reservation. There, she studied at Navajo Community College, which she pointed out is now called Dine' Community College.

"Dine' means the people in the Navajo language. They call themselves Dine' and prefer others do too. The Dine' believes that Navajo means horse thief in Spanish. Jon Fishman knew of the connection between Dine College and Goddard and suggested it to me knowing my goals."

**“EVERY SINGLE ONE OF US IS CULTIVATING ON INDIGENOUS LAND. INDOOR OR OUTDOOR. ON STOLEN LAND. THROUGH MEANS THAT HAVE CAUSED GENERATIONS OF TRAUMA. HEALING CAN ONLY BEGIN WITH AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE DISPROPORTIONATE SUFFERING OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND REPARATIONS THAT PRIORITIZE ACCESS TO THOSE MOST AFFECTED BY CANNABIS PROHIBITION.”**



This experience was really influential for Meredith, which we will get into later in this story.

“I went there and fell in love with it, living and learning. I ended up teaching an art class where I was also a student. I taught modern pottery while also learning their amazing traditional pottery that had been passed down for many generations. I made many lifelong friends. It’s been a goal of mine to help their community whenever possible ever since.”

Magic Mann, of which Meredith is now the owner and CEO, was one of Vermont’s first licensed adult-use cannabis retailers. Meredith was previously a supervisor and medical patient at one of the state’s four licensed medical cannabis dispensaries. She was ingrained in the medical community early on, meeting a community of amazing farmers, vocal activists, and plant medicine herbalists.

As soon as Vermont changed its laws and legalized hemp, she knew she had to be involved.

“As soon as the laws changed, we planted a seed and started a business. We found a commercial kitchen space in South Burlington and started a brand early on. We called it BVT LOCAL 420, meant to sound like a union. It was really more like a community.

We could finally make products that we really loved and could share. Eventually, we moved to Essex and rebranded to Magic Mann. It was so much fun in the hemp heyday in Vermont. Through COVID, we took a chance and moved to an empty plaza we knew had other magical business owners. I have been a part of this community for so long, really, since I had a brain surgery when I was 16 and started learning about medical Cannabis. And now I’ve built an amazing team with my husband (the best grower ever, by the way, no offense, Dan).”

Meredith opened Magic Mann in Essex and started selling CBD hemp and other wellness and plant medicine products. They were the first cannabis bakery and cafe in Vermont.

“We infused everything from coffee and root beer floats to plant medicine essentials.”

Magic Mann obtained a cannabis dispensary license when Vermont

started adult-use sales in October 2022. But it wasn’t easy. The town originally intended to opt out and not allow cannabis dispensaries. Meredith was forced to take matters into her own hands.

“When we moved to Essex, we had a CBD store. We had to petition the town and get the 2,000 signatures we needed to get it on the ballot for town meeting day. It was hard long-term work, a three-year process before we eventually got the community’s support.”

Meredith has done much for Vermont’s medical cannabis community and to support its small local hemp industry. Now, she is able to use cannabis as a catalyst to bring good people and community together. Magic Mann trains their sales staff to help customers identify the right product for their needs by educating them about terpenes and the endocannabinoid system over high THC.

“We are 35 years+ legacy growers, and we really took incredible risks over the years to stay true to the plant; we have taken providing cannabis to our people seriously since High School, really for both Nick and me. As parents in our community, we stood strong through the stigmas and were judged; kids were sent home because they smelled like my medical cannabis... because I worked in cannabis. It’s an honor to see it come full circle and to have a part in breaking the walls down so our community can experience the plant’s magic. Take or leave it, but I feel we should say how long of a legacy road it was.

We are truly in this industry as servants of the plant. Recently, a customer was so happy after talking with us, choosing what he wanted, and thanking us. I told him, don’t thank me, thank the plant. I say that all the time. I try to be as humble as possible, as we see a lot of ego in this industry. We are just dedicated to keeping community with people through the plant. #wekeeptheCOMMUNITYincannabis is our tagline here.”

Meredith has also hosted and sponsored some wonderful events, bringing folks together to learn and celebrate. Back in May, with a partnership from Jessilyn Dolan of VT Cannabis Nurses Association, Magic Mann hosted friends of SKUNK from California, Madame Cannoli and Cherry Blossom Belle, for a hash-making demonstration and to honor the legacy of the late Frenchy Cannoli with a screening of *Frenchy*





*Dreams of Hash.* I was lucky to get to hang with them the next day. It felt great to see some friends from the Emerald Triangle here in Vermont!

Magic Mann also collaborated to throw a 4/20 bash with the Wailers performing right outside the dispensary at The Green at The Essex Experience and are hosting Kabaka Pyramid on October 4th! (Before this will be published)

Inspired by her experience in Arizona living with the Dine' (Navajo) tribe on the reservation, raising awareness and support for indigenous people has always been an important mission throughout her life. Last year, Meredith founded The Global Indigenous Peoples Fund. She contacted the Vermont Cannabis industry for support and brought the community together. Dozens of Vermont cannabis businesses have contributed donations. I figured Meredith could explain the program best and asked her to write about it. Her words are below.

“Every single one of us is cultivating on indigenous land. Indoor or outdoor. On Stolen Land. Through means that have caused generations of trauma. Healing can only begin with an acknowledgment of the disproportionate suffering of indigenous people and reparations that prioritize access to those most affected by cannabis prohibition. That’s why we created the Magic Mann Global Indigenous Fun (MMGIF). As a cannabis business owner, I believe I have both a responsibility and a passionate need to bring awareness to these ongoing Indigenous issues.

Here in the U.S., we have many reservations that STILL do not have clean drinking water and many with no access to any water at all. My ultimate goal is to see indigenous-owned dispensaries in every state and NO ONE anywhere struggling with food stability. I want to see acknowledgment and respect for those who cared for the land before us.

Our goal is to provide resources to indigenous Vermonters, multi-generational Vermonters, and the indigenous community worldwide. In Vermont, where industry leaders removed indigenous peoples from their definition of social equity, we have an opportunity to be better, do better, be the change that’s needed, and give back through the new and thriving cannabis industry. Our grant program allows these applicants to be a part of this new industry and provides them with the tools and resources needed to thrive and share this knowledge within their communities.

To date, the MMGIF has raised over \$50,000. We provide ongoing

support for the local food shelf, the indigenous community, and Vermonters in need. We have provided resources for Dine’, Lakota, Akwesasne Mohawk, Abenaki, and Micmac tribes. Our first paid apprenticeship was awarded to a very smart and passionate young Dine’ man who is currently living in Vermont and working at Magic Mann. He is learning all aspects of the business and will bring that knowledge back to his people. He hopes to grow and open a dispensary on the reservation when federal prohibition ends and Arizona laws change.

I’ve been going there for 30 years, and the community still has big problems. No water, power, they need access to basic human rights.”

Meredith’s best friend of 30 years from the Dine’ reservation recently sent her son out to Vermont to live with Meredith and her husband and to work at Magic Mann, learning the Cannabis trade, from manufacturing plant medicines to educating customers about terpenes.

With this privilege and responsibility of reporting and sharing some of Vermont’s new legal cannabis adventures, Meredith and what she’s created with The Global Indigenous Peoples Fund and Magic Mann is exactly the type of story we at SKUNK embody and are proud to share. Thank you, Meredith, for what you’re contributing to our community and for your efforts to give back to Indigenous People. I appreciate the time you took to get to know me and share your story.

I look forward to sharing an inside perspective of the cannabis climate in Vermont and the Northeast as the culture evolves. Lastly, I want to mention that women are leading the way in Vermont. Many small cannabis businesses, especially dispensaries here, are women-owned. I want to list a few of my other favorites just to show some love and appreciation:

- Ana from Mountain Girl Cannabis in Rutland*
- Marlena from Zen Barn Farms in Waterbury*
- PJ from Sunday Drive in Woodstock*
- Miriam from The Tea House in White River Junction*
- Colleen from Juniper Lane in Bennington*
- Tiffany from Euphoria Cannabis in Burlington*

With a new industry unfolding in a small state, there are a lot of big stories in Vermont. Till next time,

Peace, Ganja Rebel Dan 🌿



WEBSITE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE GLOBAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FUND OR TO DONATE:

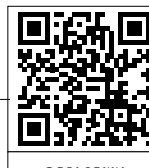
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# ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: GLASS GRASS OR VAS

WORDS & PHOTOS | PETER MULLINS



**A** **BOUT US**  
**(GGV)**  
Hi everyone, I'm Peter. I was born in July of 1993 in Brooklyn, New York, to a talented artist for a mother and a hard-working stationary engineer for a father. I developed a passion early for both creativity and efficiency. I find that when these two qualities are combined in any form, it can lead to something truly beautiful and amazing. I applied these passions to my life and hobbies, and Glass Grass or VAS is the result!

**GLASS**  
I grew up just north of Clearwater in Dunedin, Florida, after my family had moved there when I was younger, and in my later high school years, I developed a passion for glass from local head shops in the area. I would frequent these shops on a weekly basis, looking for the newest, most efficient glass. I had quite the collection, acquiring many of the top-shelf pieces in these local shops over that period of time, thinking I had reached the pinnacle.

Boy, was I wrong! A friend who worked with me then and knew of my passion for glass offered to put me on to something new I hadn't heard of, called scientific glass, aka boro (borosilicate) glass. These pieces were much more intricate, efficient, and beautiful, so I took a chance, although it cost me a pretty penny, and I bought my first scientific glass waterpipe, a "Vertigo Glass"

inline to showerhead/ufo perc.

It changed my life! The quality, efficiency, strength, effects, you name it... it was all superior when using a scientific glass waterpipe! Even after spending as much as I did to acquire this beautiful waterpipe, it was so much more efficient that I was actually saving money from a decrease in herb, while increasing the frequency and quality of my experience. More bang for my buck was all I needed to know! I then continued down the rabbit hole in my attempt to find the best of the best, acquiring some of the top boro artists to produce to date, such as Mobius, Toro, Sovereignty, and many more!

**GRASS**  
I realized at that point that although you can find a mass-produced piece of Chinese glass with the same perc and similar function at a much more affordable price, it was not worth my money, and the quality or efficiency would never be able to match that of a boro glass artist. This led me to my passion for grassroots artisans, creators, and inventors! What did you think Grass stood for? :)

I find that grassroots artisans and inventors approach things from a place of love, creativity, and passion, which in turn leads to a superior invention/product. I took this passion for grassroots quality with me as I ventured further into efficiency, eventually leading me to vaporization.

**VAS**

What is VAS? V.A.S. stands for Vape Acquisition Syndrome, which is when you buy your first vape, fall in love with vaping, and continue to buy vapes in an attempt to find the best vaporizer.

Haha, let's just say I am afflicted! I have acquired a vast collection of top-shelf vaporizers to date, consisting of 60+ different devices from 24 different producers, spanning 11 different countries all over the world. I am familiar with many people in the industry and like to think I have done a lot of the research for you already over the last 15 years, so feel free to reach out with any questions, as I am always happy to help!

Is there such a thing as the best vaporizer? No, it just comes down to preference. However, some vaporizers are considered top-shelf and have earned a certain level of respect from those familiar with and working in the industry. The Vapbong is definitely one of these top-shelf vaporizers!

The Vapbong is superior to many of the quality vaporizers on the market when it comes to production (handmade work of art), materials (ceramic), taste (I am a terps guy, and one of the tastiest ways is to vaporize), effects (one of the most powerful vaporizers on the market as it produces as much vapor as you can handle, while still being able to produce tasty vapor at even low temps with ease), ease of use (simple & easy to use, clean, and maintain) no necessary aftermarket add-ons (no need to purchase anything extra. Everything you need is in the box, and any variation in use or effects can be controlled through draw speed/length, water level, voltage/temperature, & grind consistency), and origin/production story (check out the Artists & Inventor pages for an amazing origin story), which in summary is why it pretty quickly became my favorite vaporizer and single-handedly cured my VAS!

So, when I heard that the artists producing vapbongs had a falling out with their distributor and they might not be able to continue production going forward, I felt personally obligated to get involved. In turn, I reached out to Janine and Axel of Jaxel's Art and Glass Grass Or VAS was born!

Jaxel's Art is now its own company, with the artists setting their own pricing and receiving all the profits from their hard work going forward, allowing their family to survive and the Vapbong name to live on! We wouldn't have it any other way, and with Glass Grass Or VAS handling all sales, customer service, and repairs in North America and your ongoing support, we hope to be able to continue to share these Vapbong masterpieces with the masses for many years to come!

Glass Grass Or VAS continues to grow the GGV family by sourcing the most beautiful and innovative works of art from some of the top artisans and inventors working in our industry worldwide and helping them reach new audiences!

*Much Love, Peter GGV*





**“I FIND THAT GRASSROOTS ARTISANS AND INVENTORS TEND TO APPROACH THINGS FROM A PLACE OF LOVE, CREATIVITY, AND PASSION, WHICH IN TURN LEADS TO A SUPERIOR INVENTION/PRODUCT. I TOOK THIS PASSION FOR GRASSROOTS QUALITY WITH ME AS I VENTURED FURTHER INTO EFFICIENCY, EVENTUALLY LEADING ME TO VAPORIZATION.”**

**ABOUT THE ARTISTS  
(JAXEL'S ART)**

Based on the idea of the Inventor Donald Denzler, it is an honor for us as artists to always create something new, whether it is models or color explosions.

Over four years ago, we, Janine and Axel (Jaxel), turned our backs on our home country, Germany, for many, many different reasons. Even though we miss our home country, it was the best decision we could have made. Because we not only found ourselves but achieved rest and inner peace. We also got to know Donald, and everything

came very quickly. We love not only the artistic existence, but it is always a pleasure for us that people come up to us and tell us how much they enjoy our VapBongs. This, of course, spurs us on again and again. We love and need a lot of rest; rest we enjoy as a family together with our three dogs and three cats. But after just a two-day break, the itching in our hands starts. Yes, the passion is in us. We would be happy if you came to find our Vapbong vaporizers, and may it give you many beautiful moments!

*With love, heart and soul,  
and a lot of passion, Jaxel*

**ABOUT THE INVENTOR  
(DR. COLLY)**

A letter from Dr. Colly-High Peter, I just want to say high, thank you, and introduce myself.

I am very glad you helped us save my “baby,” it means a lot to me, not only because it’s my only income, but I believe it’s a very good idea made by very good craftsmen and women, cause Axel and Janine are the best ones I can imagine to give this idea a physical form.

In the beginning, I just wanted to make a Vaporizer for myself. I never thought about it as a product to sell, and they looked quite different. Then all my friends wanted one, so it started, and I got busy. Everyone who tried it asked about getting one, so it became bigger and bigger until I could not do it anymore on my

own. Meanwhile, the VapBong has nice awards and other recognition from all over the internet, which I am very pleased about. I hope we can continue that success.

During that time, I was on the run from German police. They wanted to lock me up for nearly six years. So, no job, no papers, no nothing, as I took off on the run to the Netherlands, spending most of my time in Amsterdam over the next 12 years.

Now everything has expired, and I am a free man living in Gran Canaria, trying to become self-sustaining. I have a garden. I want to keep bees and feed them only from my garden. Food’s getting short and becoming a weapon of slavery. I don’t like that. So far, that’s me. I hope for a good relation.  
*One love, Donald, Dr. Colly 🌿*



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# EARLY MORNING

## THE HISTORY OF HASHISH IN AFGHANISTAN

WORDS & PHOTOS | BAABA QO SELECTIONS

**B**efore sunrise, Abdul wakes up, refreshes his chilam (Chillum) and gata (joined water pipe and smoke pipe with a piece of linen, and cleans the sharkhanchs (bowl); the morning smoke will come soon.

The clay dome room with the gate to the North is Abdul's workshop and chillumsharkhanchs house. At the end of the room, there are cannabis pods spread for drying, and on the right-hand side of the window, several cannabis sieves are placed next to it.

Abdul welcomes us and puts his hand into the pocket of his old vest coat, which was torn in several places. He takes out a large piece of Bhang/Hashish. When it is brought to the light, it takes on a red crystal color, as if a precious gem has come out of an old treasure. We know that this bhang is one year old, and every morning, it draws us unconsciously. We drive 20 kilometers by car before sunrise to do a Nari (Idiom of early morning smoking) with Abdul. We open the eyes of the morning with these precious gems of hashish.

The peasants of the village are kind people; they offer everything they have to their guests. They do not withhold anything; they generously offer the best of what they have. They live with faded clothes but happy hearts. They remember their sense of humor and sense of joy always. They are honest and romantic in how they live. They live in gratitude and happiness and protect the genetics, the plants, and Mother Earth.





Abdul separates the big piece from the tale (a piece of hashish the size of a hand palm ) and fills the green color sarkhana, which is in the shape of a Zoroastrian fireplace. He skillfully arranges the hashish/bhang and prepares the komur (special charcoal for hashish smoking).

The charcoal is made from dried one-year-old almond wood so as not to spoil the taste of hashish/bhang. He pours it on the top of the hashish and starts the chillum himself.

After a few moments, everyone is lost in the smoke of the chillum, and the room becomes fragrant with the fragrance of rose and hashish. The flame of the Sarkhaba shines like a comet in a galaxy of smoke, and everyone coughs in every direction.

One of the boys standing on top of the chillum recites a poem loudly, and then we smoked another.

He puts his mouth on the pipe of the chillum and takes a deep draw, and a big flame of fire rises from the Sarkhana where the bhang is full. He starts coughing and goes to the corner of the room while another person comes on top of the chillum and takes his Para (Idiom for a turn of smoking) in the chillum .

Uncle Abdul's Cannabis Dera (idiom for chillum house and chillum circle) is one of the most famous Dera and the hangout of Balkh's cannabis farmers and hashish consumers. At the beginning of every cannabis harvesting season, the farmers collect and sift their cannabis harvest and then gather together. Everyone takes out their new sift hashish/bhang from their pocket and puts it near the fire to show the bubbling and aroma of their hashish to others.

In Afghanistan, among the experts, good hashish/bhang must have five characteristics: purity, bubbling, aroma, taste, and bite (when the smoke enters the mouth, it buzzes and shakes the whole body like a scorpion sting).

Abdul is one of the bhang refining experts in the region; he refines

the best and purest Balkh Hashish with very simple and efficient equipment and uses flour sieves to get the purest trichomes.

Abdul's eyes are seasoned to recognize trichomes. He has been doing this job with enthusiasm for many years, and the young people of the village who want to learn this industry go to Abdul.

**“IN AFGHANISTAN, AMONG THE EXPERTS, GOOD HASHISH/BHANG MUST HAVE FIVE CHARACTERISTICS: PURITY, BUBBLING, AROMA, TASTE, AND BITE (WHEN THE SMOKE ENTERS THE MOUTH, IT BUZZES AND SHAKES THE WHOLE BODY LIKE A SCORPION STING).”**

Abdul's chillum Dera is one thousand steps away from the historical chillum Dera of Baaba Qo. Baaba Qo is a mythological character of cannabis in Balkh, whom the Bangi people remember with respect at the beginning of each Chillum. According to the stories, when Baaba Qo was smoking the chillum, the smoke covered the whole city of Balkh like a cloud.

The culture of using cannabis as a psychedelic has a very ancient history in the geographical area called Balkh. If you research history books, it dates back three thousand years to the time of Zoroaster, the philosopher and prophet who appeared in Balkh and started his religious calling. He drank a potion of wine and cannabis and went into a spiritual trance for seven days. That bhang was called Bhang Gstasp. It is said that the Zoroastrians made their temples fragrant by smoking fragrant plants inside the fireplace, one of which was bhang. The use of bhang in Zoroastrian religion includes good thoughts, good words, and good deeds.

One of the old methods of hashish refining is the dry sieve, which can be used to obtain the purest trichomes with the most basic equipment.

This old refining method is still widely used on the slopes of the Handkash mountains and in the old city of Balkh. This industry and these methods have been inherited by farmers since ancient times. After drying the plants, they separate the trichomes from other parts of the stalk with a special skill so that the trichomes are not damaged. And this method is done in



three to four steps to get clean trichomes. Then they boil it by bringing it close to the fire, which in Afghans is called Chars Joshi (Bubbling Hashish), and the first grade is spoony, which is the pure resin of cannabis.

Of course, there are other ways of refining cannabis in Afghanistan, but since the sieve with soft cloths does not damage the trichrome and does not reduce the life of the trichrome in the process of storage, dry sieve can be stored for years without losing its quality.

Ibrahim, who during the hippies' time in the '60s, was busy working with cannabis and collected high-quality hashish from Balkh and sold it to the hippies, says that when sieving Bhang, the sky should be clear and the climate should be freezing, and the smallest hint of clouds should not be visible in the sky because bhang's property is that it absorbs moisture by itself if there is a cloud in the sky the quality of hashish will deteriorate.

At the time of the hippies, Sherak Mazar (Famous hashish from the hippies' time) and Balkh Hashish enjoyed great fame, and there were many people who were engaged in the business of cannabis. They took hashish from Balkh to Kabul and the south and sold even the extracted marijuana oil in the form of RSO to the hippies.

Ibrahim, who did the hashish and hashish oil business during the hippie era, is one of the most experienced in knowing the quality of hashish. He says that during the time of the hippies, there was a woman living in Balkh whose dry sift hashish was three times more expensive than others.

Legal and religious obstacles have never been able to stop this culture, and in every corner of Balkh Province, you can find Chillum Dera and cannabis retail shops.

Chillum and Bhang have a special literature and terminology for Afghans, and sometimes Persian-speaking poets such as Rumi, who was born in Balkh, have addressed it.

Baba Rahim Mashrab, also known by the name Shahi Mashrab (King Mashrab), was a Sufi poet living between 1657 and 1711. He wrote poems about descriptions of cannabis and wine. He was against extremist ideology, and because of his liberal thoughts, he was executed in 1711 by a religious king. His followers later moved his grave in Balkh to Takhar province, where every year at the start of the Spring, cannabis consumers around Afghanistan held a cannabis event by his grave, smoking chillum and singing his poems. One of his famous poems is about the description of cannabis and about religious people who are against cannabis use. 🌿

Poem:

درک زیر درمز ار دچسم ن حص مگن ب نوم  
درک زیر ب وازا ک ره من هج رعق رد تغر

*The smoke of my cannabis  
made the courtyard of  
the mosque emerald.  
Whoever avoids my smoke  
will go to the depths of hell.*

*The day passes very quickly in  
Abdul's dome. He explains to us the  
techniques of bubbling cannabis and  
we sieve some of the dried plants .*

*And when the sun sets, he puts his  
chillum outside the dome and fills  
another Sarkhana with hashish. Before  
we leave Abdul's house he tells us to  
come and have Sham Maynaye (smoking  
Chillum with singing birds at sun set.)*

*There are special names for smoking  
cannabis times in Afghanistan, Nahari  
is smoking early in the morning, before  
breakfast, which they smoke with the  
slogan of "There is no pain or illness in the  
morning for those who consume cannabis."*

*Chasht Sultani is the term used for  
smoking during lunch. (The Bangis  
believed that the Kings used to smoke  
cannabis during lunch time )  
Sham Minaye is the term used for smoking  
during the night. (smoking at the time of  
sunset and the beginning of birds singing)*

*And lastly, Khoftan Barqarar  
which is smoking at Midnight  
(smoking before going to bed).*

*Abdul installs Sarkhaneh on  
top of the Chillum and lights the  
Chillum as he sings this poem:  
Chillum on fire in my heart,  
where are you, my flower friends?*





# MOTHER NATURE RULES

WORDS | SWAMI CHAITANYA

PHOTOS | NIKKI LASTRETO

ART | BRANDON PALMA /8THDAYCREATE.COM

**W**e like to say that growing cannabis outdoors, under the sun, and in the ground is how nature intended it to be grown. All that is well and good, but when cannabis is grown open to the elements, another saying comes into play: “Mother Nature always has the last word!”

So how does nature impact the cannabis world? Let me count the ways.

In the last several years, we have had a seemingly unending series of natural disasters, even declared as such by state and federal governments. Months-long forest fires, days of torrential rainfall, flooding, mudslides, and week-long snowstorms, interspersed with years of extreme drought, have been the pot farmers’ lot for the last decades.

They have even come up with some new names for these events: global warming, polar vortex, catastrophic wildfires, atmospheric rivers, and bomb cyclones. This has led to flooded towns, washed-out bridges, fallen trees,

and extreme drought, and made the beginning of the twenty-first century something for the environmental record books. Ya gotta love climate change!

Clearly, cannabis cultivation, like all agriculture, is at the mercy of the elements. Nature is in control. Of course, the normal weather patterns of the seasons partly determine the yield and quality of each harvest in all agriculture. But these patterns, which can be dealt with through standard procedures derived from past experience, are becoming less predictable. As a weatherman once stated on the weather channel, “There is an increasing frequency of unpredictable major cataclysmic meteorological events.”

As I write this, we are just coming out of a month-long hibernation in the Mendocino Highlands, in the very heart of the Emerald Triangle, during which a cumulative 56 inches of snow fell in our valley. Higher elevations were even more inundated. At one point, most of the roads in the state’s mountainous areas were closed, and there were many downed power lines.



**“THE COMBINATION OF COLD, GREY, RAINY, AND SNOWY DAYS HAS SPELLED DISASTER FOR LIGHT DEP CROPS, EVEN IF THE HOOP HOUSES ARE STILL STANDING AFTER THE STORM. IF THE POWER LINES WERE DOWN, THE FARMERS RAN OUT OF FUEL FOR THEIR GENERATORS, OR THEIR SOLAR PANELS WERE SO SNOW-COVERED THAT THEY DIDN’T PRODUCE ANY ELECTRICITY, THE INDOOR GROWER AND THE GREENHOUSE GROWER COULD LOSE THE WHOLE CROP.”**

At our ranch, we came through with minimal damage from snow loads and falling trees, but we have heard of other people higher up on the hill losing cars, sheds, greenhouses, garages, and even their homes. In addition, a number of people needed animal fodder to be airdropped in for their cows and horses or medicine and food to be brought by snowmobile by the local fire brigade or sheriff’s office.

There are even rumors that a few people up in the hills died, having run out of food or meds, firewood, or generator fuel or perished when their vehicle got stuck or expired while trying to walk out through waist-deep snow.

The combination of cold, grey, rainy, and snowy days has spelled disaster for light dep crops, even if the hoop houses are still standing after the storm. If the power lines were down, the farmers ran out of fuel for their generators, or their solar panels were so snow-covered that they didn’t produce any electricity, the indoor grower and the greenhouse grower could lose the whole crop. When outdoor cultivators start their seeds or clones under lights and on heating mats, they, too, need electricity.

And not only in the mountains. Hundreds of thousands of people in many areas of the state were without electricity due to downed power lines. This meant that some indoor grow facilities and greenhouses in populated areas also lost power and thus lost their crop.

How this will play out in the market remains to be seen.

A high number of legacy growers reside in these mountains. Unfortunately,

all roads were blocked by several feet of snow, so people could not get out to buy supplies, seeds, tools, fertilizers, etc., to begin preparations for planting. Even more importantly, farmers couldn’t get their cannabis from the fall harvest out to processors, manufacturers, distributors or retailers. This translated to weeks of no sales or income.

The snow prevented preliminary garden work of wood chipping, biochar production, making compost, amending soil, brewing compost tea for inoculating soil

and compost, as well as other normal springtime activities.

This delayed the start of the planting season by at least a month. Delicate seedling starts, and clones need warm soil and warm air. If the cold rainy weather continues, as it did last year into late May, newly sprouted crop seedlings may be stunted. But the real impact of weather can only be known after harvest.

At the other extreme is global warming. Since the beginning of the twenty-first century, nearly every year has broken the previous year’s global heat record, bringing California and the West into its longest, most widespread, and most severe drought in eight hundred years.

These extremes of three or four years of hot/dry, then one year of cold/wet, then four years of hot/dry exact a toll on the environment and all agricultural crops. Yields are reduced because seedlings are weak and stunted. The plants are thus more susceptible to pests and pathogens. The new conditions brought on by climate change can also



introduce new biological and environmental threats to all plants.

One of the consequences of the heat and drought was the increased combustibility of forest and grassland. Trees made weak from lack of water were more susceptible to pests and pathogens; hence, the die-off turned them into fuel for the fires.

As a result of the recent wildfires over the last several years, a number of pot farmers in legacy growing areas such as the Emerald Triangle, the Sierra foothills, the Santa Cruz mountains, Big Sur, and elsewhere lost everything: homes, vehicles, barns, crops, and even seed bank. One master breeder, Sub Cool of TGA Seeds, lost his entire seed bank, which had taken him decades to create.

Even if nothing was burned up, the crop might still be damaged by dense clouds of smoke or white ashes falling on buds and leaves, which had to be rinsed off with hydrogen peroxide. If the farmer was forced to evacuate because of fire or smoke, the whole crop could die from lack of water if the sheriff wouldn't let them get back in to irrigate. The closer to harvest the fires occurred, the more likely the smoke would leave a taste on the buds, just like what happened to the wine grapes from the late summer Napa and Sonoma wildfires. People joked about a new terpene: "wildfiresmokamene."

Even if there are no fires, drought, or blizzards in a given season, the farmer is not "home free" until the crop is harvested and hung to dry. Weather in the fall harvest season is extremely variable. Some years have seen severe frosts over three or four days, and farmers have lost entire crops.

One year we had the second-highest rainfall total in 150 years of record keeping, and there wasn't a dehumidifier to be had in all Northern California. A friend, who had just doubled his cannabis canopy, but didn't double his drying area, lost four hundred pounds of flower to mold because he couldn't dry it fast enough.

In fact, there is an attrition rate of about 5% at every stage of the season. Some seeds don't sprout, some seedlings and clones don't survive transplanting, some plants are stunted or deformed, and some die from attacks by rodents and pigs. Some get PM or mold, bud rot or russet mites, grasshoppers, aphids, or latent hop virus, some turn male, some might freeze, or it might rain or even snow at harvest.

With all these problems, why would anyone want to grow outdoors?

The first answer is that the very best, purest cannabis is grown with love, in the ground under the sun in small batches, with organic regenerative nutrients. Just as the best wine does not grow indoors in a factory, nor do Cuban cigars grow under LED lights. They have a fancy name for that kind of farming: controlled environment agriculture.

When growing outdoors, the environment can't be controlled. On the contrary, it is the environment that controls the plant. That is to say, cannabis, like all plants in nature, grows and adapts in response to the conditions and challenges of that particular environment.

Each year has different weather—hot/cold—wet/dry—flood/drought, which creates different stresses on the plant. Each year the plant responds differently to the unique challenges of the local environment, whether pests, pathogens, or cataclysmic climate events. That's why wine has vintages.

The second answer is that growing cannabis in the mountains, living off the grid, working in harmony with nature, getting one's hands in the soil, growing food, and watching the seasons change, is a way of life. Cultivating in this way is better for the environment, the sustainability of the planet, and the continued life on earth. It's best to become friends with Mother Nature and go with her flow. 🌿



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1

# PURPLE CAPER ORGANIC PESCATARIAN WATER ONLY AUTOFLOWER SYSTEM

WORDS | FRANK T; PURPLE CAPER SEEDS

**H**ere is a lot of confusion and unnecessarily low performance when it comes to new growers and automatics. We created this system for our Runtz Cake Auto Line as a simple solution for a home grower with a busy lifestyle who needs a reliable, simple Organic system that will work indoors or outdoors. This will work great for any Auto Flower seed. The results are top shelf, reliable, and will reward you with excellent flower that is Organically Grown!! And Best Yet! Once Planted, Water Only!

Autoflowers are easy and resilient plants and the best in many situations. They finish fast, don't require much attention, and perform well in almost any location! Great for beginners because they still finish if you do a bad job. You typically just yield less.

The main problems to avoid when growing autoflowers are transplanting stress, overwatering, and lack of air circulation, which can lead to anaerobic problems like Powdery Mildew or Fusarium.

Transplant shock will cause autoflowers to stunt, and they will flower even if they are only 6 inches tall.

Water in the New soil with 10 ml (about 0.34 oz) Molasses per gallon of water and weekly when flowering if desired.

You will also want to water in nematodes at this time to kill any fly larva in the Organic soil and again at the start of flowering. Newly planted soil should remain moist. Mist the top of the soil daily until seedlings emerge.

Most plants will finish in 75-90 days with

water and molasses only and will yield top shelf!

Autoflowers do best direct sown so that there is no root stress or transplant shock, so that they can stretch and branch out well before flowering. Soak the seeds for 24 hours, and plant when there is a ¼" -1/2" radicle, ¼-1/2" deep, in the soil, making sure not to break the radicle. You can plant 2 in each pot if they are regular or 1 for Fem seed. Pack the soil on top of the seed gently and mist it with water.

Water deeply but try to minimize runoff, as you don't want to feed the plants again, and any runoff is losing nutrients. Use the meters to make sure that you don't under or over water the plants. Water when the soil is "almost" dry, and never water if the soil is wet. "If the leaves wilt, then you have let them get too dry."

For large-yielding plants, you can feed with 5 ml (about 0.17 oz) liquid fish bone meal and 5 ml (about 0.17 oz) fish hydroxylate per gallon of water during flowering, along with molasses—water ONLY for the last week before harvest.

Yield = 16ea #3 Nursery pot. These hold around 2 1/4 gallons typically.

16 plants in a 5x5 tent with 650-watt LED and typically yield around 1.5-3 lbs. depending on strain.

You will also need two analog moisture meters, \$15 online, to compare against each other, ensuring that they are both working correctly.

This System and Recipe work great outdoors as well.

Wishing you all the best luck on your Organic Autoflower Journey!



1) RUNTZ CAKE AUTO PHOTO | DAN HARTIGAN



## SOIL INGREDIENTS

- 3 bags 1.5cf Ocean Forest
- 1 Bale 3cf Pro Mix HP
- 20 Lbs Worm Castings
- 2 Cups Fox Farm Marine Cuisine \*(Substitute with Bio Live for Pescatarian Recipe)
- 2 Cups Down To Earth Bio Live
- 1 Cup Oyster Shell
- 1 Cup Steamed Fish Bone Meal
- 1 Cup Azomite or Glacial Rock
- ½ Cup Langbeinite

The soil recipe is made in 2 layers, the bottom layer is 3/4, and the top layer is 1/4 of the final pot volume, and we usually mix in a small plastic swimming pool

### BOTTOM LAYER ¾ OF POT, MIX

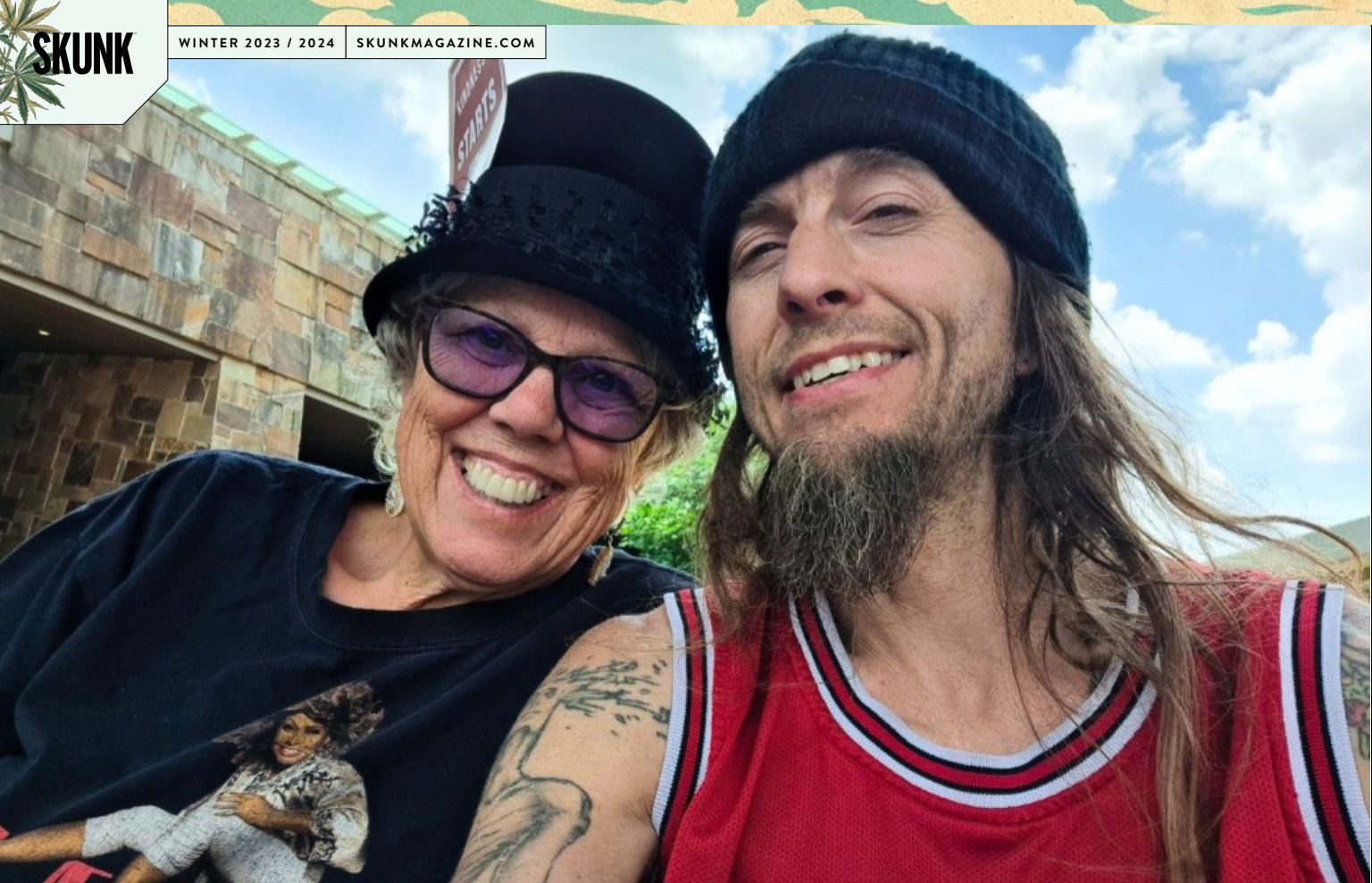
3 bags Ocean Forest, ½ Bale Pro Mix, 10 Lbs Worm Castings, 1 Cup Marine Cuisine, 2 Cups Bio Live, 1 Cup Oyster Shell, 1 Cup Fish Bone Meal, 1 Cup Azomite or Glacial Rock, ½ Cup Langbeinite, and fill pots ¾

### TOP LAYER ¼ OF POT MIX

½ Bale Pro Mix, 10 lbs Worm Castings, 1 Cup Marine Cuisine, use this to fill the top ¼ of the pots and water in with Molasses 10ml (about 0.34 oz) per gal of water. Saturate New Soil completely



2) PURPLE CAPER PHOTO | FRANK T 3-5) RUNTZ CAKE AUTO PHOTO | FRANK T



## WHO IS PSGX?

WORDS & PHOTOS | JUSTIN LEHMANN

**P**SGX.WORLD & Prairie State Genetix are one and the same longtime cannabis breeder genetics, the work of Justin Lehmann, and a supporting cast.

### WHO IS PSGX?

PSGX is a provocative, evolving worldwide artistic cannabis genetics brand, energetic movement, and conscious voice of awakening inside our current U.S. Cannabis Culture. PSGX has always been about busting down walls and establishing this New Age of cannabis while maintaining a transparent, open cannabis communication collaborative platform to put Illinois & Midwest cannabis on the map.

There are a lot of people out there in the culture who know Justin's real life as factual, with lots of witnesses throughout all the years. Not many current publications over the years wanted to touch it on their platform because it is full of longtime cannabis culture work blended with drug usage, crime, years of depression, schizophrenia, and then a redemption song.

So, thank you, Julie and the Skunk team, for being a true cutting-edge cannabis magazine for the real progressive weed lovers of our culture in today's age.

PSGX is not just Justin or GuruSue Fritz, but PSGX represents a large body of friends, family, growers, and plant lovers from all over time that have helped Prairie State Genetix up out of the mud in so many ways one couldn't even begin to tell. It would be impossible to talk about everyone in a single article.

Justin is originally from Central Illinois and grew up around the plant in the '80s & '90s with his father Larry Lehmann, who was a patched-in outlaw biker-gang truck driver in the '80s and an old-school outdoor Midwest grower who moved lots of weed in rigs they called Big Daddy.

Justin Lehmann is of documented 5th-generation German/American Midwest farmer blood.

"I used to sit in my basement as a kid reading my dad's weed magazines, dreaming of California one day. The first plant I ever grew on my own was outdoor from my Pops' seeds that fell out of the trash can behind the shed around 1994. I quickly learned how to transplant them in the creek behind the house without killing them. There are a lot of people in Pekin, Illinois, who, to this day, can verify this.

Fast forward through a bunch of years of drugs, jail for a plant, and people dying in Illinois, all the way to 2005.

In July 2005, with 30 bucks, two bags of clothes, and one Rand McNally map, Justin hitchhiked from Piggott, Arkansas, to Truckee, California, in 3 1/2 days on 11 rides. He started growing cannabis indoors with Soren Darr (now of Essenciere) that same year on Donner Pass Road Soda Springs, NL#5 and Cough.

Within a few more mixed-in years of cannabis grow show trap growing and moving packs in 2008, Justin found himself getting out of prison in Colorado with nothing, no job, no money and started mommin up cuts from SoCal to sell clones on Craigslist during the 2008 Denver medical boom while on parole.



“Cutting my teeth in that medical boom era was the most important cannabis time in my life. Stacking 99 patients and getting notary stamps was the way in those days until the Colorado laws changed. Lots of Legends came out of those days.”

In 2010, in the middle of it all, Justin had a daughter named Tristan Lua Belle Lehmann, who is a legit Colorado medical boom baby and who has been raised around the plant her whole life.

“I was standing at the Rachel Ann apartments in Englewood, Colorado, handing a guy two full racks of clones for \$1500 when my ex banged on the window and yelled, we gotta go, my water just broke. I handed the dude the clones, grabbed the money, and said I gotta go have a baby, dude.”

The Colorado laws changed over time, and Justin jumped in a car and moved with his family to Los Angeles, California, in 2012. He started to submerge himself in the genetics culture of the West Coast with the connections he had made in the Medical Boom, 2008-2012 Colorado days.

“I drove across the country with a wife, a baby daughter, a car full of boxes, protection & two pounds of Bubblegum Kush to start a new cannabis life in Canoga Park and to try and meet Swerve, which I eventually did.”

After a few years of West Coast SoCal breeding and getting mentored by some legends in the game, drugs ended up getting the best of him again. From 2014 until 2019, there were some dark years with minimal progress and some breeding in between. That built him for today’s cannabis culture.

“I was lost for years in and outta drug addiction, schizophrenia, relationships, and being homeless on the streets many times, but one thing is true: this cannabis plant has always been with me in life.”

Finally, in 2019, Justin went to rehab after 17 years of on-and-off heroin addiction. There, he met GuruSue Susan Fritz, who has been his spiritual advisor and partner to date. She is the single most important person ever to change PSGX to date. She believed from day one and helped to construct the organization of what you see today from PSGXWORLD. GuruSue was at the CanniFest Humboldt, providing energy work, and in Oklahoma City at Imperious Expo, both in 2023.

“I met GuruSue at a meditation class in rehab when I was getting clean off heroin and mentally connected with her energy... she was teaching the class, and she was a nurse there at the hospital. She holds it all together.”



**“PSGX IS NOT JUST JUSTIN OR GURUSUE FRITZ, BUT PSGX REPRESENTS A LARGE BODY OF FRIENDS, FAMILY, GROWERS, AND PLANT LOVERS FROM ALL OVER TIME THAT HAVE HELPED PRAIRIE STATE GENETIX UP OUT OF THE MUD IN SO MANY WAYS ONE COULDN’T EVEN BEGIN TO TELL.”**

Fresh and clean off dope, in January 2020, Illinois went REC, and Corona hit at that same time, and cannabis changed everything for PSGX. Lots of Midwest people started contacting PSGX about seeds to grow from over the years, people who had been watching online. Through word-of-mouth business, Facebook, and treating people well, Prairie State Genetix was able to make connections with the large volumes of brand-new Illinois growers stuck inside, looking at a computer and wanting to buy safe seeds from a breeder.

Illinois is nearly tied for the 5th most populated U.S. state (and borders several others). In 2021, PSGX did a traveling seedsman tour throughout the state, hitting every hydroponic shop and forming relationships.

In Illinois & much of the Midwest, they sell cannabis seeds in hydroponic shops because they understand that hemp seeds are not a crime (SEED IS ART). Even the Federal Government has acknowledged this through the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill). It is also clear that there has never been a

single prosecuted DCC bust for selling seeds in California to date. People are just scared, is all, spreading misinformation and seedy weedy agendas.

In January 2022, an official at the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) quietly confirmed that, yes, cannabis seeds fall under the legal definition of hemp and, yes, they can be sold openly and without criminal liability.

There has been much more PSGX work to date, genetically & culturally, but there are only so many words and so much time, so please read the next continuation of PSGX.WORLD in the next Skunk Magazine. We will touch more on breeding in-depth, available genetics, and energy work as well, and what we have branded out and culture-wide changed off this independent grassroots PSGX platform starting from nothing.

Much love and thanks to all we outchea. 🌿



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# TRUE TO FLOWER

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SAUCE CARTRIDGES



TASTE TERPS  
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INDICA HYBRID

"SUGI"  
TOT  
TH

**PAPAYA COLADA**  
INDICA HYBRID  
"GUAVA CACTUS COOLER"

TOTAL THC	TOTAL TERP
THC %	TERP %

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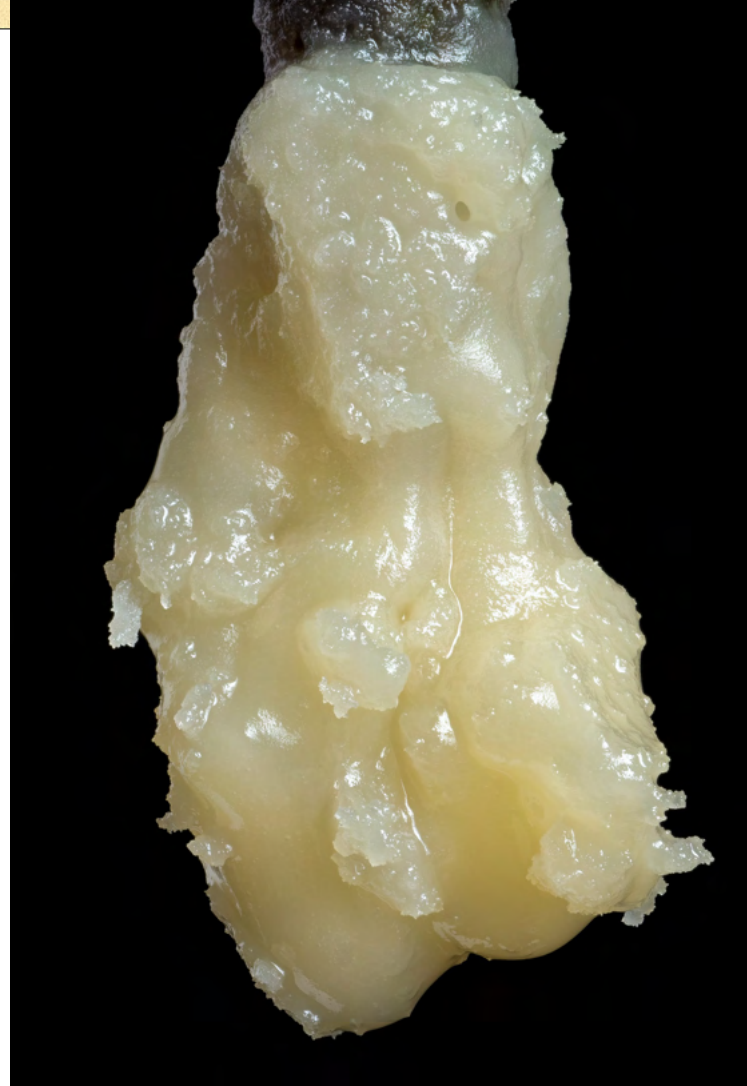
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**SAUCE**  
CARTRIDGE

NET WT 1.0g (0.035 oz)

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# SAMPLING SMALL-BATCH HASH SELECTIONS FROM TERPWIZARD'S HUNT FOR THE SOUR

WORDS | KATHERINE WOLF

PHOTOS | @EXTRACTSDAILY

**T**erpWizard – the wonderfully whimsical breeder, grower, and hash maker out of Michigan – is known for the hand-stamped wizard wax seals on his jars and seasonally-inspired flavors on his rosin menu. He grows everything for hash from seed on his Dragonfly Earth Medicine (DEM) Pure-certified farm using regenerative farming methods such as German hugelkultur beds, Korean Natural Farming ferments, and locally sourced alpaca and worm composts.

“We have a really wild menu grown all from seed, and I’m running small batches of each strain on a rotation. People have been really receptive to what we’ve been doing, which is to just keep pushing our menu and offering new things with lots of variety. We’re trying to make and find new genetics with unique flavor profiles, with resin production and the higher-pressure environmental factors our growing season can bring in mind,” he tells me.

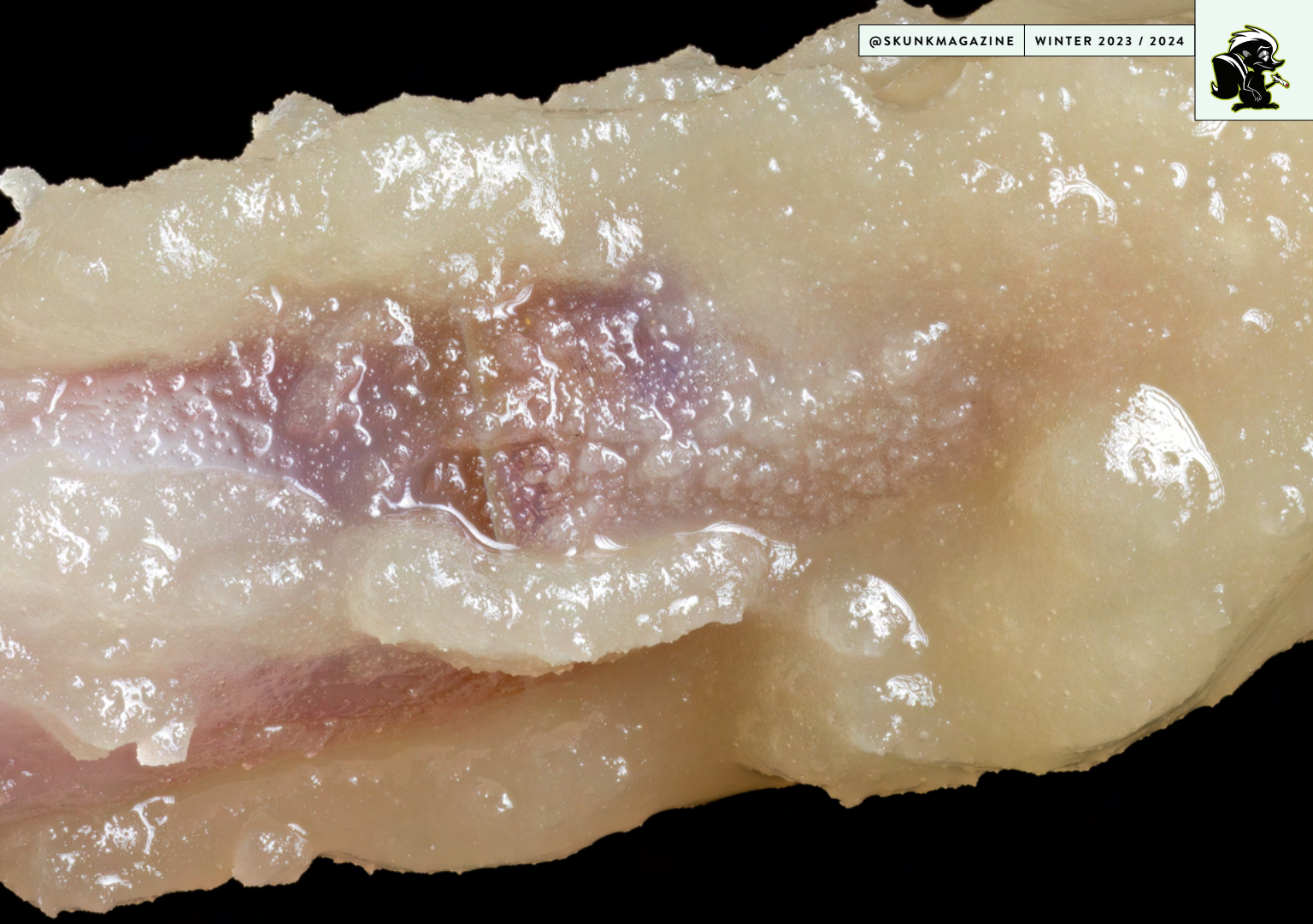
I caught up with TerpWizard after one of his recent seed hunts, where he had one clear mission in mind: finding those beloved (but

notoriously hard to come by) classic sour terps. “I’m really just on the hunt for sour right now,” he explains. “We’ve been searching through some haze too, trying to go through stuff that is more recognized on the East Coast and open up our menu to more of that funky, gassy realm.”

I’m personally a sucker for the sour, so I couldn’t wait to crack the seals and sample these four hand-picked selections: Blueberry Kombucha, Melon Dough, Sour Diesel x Blueberry Watermelon Bred #10, and Sour Diesel #8.

I started with Blueberry Kombucha, which gave me tart mixed berry smoothie vibes on the nose – like a bowl of Fruit Loops cereal blended with coconut milk. She came through with less fruit and more fermented funk on the taste... light and smooth with a creamy, nutty note like almond butter. This high hits heavily behind the eyes with a long-lasting cerebral effect that had my body feeling cozy but my mind feeling creative.

Next, I moved on to the Melon Dough, a Pie Dough backcross of (Pie Dough S1) x (BBWM X MB) from fellow DEM breeder Kush Kirk. This one



had a piercing herbal scent reminiscent of eucalyptus essential oil. The flavor started out on that same herbaceously floral note, then became more melony over time – like biting into a ripe, juicy cantaloupe. She’s super greasy and coated my mouth with a melon candy aftertaste that lingered for a while after a hit, lulling me off to daydream land with a couch-locked effect.

Now it was time to wake up with a glob of the Sour Diesel x Blueberry Watermelon #10, another Kush Kirk genetic. “When we were hunting those, I was really looking for a sour dominant profile. My selection is sour on the nose with just a little fruitiness on the back end,” TerpWizard describes. I definitely am picking up on a sour, piny note – like fresh dirt after a summertime storm – that comes through stronger with each whiff. She’s got a super complex and unique flavor that took me a few hits to place, finally landing on sourdough toast slathered in an herb blueberry jam. A little doughy, a little funky, a little like wandering through a fresh berry patch. This strain really opened up my

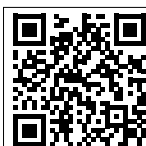
**“I CAUGHT UP WITH TERPWIZARD AFTER ONE OF HIS RECENT SEED HUNTS, WHERE HE HAD ONE CLEAR MISSION IN MIND: FINDING THOSE BELOVED (BUT NOTORIOUSLY HARD TO COME BY) CLASSIC SOUR TERPS.”**

lungs and sinuses on the exhale and was super refreshing on the palette.

Last but certainly not least in the lineup was Sour Diesel #8 – TerpWizard’s favorite selection of Sour Diesel bx3 f4 from Top Dawg Genetics, another Michigan breeder. He tells me, “From the first round of flower from seed, #8 pretty much checked

all my boxes. It’s really loud in the jar and very sour, which is exactly what I was shooting for.” The aroma of sour lemon peel made my nostrils tingle on the inhale and reminded me of the fizz when you crack open a fresh can of Sprite. She was truly a punch to all the senses with a flavor profile full of diesel and lemonade and a super stoney head high.

With a selection of strains ranging from “slightly sour” to “straight smack of sour to the senses,” I’d say TerpWizard’s hunt was a success. He pops seeds every two to four weeks according to moon cycles, so I can’t wait to see what comes out of his wizardly world of terps next. 🌿



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# HOW MUCH CANNABIS DO I NEED TO MAKE BUBBLE HASH?

WORDS | THE PRESS CLUB PHOTOS | CHERRY BLOSSOM BELLE



**H**ome Growers with a couple of cannabis plants often ask how much material they need to accumulate for a successful hash run. It's common to see people washing a pound or more of cannabis and pulling ounces of hash, but do you really need that much material to make your bubble hash? What if you only have a small amount of starting material to work with?

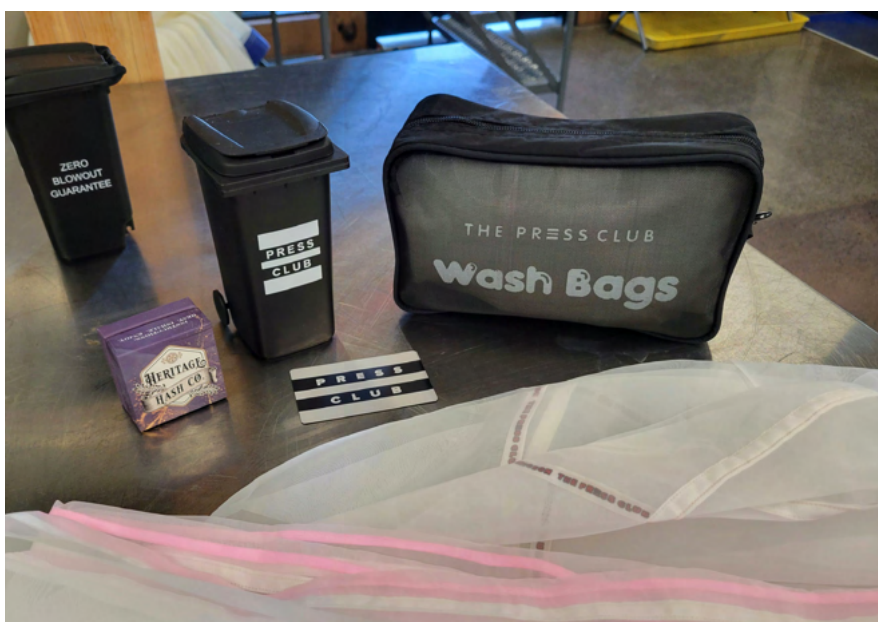
Preparing all the equipment and going through the labor-intensive process of ice water extraction takes a good amount of time and energy, so most bubble hash extractors won't wash anything under a quarter pound (4 ounces) per run. Anything less may only yield a few grams of high-quality hash, which may not be worth the effort to some growers.

However, don't let this stop you if you want to make bubble hash at home and you're not sitting on pounds of material. You can wash some premium bubble hash starting with just 1-3 ounces of high-quality cannabis material.

As always, the key is to start with exceptional cannabis. Aim to use cannabis flower or trim leaf that's been dried and lightly cured, as older material may not produce as effectively. Or you can use fresh frozen material and skip the drying and curing process altogether.

When deciding how much material to use for making ice water hash, we must consider the volume of our bubble bags. The most common sizes of bubble bags are 1-gallon, 5-gallon, and 20-gallon. We need to fill the bags without overstuffing them for the extraction.

Consider the space needed for water and ice in addition to the cannabis material. The bag should have enough space to generate turbulent water currents while mixing/stirring.





**“AS ALWAYS, THE KEY IS TO START WITH EXCEPTIONAL CANNABIS. AIM TO USE CANNABIS FLOWER OR TRIM LEAF THAT’S BEEN DRIED AND LIGHTLY CURED, AS OLDER MATERIAL MAY NOT PRODUCE AS EFFECTIVELY. OR YOU CAN USE FRESH FROZEN MATERIAL AND SKIP THE DRYING AND CURING PROCESS ALTOGETHER.”**

**CONCLUSION**

It’s better to err on the side of using less material for the size of your bags than overcrowding the material in bags that are too small. If you’ve got a lot of material to put through 1 or 5-gallon bags, you can always split up the material and run multiple washes.

Success depends not only on the starting material but also on your technique and equipment. See our Guide to Washing Bubble Hash on our website at thepressclub.co for an outline of the entire process. 🌿

**HERE’S A REFERENCE GUIDE FOR HOW MUCH CANNABIS MATERIAL YOU CAN USE FOR EACH SIZE BUBBLE BAG SET.**

**DRY CANNABIS**

- 1-GALLON WASH BAGS: 1-2 OUNCES OR 28-56 GRAMS
- 5-GALLON WASH BAGS: 3-8 OUNCES OR 80-225 GRAMS
- 10-GALLON WASH BAGS: 6-16 OUNCES OR 160-450 GRAMS
- 20-GALLON WASH BAGS: 1-2 POUNDS OR 450-900 GRAMS
- 32-GALLON WASH BAGS: 2-3 POUNDS OR 900-1350 GRAMS
- 44-GALLON: 3-4 POUNDS OR 1350-1800 GRAMS

The conversion from dry weight to fresh frozen weight is around 1:5. So one pound of dry cannabis equals five pounds of fresh frozen material. If you’re washing fresh frozen, multiply the weight by five to calculate the amount of material to wash in each wash bag size.

**FRESH FROZEN CANNABIS:**

- 1-GALLON WASH BAGS: 5-10 OUNCES OR 140-560 GRAMS
- 5-GALLON WASH BAGS: 15-40 OUNCES OR 400-1125 GRAMS
- 10-GALLON WASH BAGS: 30-80 OUNCES OR 800-2250 GRAMS
- 20-GALLON WASH BAGS: 5-10 POUNDS OR 2250-3600 GRAMS
- 32-GALLON WASH BAGS: 10-15 POUNDS OR 4500-6750 GRAMS
- 44-GALLON: 15-20 POUNDS OR 6750-9000 GRAMS

With 1 ounce of high-quality dried and cured cannabis flowers in a 1-gallon bubble bag set, you can expect between 3-5 grams of hash. For Dried, Air-Cured Cannabis, a 15-20% yield is a good target. For fresh frozen, look for 3-8%. The rule of thumb for calculating wet (fresh frozen) weight to dry (air cured) weight is 5:1. So if you get 4% wet, that’s equivalent to 20% dry.

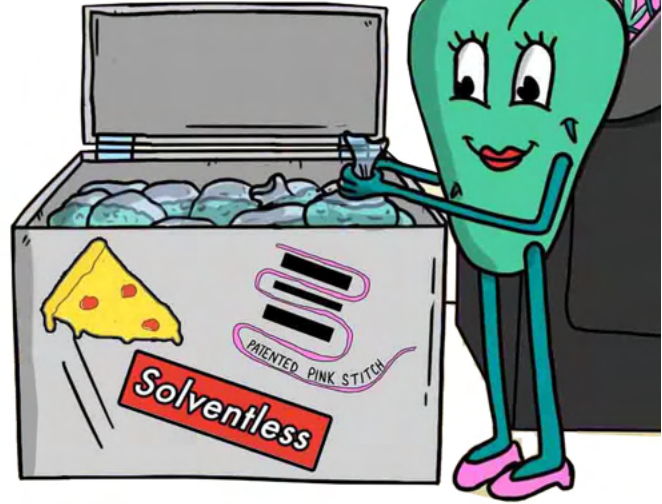


# Hash Rules

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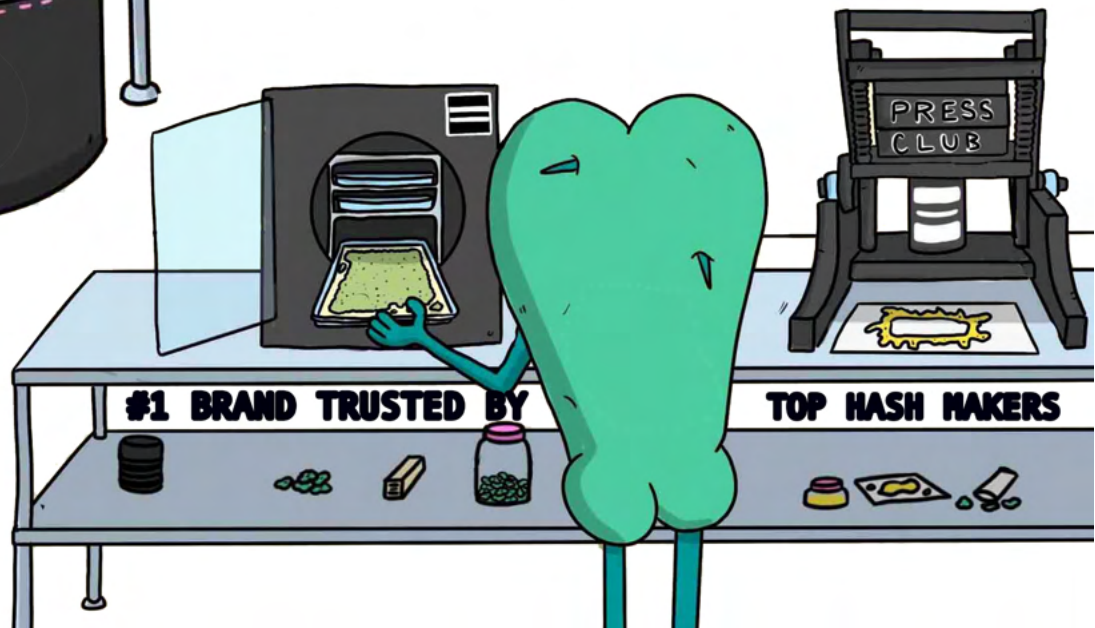
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# THE QUEEN OF HASH: THE LEGENDARY LIFE AND WORK OF MILA JANSEN

WORDS | JULIE CHIARIELLO

At 78, Mila Jansen is probably the most important woman in the cannabis world. She is known as the Queen of Hashish. A pop icon in Amsterdam of the '60s, entrepreneur, trafficker, mother, and hustler, is the inventor of high-quality resin extraction systems: Pollinator, Ice-O-Lator, and Bubbleator.

I met Mila Jansen 10 years ago at The Emerald Cup Awards, and she made an indelible impact on me. As a woman in the cannabis industry for the last 17 years, the boys' club is still alive and well, and though it is evolving, there is still a long way to go. The evolution is happening thanks largely to pioneering women like Mila, who have led the way in inspiring women worldwide to enter the cannabis industry and develop their craft. From the beginning, Mila has been a renegade within any area in which she has placed her focus, from fashion to hospitality, in her travels, in her mothering, and within the global cannabis movement. I have spoken with many women around the world who note her as the figure who has given them the inspiration, courage, and strength to do their own work within the space.

Mila's energy is infectious as she has maintained her sense of curiosity, passion, and enthusiasm for life regardless of the challenges she has faced. She, for me, is a true Renaissance woman who embodies the worlds of the esoteric, cannabis, holistic health, education, and conscious consumerism. She shows us how to live a present and fulfilled life rich with meaningfulness, passion, and connection through her own example. She shows us how to move within the industry with consciousness, beauty, inventiveness, and ingenuity. Celebrating her work and telling her story more deeply is an honor. Thank you, Mila, we love you.



**JULIE CHIARIELLO:** I would love for you to share a little bit about when cannabis first entered your life, what it meant to you when you first realized what an incredible medicine and healer it was, and why it was important to fight for cannabis to be truly legal and decriminalized?

**MILA JANSEN:** *The first time I smoked hash was in 1964 when my boyfriend, who was studying medicine, wanted to see the effect of smoking hash. In those days, there was no weed in Amsterdam, and hash was scored in bars close to the harbor, where sailors would hang out. He made me a joint, and within a couple of minutes, I was rolling on the floor, just laughing and laughing. Love at first toke! For most of my life, I considered myself a recreational smoker, and it was not really till much later in life that I realized that actually, it was my medicine, the medicine that has kept me pretty healthy till now—the best medicine in the world. At 78, I take maybe 4 Paracetamol in a year and no other medication at all. Why this cannabis should be persecuted in so many countries? Even now, it's really a mistake—unacceptable, and for that, we should all do what we can to improve the world. In Dutch, we have a saying, 'Rokers zijn geen onrust stokers,' meaning 'smokers are not into fighting.' So true!*

**JC:** You are a true counterculture rebel and renegade who has explored breaking down walls not just in cannabis but with fashion, hospitality, sexuality, motherhood, and social activism. What would you like to convey to the community about the importance of standing up for what's right and continuing to fight for our society to evolve and the structures that govern our world?

**MJ:** *When I was a young girl, I once made a drawing of my future; it had a house and a garden with flowers and fruit trees. Forget if there was a family in the picture, but I was happily heading for an average life, realizing the big advantage of being a girl! I could have children!! Then life took over, and before I was twenty, I was in a home for unmarried mothers. A couple of years later, I opened a boutique that turned into a tea house. The local government read police, did not like this hub of young hippies, and harassed us so frequently that in the end, I just wanted to leave this interference in our lives. Off to India, we went! And in India, I stayed for the next 20-odd years. Here, I, and many others with me, found a place where you could pretty much lead your life as you wished. And there was the joy and wonder to be confronted by hundreds, thousands of gods, where we only have one. So boring. In summertime, we lived in the Himalayas, beautiful and rugged. Kids went to school, and in the holidays, we would make treks, walking for weeks, to way above the tree line. I have four children now, and all of us have great memories of these treks. In winter, we'd head to Goa, endless beaches with palm trees and lots of friends who'd live here permanently or also come for the winter months—a time for swimming and parties.*

*This was my life, and I loved it! I took time to study Tibetan and found answers to questions I had about life. Instead of our one God sitting up there somewhere, Buddha is everywhere, also in me and every person and object around. So, they advise seeing every being as your mother, which was a strong meditation when I was in jail for three months. To see all these 'criminal' women as my mother...a totally different perspective on life; I'm a lazy Buddhist now. Suddenly, I was forced to move back to Holland with all the children and was faced with the challenge of how to feed and educate them. My closest friends were those who spent their winters in Goa and their summers in Amsterdam growing weed. I got a job pretty quickly, as I knew how to make clones. What else to do? I had no formal education and no experience apart from running a knitting company in the mountains.*

*So, for the next four years, I grew weed together with different partners who would know how to set up an indoor grow, and then I'd make clones, etc., etc.*

*Then, the biggest operation I ever worked on, a 4000m2 greenhouse, got busted. I suddenly thought, "What the hell am I doing? What would have happened if I'd been there? What would have happened to the kids still living at home?"*

*So, I decided to quit growing. What to do next that could pay for the kids' education, etc.?*

*I had 'invented' my first Pollinator a year earlier,*

*just for my own use, and loved the hash I could make, as did my friends, especially all the people who were there at the presentation of the first Pollinator*

*in November '94 at the KGB, Amsterdam, with Rob Clarke. So*

*I decided to put the 5000 guilders I had at that moment into building the first Pollinators. The first three were made and sold immediately so we could build 5, and so it went, and we're still here 29 years later!*

*I see that big decisions were made to solve a problem. I went to India to get away from Dutch interference in my life. Pollinator company came about to not have to grow large scale to take care of the kids. Just trying to do what's best for the family. I never set out to be a 'famous' person and am still surprised at all the qualities people attribute to me. But hugging so many people worldwide is the best way to meet all these 'mothers from previous lives' and share the love that encompasses all with a big hug.*

**JC:** When you were in your teens, you had an aunt who had an excellent library, and you dove into her books on esoteric theologies and Buddhism, which led to your interest in traveling in India and Tibet. You consider yourself an esoteric and practice mindfulness and present moment consciousness. Can you talk about how spirituality is woven into your relationship with cannabis and what the miracle of mindfulness brings to you, and your approach to moving within the world?

**MJ:** *When I was about 18, I stayed with an aunt who had a large library about Hinduism, Buddhism, and philosophy. I devoured these books that summer and my interest was awakened in Eastern philosophy and the*



JULIE CHIARIELLO AND MILA JANSEN



ART: BRANDON PALMA / 8THDAYCREATE.COM

*different ways they experience the world around them. In the mid to late 60s, the words of Ram Dass and Timothy Leary were popular with people who were interested in new ways to live life. "Be here now" and "Tune in and drop out!" made a deep impact, and we did drop out (for whatever reason) and took off for India. Arriving there, there were hundreds if not thousands of gods, each with their own temples and colorful festivities!! Fascinating! We spent quite some time living with the sadhus in their temples. There, we smoked our first chillum while preparing the morning chai. The chillum is raised to the head and is dedicated to Shiva and to bring you into contact with His consciousness. A very spiritual experience! I must say, smoking a joint at home isn't quite the same; I'm more busy living in the here and now and sharing the love.*

**JC:** When did you first begin the Dab a Doo event? Tell us about some of the most inspiring moments you have experienced during the competition. Tell us about your incredible South American tour.

**MJ:** *The first Dab-a-doo came about in late 2013. It was going to be my 69th birthday, and I wanted to do something special. Doug from Hitman had invited me to his Chalice festival, where he had a cannabis competition where everyone voted, not just a few select judges. So, I organized a hash competition where everyone voted. I had to think of a name with 'going to dab,' so I played around a bit and came up with Dab-A-Doo. It would just be a one-time event. The idea is that people enter hash. We had two categories at that time: dry sift and water hash. This was divided into little samples and packed so everyone who was a judge got a small sample of each entry. Then they had to vote, and for the first three winners, there were prizes. All the judges would get a goody bag filled with the entries and all kinds of things from the different sponsors. Everyone enjoyed themselves and made new friends from all over the world, and they'd all be hash lovers! It was such a success that we had one again four months later in Barcelona. It took off from there, and there have been Dab-A-Doos in Denver, San Francisco, Michigan, New Hampshire, Jamaica, and then a lot of South American countries. Last fall, I went with my daughter, Miloes, to eight different countries, and we had seven Dab-a-Doos and one meet and greet in Buenos Aires with 200 people showing up, so we had an impromptu Dab-A-Doo anyway. The tour started off in Brazil, where we had our event in an incredible retreat center for Ayuashca ceremonies. We drove in great company, in a nice van, all the way into Uruguay. But here, I had to visit my friend in jail, and people were getting picked up for growing. Quite a few people did not come to the Dab-a-Doo for fear of problems. For those that were there, it was a nice day, and locally, a ladies' get-together was organized, which was very good to hear everyone's stories and problems and solutions; groups were being formed that would work together. Drove on to Buenos Aires, where our air BNB landlord removed all his plants from his house. (3)*

**JC:** You have inspired many people worldwide to begin their hash-making studies; both men and women cite you as the direct inspiration for why they began hash-making. Especially many women have expressed that you are their direct inspiration to enter the industry. Why is inspiring women to enter the industry and work within the hash-making tradition so important? At your last event in Spain, you held a special contest within the competition for women hashmakers only. This was phenomenal to witness. Can you tell us a little bit about why it was important and

what takeaways you would like to share from the experience?

**MJ:** I'm always very touched when someone tells me I inspired them to start making hash, and I usually give them a big hug. The young guys come with whole chemical explanations about what they all did to make their product. And my ears tingle, and I've no idea what they are all talking about; I'm no chemist. So I just give them another hug and compliment them for the product they made and usually ask them for a piece to try, which is really nice as this helps my understanding of what I'm smoking grow all the time. You know, for me, hash is the essence of the cannabis plant, containing all the active ingredients of the plant. And the more healthy (read medicinal) compared to weed. For me anyway, I believe. I guess I started making hash, charras, in India in the late 60's and was definitely making hash with the Pollinator for fifteen years, I think, before the words terpenes and cannabinoids became part of my vocabulary and understanding. Before that time, we just had two criteria, the hash was good, or it wasn't.

If it's a woman telling me I inspired them, I'm especially happy, and they certainly get a hug. What I have seen I think women are usually very good at making hash, I think women, in general, like preparing stuff, whether it's a cake, a dress, growing tomatoes or making hash. Women tend to like caring, whether it's the family or people in need. All women hashmakers should be encouraged and I hope it will make them more confident in life. So, when you make a good product, be proud of it, in your heart. Last year, in Barcelona, I decided to have a ladies category as part of the Dab-A-Doo. The ladies' entries were good and some were excellent, a difficult decision to see which was the best. But in retrospect several women felt it like a discrimination to have a ladies category, as if they might be inferior to compete against the lads, which was not the case at all. Several of the judges thought the ladies' hash was better. So now, this year in Amsterdam, we decided that the woman with the highest score will get the first prize. I think one day I'll just have a ladies Dab-A-Doo and one for the guys. Double work...I tell you, I'm happy the community of hash makers is growing all over the world and happy and proud just in my heart for the small part I played in it. I'm happy that the world of hash is evolving all the time. Man, hash has come a long way! I love it; I love you. Enjoy life!!

**JC:** What are three key pieces of advice you'd like to share with the hashmaking community about their craft?

**MJ:** *Don't be greedy, especially with the Pollinator. Make sure the environment is cold, and then after 5-7 minutes, stop and check it out. It should look like caviar under the microscope, just little balls. This is what you want. If you turn longer, more and more pollutants, like the little sticks the trichomes grow on, and eventually, the leaves will start to crumble, and your hash will get a green color. So sad; everything you collected more is what you didn't want. For the Pollinator, the material must be crispy dry. For the Ice-O-Lator and Bubbleator you can also use fresh material, but as the volume is so much bigger, you just have to wash a lot. The result is really fantastic, though.*

**JC:** You started out as a grower. What things did you learn from managing a pretty large-scale garden?

**MJ:** *I started off growing flowers and vegetables most of my life and had learned how to make clones about thirty years before ever making a cannabis clone. So, when the time came in '89, I was confident I could also grow*



*marijuana. I had a couple of hardworking partners, so within about 18 months, we had 13 gardens all through Amsterdam and a clone unit that could produce 15,000 clones a month. After a while, I made a calendar on the wall noting when to make clones for gardens 1-13 (rooting took ten days), then they had to go to the pre-grow room (another ten days), moving them to the flowering room (where they stayed 58 days), on the same day as we harvested the last lot. To have the next lot of clones ready for flowering on the same day the harvest was done was necessary for continuous flowering. Having a pre-grow room allowed us to have six crops each year, a super bonus! We had rolling tables in most of our grow rooms. This made harvesting even easier; you started harvesting the first table, pulled it back, harvesting the next, etc. The last table was harvested, cleaned, and planted with the next pre-grown plants. Then, the next table was rolled into place, cleaned, and planted. This method was so efficient that once we even harvested and replanted three gardens in one day, there were only three of us. I learned when the plants need you, there is no excuse; you must go, or it can cost you 10% of your harvest. This period of my life was sure a very busy one. I was in charge of clone production, with the help of 3-4 ladies, and I was in charge of sales, mostly to a wholesaler who sold to numerous coffeeshops.*

**JC:** You are an avid bike rider and stay very fit and active in your daily life. You enjoy life and savor the simple pleasures. Can you speak to the global cannabis community about maintaining your work/life balance and your practices of holistic health and mindfulness?

**MJ:** *I try to stay healthy, though about ten years ago, I decided not to be a fanatic anymore, certainly not about food. I cook every night and prefer to eat vegetarian food. As far as exercise goes, I cycle every day for about 40 minutes, and I'll dance every chance I get. With dancing, you can stretch every muscle and twist them, too, lift up high, and crouch down low!*

**JC:** How do you feel about the conservative backlash that Amsterdam has been plagued with in the last several years and, in general, the difficult terrain we traverse toward true destigmatization, decriminalization, and legalization of cannabis? What is your hope for the global cannabis community and humanity in general?

**MJ:** *Dutch politics just suck. We obviously don't do a good job when we vote, and the wrong party gets in power. We have about thirty political parties in Holland, so it is difficult to get a majority on anything, and we always must live with coalitions of 4-5 parties to form a government and*

*twenty parties in opposition. In all these years of coffeeshops it is still not legal. Cannabis is permitted, but growing for the coffee shops is totally illegal; how hypocritical can you get? I don't really see a big change coming to Holland soon. Now, in Germany, they are closer to legality than we are, which is shameful. I wish cannabis would be legal worldwide or normalized; the world would be a more peaceful place, I'm sure of it.*

**JC:** What advice can you share with the industry on how to remain agile in business? What guidance would you give to help navigate the sometimes treacherous landscape?

**MJ:** *I'm the wrong person to ask for business advice. I'm a survivor more than a successful businessperson. I am more interested in having a nice life. Big numbers don't especially turn me on.*

**JC:** What are some of the things that have surprised you the most about the dramatic evolution of hash and hash-making over the last 40 years?

**MJ:** *In the last 40 years, hash has gained a bigger slice of the cannabis market than ever before, and as with any trade, it evolves, and that is what keeps it alive. Imagine architecture not evolving or music? And so, hash has gone through a lot of changes, and how to prepare these new products has also evolved along with the products. I'm thinking of products like BHO, budder, rosin, sauce, diamonds and the methods that are used to create them; I don't even know the words.*

**JC:** Please share with us what you are most grateful for in this life, and please know how deeply grateful we all are around the world for your presence in our lives, for your incredible body of work, and for the inspiration you provide from the way you live your life and practice your craft.

**MJ:** *There is so much to be grateful and thankful for in this life. I begin with my four children (and grandchildren!), whom I love and are my joy in life, family, and friends, and more and more friends just create more love and joy that gives more energy and happiness and makes my heart open wide. How I wish to meet all those I met before and all I'll still be meeting and thank them for being part of my life. Only this love from the heart can save this world. Being high will definitely help, so my advice is: Stay High!*

**JC:** Thank you, Mila, for all you have accomplished and shared with us all. 🌿

PHOTO FROM THE FILM DETERIORATION OF THE SWIEPS FAMILY, 1967

# MILA JANSEN

## INTERVIEW NO.2

WORDS | PEBBLES TRIPPET

**M**ila Jansen, legendary Hash Queen, is recognized by her first name worldwide as the inventor of revolutionary hash-making technology: the Pollinator, Ice-o-lator, and Bubbleator. Watching a tumbling dryer shake off water from clothes, like trichomes off plant material, she made the connection. She observed 'hand sifting,' the first mechanical system for separating trichomes from other plant material in the hash fields of Afghanistan. She took the knowledge back to Amsterdam, where her invention jelled. Thousands of her hash-making devices of various types are found worldwide, including portable cold water hash containers designed for processing in the fields during harvest.

Growing up in Amsterdam with a nature-loving mother, they walked in the Alps together, as Mila later did trekking the Himalayas in India with four children. She also delved into Hinduism and Buddhism as a teen, seeing the differences with the monotheism she was surrounded by. Her mother said, 'To communicate with God, go to a forest, not to the house of hypocrites.'

Mila Jansen was named by High Times as one of the 100 most influential cannabis people. She was also awarded the Willie Nelson Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2022 Emerald Cup. Mila is beloved by her community for lighting the way with values and standards to live by.

Mila embodies the wonder of a child and the instincts of a seasoned warrior.

MILA WEARING ONE OF THE MENS SHIRTS MADE AT KINK 22, 1967





# IN MILA'S OWN WORDS

**D**uring my life, I have felt the bliss of emptiness and inner freedom. From my Tibetan teacher, I learned about meditation, being centered, and detachment from money and material possessions. In the Himalayan Mountains, I experienced the raw physical nature of human existence and discovered a clear space in my mind and heart. I learned that our world is one huge, interconnected whole. We contain part of whatever has existed through all time. We are stardust! And with our dust, we will become part of everything in the future, to cosmic proportions. I will become part of the universe and the void beyond, omnipresent, as all of us will. And there in that void, we will be one - just as the Buddha taught.

What a wonderful, truly cosmic feeling, so vast, it could be called love. How can we not love all? So, give up your attachment and judgment. Love and be free. I have a lot to be thankful for, and a lot of people to thank for their support. I would not be where I am without their support.

So, make of your life what you can, whether you believe you have only this one life or whether you believe your present life is one of many. Do what you dream to do, and give it your all. Concentrate on what you are doing, and whatever you do, do it well; otherwise, why bother? See the beauty in life. Even a little dandelion growing on the pavement can make me full of joy. Always follow your heart. Stay high. Enjoy your life.

**PEBBLES TRIPPET:** Back in 2017, you were acclaimed in the 'High Times 100' as one of the '100 most influential cannabis people'. It's high time the world finally caught up with your groundbreaking hash inventions for crystal separation - the Pollinator, the Ice-o-lator, and recently the Bubbleator. There's a global map of all the sites

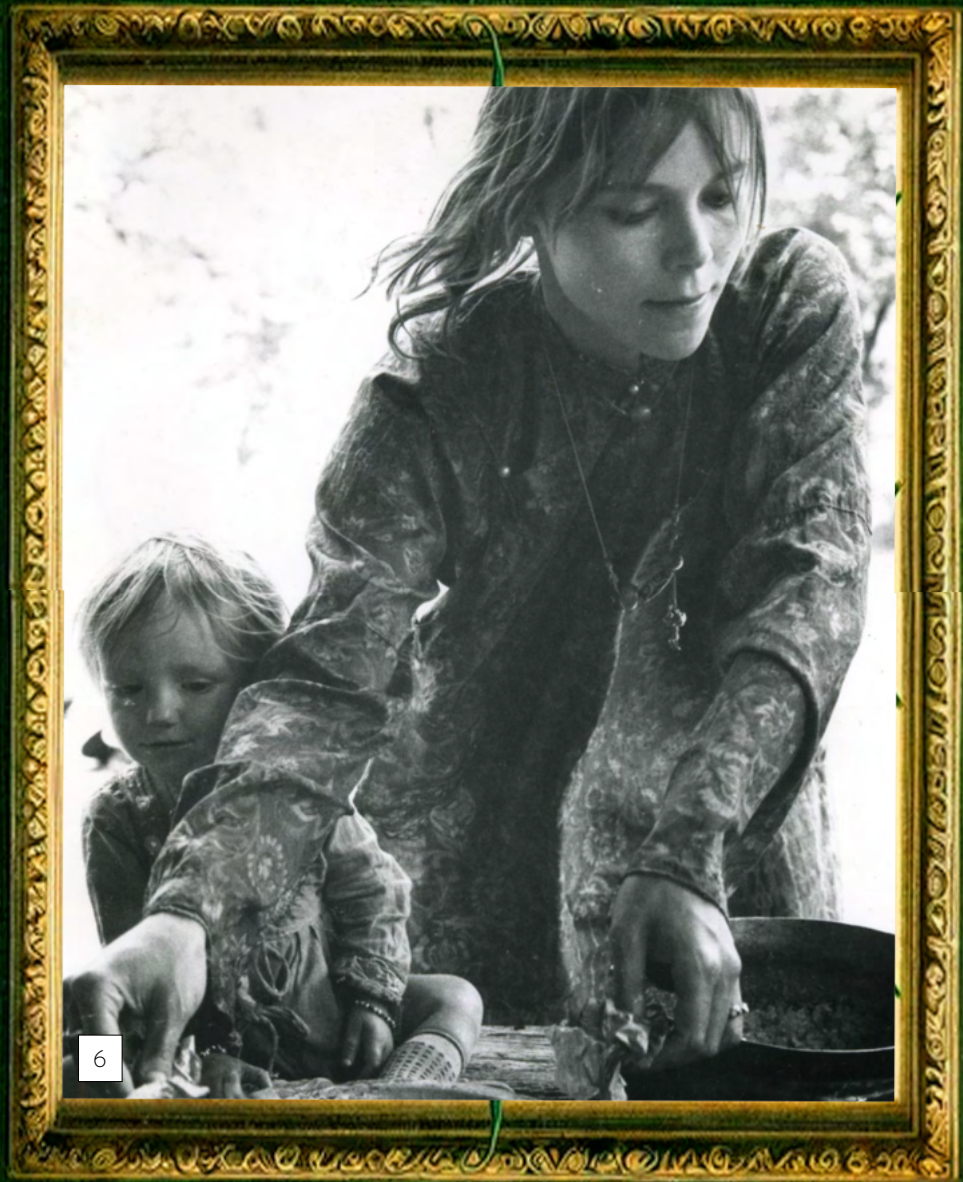
where the Pollinator influence is felt; we stopped counting at 100. Tell us about the 'Eureka' moment when your washing machine gave you insight into the crystal separation process in a new way.

**MILA JENSEN:** *To explain the invention of the first mechanical system for separating the trichomes from all the plant material, the Pollinator (1994), requires a bit of an introduction.*

*For the last twenty years, I had lived in India and had visited Afghanistan and Pakistan in '68. As I was already a hash smoker since '64, I was in the right place here. I must say I never went there to study the making of hash, but as it was happening, I would see how they separated the trichomes by hand sifting like they had been doing for hundreds if not thousands of years.*

*Coming back to Amsterdam in '88, the city was filled with coffeeshops (there had been none in '68 when I left), but I didn't like the weed or the hash they were selling. I was spoiled, always having the best Afghani, Kashmiri, Manali, and sometimes Nepali to smoke for the last twenty years. I started growing weed in '89; I had four children who wanted to eat three times a day, so now I also had the material and the knowledge. I started sifting dried flower over a screen Afghani style with some friends, no rubbing but a light waffling. A long process, I think it took 20 minutes to have enough for a joint. After a couple of months, I was standing in front of the clothes dryer with all the clothes tumbling around when it hit me: "Why not turn my flat screen into a round one? Would that work?"*

*The next day, we bought a second-hand clothes dryer and removed the heating, already knowing that cold is good. We tied a piece of screen around the drum and threw in a bunch of lightly crumbled dried flowers, turned it on... and waited... and suddenly, we saw there was a thin layer of trichomes starting to form on the bottom. I put some in a joint, and it was good!*



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MILA IN MANALI, INDIA, 1968

ART BRANDON PALMA /8THDAYCREATE.COM



**PB:** Why has it taken so long to recognize hash-making as an important aspect of cannabis?

**MJ:** *To use cannabis, there are basically two ways to smoke, one smokes weed or hash. And was there ever a hash culture or a weed culture? I'm inclined to think that the hash culture is the older of the two. In '64, I could buy hash in Amsterdam, but no weed. Through its sailors, I think Europe has had a bigger, older hash influence than in the Americas. When I travelled overland through Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan to India in '68, it was hash that the people smoked. In all my travels then, nowhere did they smoke weed or even offer it. They had been smoking hash there already for hundreds if not thousands of years. Now, I believe that weed came to the US from the African slaves, and as they were smoking weed, so did the Americans in North and South America smoke weed. So there was no hash culture there, not until the late '60s when people like the Grateful Dead imported hash to the U.S. However, it was not a product available to most Americans. And then, in '94, I came along. Ta-dah! Annie Riecken wrote a great article for High Times in '95 about making hash with the Pollinator. Twenty years later, I was having a Dab-A-Doo in Denver and San Francisco with only hash entries, and these were all American-made! Now, while the East and Europe were happy with the traditional hash, which gives a long smooth high, in the US, people lived a faster life and wanted a faster high and started developing all these new products like rosin and extracts, BHO, sauce, diamonds, fresh frozen and live rosin. In comparison, these products give an instant high, which doesn't last long. Take another dab! I think this has to do with harvesting the plant before it is technically mature. In comparison, the plants in Afghanistan are left much longer, maybe up to a month longer, than when we tend to harvest. All this time, the trichomes grow, terpenes and cannabinoids are increasing, and it just becomes a different hash. Frenchy was a great believer in traditional hash, and I think he is mainly responsible for the hash culture there is in the US today! There is a booming extract and fresh frozen culture in the U.S., and many products are labeled as hash but would not be considered hash from the traditional point of view. So be it. Each trichome is covered by a thin layer of cellulose, making traditional hash; this thin layer is broken through beating to free the oils inside the trichomes. When making rosin or extracts, this thin layer of cellulose is separated from the oils. So, rosin is clean for dabbing, while traditional hash will leave the cellulose behind in the rig.*

**PT:** You are best known for your two lives in Amsterdam and India. Were you raised in a family that encouraged travel? How did you grow up, specifically your childhood influences and family values?

**MJ:** *I was born in '44 in Liverpool, UK. My parents had met in the US and were trying to go home to Holland, but in '44, it was impossible for them to do so. My father worked for Shell, so we moved quite a bit between the UK and Holland and one period in Indonesia. Coming back from Indonesia in '51, I was shaved and sprayed with DDT from top to bottom. Those were the days!! Anyway, I went to primary school in the UK, and that's where you learn grammar and spelling; that's why I wrote my book in English. At high school in Holland, they assume you already know all that, so I'm still a disastrous speller in Dutch.*

*At home, it was my mother who was the adventurous one. She would even take holidays on her own, which was totally unheard of in those days. She wore my father's old pants instead of nylons and heels like everyone else's mum. She told me if I ever wanted to communicate with God, I should head out to a forest. A more likely place to find him than in a building full of hypocrites. It was an extremely radical theory for those days. And I'd secretly go to church, loving the Roman Catholic one for the mysterious Latin language and waving of incense. But then I found the Church of England, where they decorated the whole church with flowers every spring, summer, fall, and winter. I'd be there for that, but never went to a service that I can remember. My mother's big love was nature, and she'd take us camping every summer holiday with my father in a hotel close by. We walked in the Alps like I later walked in the Himalayas, a love of Buddhism.*

**PT:** What originally drew you to Amsterdam and India? Were you a young hippie following the counterculture, youth culture, and musical trends? The Beatles were writing songs about the world's major religions, like Buddhism and Hinduism, seeking insight and enlightenment. What drew you to travel the world?

**MJ:** *When I became pregnant at 18, my father told me I'd better leave. I ended up in a home for unmarried mothers in Amsterdam for a while before moving to my own place with my daughter. I studied dress design and manufacture and started a boutique with Henk Koster in the spring of '65. Called Kink 22, and it was where we sold the first miniskirts in town. We had an atelier in the back of the shop where everything we sold was produced. Some spectacular dresses were made. Henk was a really good designer! We got quite a lot of publicity, and sometimes, on Saturday afternoons, the shop would be empty and sold out! A lot of work, too much work in the time of Timothy Leary, in the time of 'tune in, turn on and drop out.' So, we dropped out and turned the boutique into a teahouse in late '67—a magnet for travelers and dropouts. We played Crosby Stills and Nash, Janis Joplin, and similar music, and had a visit from the Who one night after a wild concert in Amsterdam where they smashed their guitars! The police would raid us regularly, never found any drugs, which was lucky, but would always put any foreigners across the Belgian border! They'd be back in a few days! In the end, they threatened to close us (the teahouse lasted four and a half months). It was time to leave, and I decided on India, having met travelers coming back from there with beautiful stories. I was tired of a society with too many rules. I wanted to go to a place and be able to live as I wanted to live. We were looking for paradise, and we found it! I met an old farmer bent double with age among the rice paddies in Manali in the Himalayas. "God is Love, and Love is God," and he blew my mind.*

**PT:** How did you survive in Amsterdam in the '60s? We see your creativity in the small businesses you set up selling artistic clothing you made from scraps of material like silk and rugs. 'It was art, not clothing.' One business, Kink 22, evolved into a tea house. Was all this difficult to sustain? Did you sell weed to get by?

**MJ:** *The '60s was an intense decade. Got thrown out of my parental home, had my first daughter, and started a boutique, which later we changed into a teahouse because, at that time, there were no groovy places to hang out at*

night where they'd play the right music. People think it was the first coffeeshop, but it was not. We never sold anything there; the hash people brought from Afghanistan, the LSD, the dropouts from the Vietnam War would bring from the U.S. It was all swapped or shared, never sold. I guess we sold enough teas, peacock feathers, and dinners, and making money was a nasty thing to get involved with anyway. We were young and full of ideals. We had poor man's Chinese dinner or rich man's Chinese dinner at the teahouse. And we had a most wonderful time, till the police interfered. But then, within a month, my daughter and I set off on our overland trip to India, which was certainly an adventure, hitchhiking most of the way. India was magic, and Goa was a paradise for all of us travelers. In the winter of '68, there were eleven of us. Next year, two hundred. It was everything we could have dreamed of. I danced a lot, joined a ladies' dance group while we had the boutique, and went out on the weekends with the guys from the boutique who were all gay, so went to some fabulous gay dance places and then, of course, in Goa, even before we had electricity there were parties, lots of parties and you learn to dance in the loose sand on the beach on the full moon under the coconut trees. And there was no weed in those days at all. Never heard of it.

**PT:** You were living in an alternative world, surviving on your wits. How did this sharpen your financial imagination?

**MJ:** As far as surviving financially all through life without ever having had any training to learn about doing business, I think I learned to think out of the box at an early stage, feeling in the air which way the wind is blowing and how to make use of these winds but never losing your dreams. The list of what I did to survive is quite a list:

1965 - Boutique Teahouse

1968 - Bought 2 kg hash on the Kyber Pass in '68 and sold or mostly traded it for the next year or so. Begged for six months in India, which teaches you a lot about your pride and all, but we never starved; my daughter, with her blond hair and blue eyes, was a big attraction, and we often lived in temples, hitchhiked, and walked mostly. Sometimes, I'd receive 100 guilders, and that would last us three months. Baked edibles in Goa, chocolate brownies, but most were just shared.

1972 - In Holland, first we made wooden knitting needles from thin and thick curtain rods; thick woolly sweaters were the fashion then. Received a great Japanese pattern for a baby carrier when my oldest son was born. I sold hundreds of them. They were easy; you could put them in a bag. My husband would walk up and down the beach, of course carrying my son on his back, and every thirty or forty minutes, he would have sold another ten. Late '70's - We ran a school in Goa, but that for sure was not for the money. Sat on the beach in Los Angeles, selling Indian trinkets. Traded beaded and sequined gowns and blouses for quite some years from Old Delhi, India, to New York and Hollywood. Started a knitting company from where we lived in the Himalayas in the eighties. Big chunky sweaters were all the rage again, and we hand-spun merino wool from Australia. I'd come to California, where they were popular with people living in wood cabins and found a market in New York. I could do this as my children were going to an international school where they could also board, so sometimes they went into boarding for a month or so, coming home again the day

I returned. This was such a unique situation for a single parent, and the kids loved living with their friends for a while, maybe twice a year.

1988 - Coming back to Amsterdam, I grew weed, which paid for my kid's education, etc. But at one point, I was growing a big greenhouse in the south of Holland, and this got busted (I was not there at that moment).

It hit me then that this was not the smartest thing to be doing when you have a bunch of kids at home. I had just 'invented' the Pollinator and friends liked what was produced so, with my last 5000 guilders (all I had to show for all my growing) I decided to start Pollinator Company, 1994 I was 50 at the time...It is still going strong!

1998 till 2013 - I had the Hemp Hotel on the Frederiksplein, but having only five rooms, it was too small to really make any money. But it was a wonderful place with a night bar, and smoking weed and hash was permitted. In summer, you even had a cannabis plant in your room! If you were there on a Saturday, you'd have to pick up nutrients for the plant from the bar. I have also done well buying and selling apartments as I moved around this city.

In 2013, I started organizing Dab-A-Doos, and so far, there have been 38 in Holland, Spain, Uruguay, Jamaica, SF, Denver, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Colombia. And two coming up this October in Oklahoma and Toronto.

All these projects somehow kept me and the kids fed, clothed, and educated. One regret is that as I always had to provide, I never got into painting. Apart from a year or so, I studied painting Tibetan thangkhas. But no time for a studio to potter around in.

**PT:** Your connection to India was more serious, trekking thousands of miles and meeting Indian people as they lived, from yak shepherders to Buddhist monks. You said, 'India pulled at my heartstrings.' You also dreamed of starting a school, studying Buddhism, and learning the Tibetan language. Were you attracted to India like a magnet? How has the experience shaped your worldview?

**MJ:** At the age of 17-18, in the early 60s, I read a lot of travel books and books about philosophy and religions like Hinduism. So when, in '68, I wanted to move away from Amsterdam, India became our destination. The idea of such a different culture, of thousands of gods instead of just one, I wanted to go there. One word to describe India: it's extreme; extremely beautiful, extremely dirty, hot, dry, cold, wet—divine smells to stinking like hell and everything in between. I immediately felt at home in this huge land of green rice paddies, high mountain forests, and coconut-lined beaches. Even the swarming cities were fascinating with all their temples and of course the people! We went trekking a lot with all my four children. For most of the years we lived in India, we would go trekking every summer, at least for a month and sometimes up to three months. With horses to carry the luggage and food. Just walking, the best memories of the vast empty spaces you're walking through, the Tibetan nomads you meet. Also ran a school for traveler kids in Goa, but a lot of parents didn't think it necessary for their kids to learn to read. In Shantiniketan, W. Bengal, I studied the Tibetan language, translating, meditating, and also drawing and eventually painting. It was a happy time. Try and do good in life, helping where you can. In Asia, you learn that god is



# HASH QUEEN



# MILA JANSEN

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*not somewhere up there but that we are all gods. It's just a matter of becoming aware of that. How you perceive life is influenced by how you deal with it. Deal with problems head-on and find all possible ways to avoid problems taking over and making you depressed. As far as depression goes, I kick myself under the back side to snap out of it and not wallow in negative thoughts. On my first paragliding flight in Mexico, I was so scared, so scared. And then I thought, people do this for fun, just look at it without fear, this is silly. And then suddenly, I became like an eagle, floating high above the trees, just so beautiful, so quiet.*

**PT:** Looking back on your remarkable life, what were your best decisions in becoming the Hash Queen and your greatest accomplishments in life as a whole?

**MJ:** *Looking back on my life, I'm most happy about my four children and how they all turned out. The two oldest work with me, and the two youngest each received a PhD and are following their own careers. And then the grandchildren, a super bonus that comes later in life, just a wonderful part of my life nowadays! As for becoming the Hash Queen, I never set out to become 'famous.' It just kind of happened. High Times suddenly had this huge heading, 'HASH QUEEN,' and it kind of stuck. Yes, I realize that since my Pollinator, a lot of people have started making hash, and I'm just happy with that as, as far as I'm concerned, hash is the essence of the cannabis plant. It is in the trichomes that you find all the terpenes and cannabinoids, which are, in effect, the active ingredients of cannabis. Not that I'm against weed smoking, but it's just a personal choice, neither being better or worse. It's difficult to deal with the amount of time I have to spend on my phone, and I must say it is often confusing, and I have to get used to being a 'queen'! Ha, ha.*

**PT:** You've always lived in a counterculture world of your own making, created from multiple cultures you've adopted as your own and steered very adroitly to bring hash into the global mainstream through an invention that simplifies the process. No small feat, Mila! We have also seen you praised as 'the first person to turn people on to making hash themselves.' Looking back on your multi-faceted life as a young adventurous hippie, world traveler, inventor, hashish maker, and celebrated Hash Queen, student of Buddhism, mother of 3, how do you see these facets in the overall

picture of your life? What stands out? Would you change anything?

**MJ:** *Yes, I must say I'm proud to have lived life to the full, even though pride is not really part of my make-up. The last time I remember being proud was when I was eleven and beat all the high school girls on the hundred-meter dash. I just believe I also had lots of luck and lots of cases where it was easy and acceptable to do what I wanted to do. I love traveling and it made it possible to do so. One of the things Buddhism teaches you is to treat all sentient beings as being your brother or sister. I'm not really sure, but for me, I had a wonderful life that truly unfolded like a magical mystery tour! Would I have liked to change anything? No, no, no.*

**PT:** What impact did your 1994 Pollinator invention have on hash-making worldwide? Your methods were well-received by professionals like Frenchy Cannoli and farmers making hash in the field with their colorful Iso-la-tor bags for on-the-spot separation.

**MJ:** *It's true; it took quite some years for hash to become more popular, especially in the U.S., where there was not really an older hash culture. But if I look at the map now that shows where we all sent products, Pollinator, Ice-O-Lator, and the Bubbleator, it is pretty much worldwide. People like Frenchy helped a lot, teaching people how to make the best hash! Even in countries where it is totally illegal to grow cannabis, there will be people making hash. (After all, we sent some Ice-O-Lator bags there.) Amazing!! So, worldwide hash is getting more popular, definitely.*

**PT:** Do you have any final words you'd like to share?

**MJ:** *Some tips when making hash. Genetics is the very most important thing when making hash. This determines just about everything: taste, smell, quality, and quantity. Don't be greedy. Very often, whatever you collected more is what you didn't want. Somehow, people always want more, but if you turn your Pollinator even five or ten minutes extra, you start collecting the little sticks the trichomes grow on, and these contain no cannabinoids or terpenes, and eventually, the leaves will start to break up and turn your hash green, something to avoid all costs. Concentrate on what you are doing. And whatever you do, do it well; otherwise, why bother? See the beauty of life. Even a little dandelion growing on the pavement can make me full of joy. 🌻*



# TESTIMONIALS



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I first saw Mila at the 2014 High Times Cannabis Cup in Santa Rosa. She alone was commanding a room full of attentive men. After her workshop, I admitted to her that I had absolutely no idea who she was but would make sure to find out because she was incredible. That was the beginning of what would become a hash-making adventure, which has been highlighted by the many times I've been able to see Mila doing what she loves most - interacting with cannabis and hash lovers around the world. Mila is living proof of dedication to family and the plant. Her strides in hashmaking have birthed new generations of resin lovers who seek to collect the highest quality from the plant. Mila's pioneering vision and nonstop activity have led to the maintenance of a hash community around the world. Always ready with an exciting story, she is a testament to history and a testament to the possibilities of the future. In a mostly male-dominated industry, her life story and accomplishments are priceless and a beacon to many would-be female hashmakers. Here's to many more Dab-a-Doos across the globe. Mila, we love you.

**THE DANK DUCHESS:**

Mila is a legend that has witnessed and been a part of hash history. Her smile and passion for the hash is contagious to new and old students worldwide. Not only does this wonderful person enjoy hash as much as the day she found it, but she continues to spread the love by uniting multiple hash makers with an amazing competition called Dab-a-Doo. Dab-a-Doo brings hash enthusiasts from each continent to see who has the best. The way she found out how to use water as an extraction method in a river left me in awe how blessed she was with this process. We are honored to hear her stories of travels and hash and hope to hear more in the future.

**JESSICA AND MADISON, FEELING FROSTY HASH**

**Mila Jansen's Story: One of the Most Important People in the History of Cannabis.** The story of a daughter of the forest that conditioned her story: a thread of adventures marked by plants, flowers, travel, freedom, and especially marijuana as the final destination, the crown of her kingdom and carried the secrets of cannabis from Asia to the entire planet. If it is true that there is such a thing as design, then life or the cosmos or whatever regulates our magical existence had a throne prepared for little Mila, even before she was born in postwar Liverpool.

**FASTBUDSCHILE: CRISTIANDOPPLER #EXPWEED2022**

Mila is a leader and has carved out a place for not only herself but for all women going forward in this traditionally male-dominated field. Driven by her unwavering passion for Hash since the '60s, she is one of the last bridges to a different time when women could travel freely to some of the birthplaces of hash culture. She spread her knowledge and love of hash across the globe through Dab-a-Do. She has embraced all aspects of hash culture as she is not afraid to be on the cutting edge of new and traditional methods such as water extraction. I have known Mila for over a decade, and she has such amazing energy and has always been one of the most uplifting people to be around. Mila inspires all of us and continues to go full force, bringing her passion for hash to a new generation.

**SARAH JAIN, HASH SOMMELIER**

Mila is, in fact, one of the most incredible people I've ever met. She has an amazing heart and soul, and she literally changed my life. Her work through all those years is responsible for a huge part of our cannabis and hash culture nowadays. Here in Latin America, Pollinator Company and the 2022 Dab-A-Doo tour changed the cannabis scene positively in many ways, spreading the hash culture and her love for everyone!

**KLEBBER, ORGANIZER DAB-A-DOO BRAZIL 2022**

I was 16 years old (35 years ago) when I walked into Mila's Amsterdam store for the first time to buy some Ice-O-later bags to create my own bubble. It was a great vibe with plants, cacti, and all kinds of hemp foods. She explained to me the process, and I went and made batches of amazing bubble hash for many decades to come. Throughout our endeavors in the new Cannabis legalization, we kept bumping into each other throughout the world and even stood on the same stage to receive awards. As we are both from Amsterdam, it ended in a great friendship and many seshes at my kitchen table smoking great hash and talking about the state of affairs in our community and industry. Mila is a lovely lady with the sweetest heart you can find. I hope to bump into her on many occasions in the future. Mila is the true hash queen and a friend for life.

**JAIR VELLEMAN**



ART BRANDON PALMA / 8THDAYCREATE.COM



Mila's visit to Brazil was wonderful! Maybe even she didn't think she had so many Brazilian fans and was received as a rockstar by the audience's screams. It was so remarkable that it would become a documentary to be published on YouTube. An example, an inspiration, and above all, a generous person who does enormous good for humanity. I had the opportunity to publish her book in Portuguese and bring the word of the Queen of Hashish to our language. The only monarch we need. There are no words to describe the importance of this woman, especially the encouragement she gives so that more women are present in the world of Cannabis. Long live Mila! Long live hashish!

**GREGORIO VENTURA, @EDITORIA VISTA CHINESA**

Mila Jansen, known as the Hash Queen, is an extraordinary individual who has made an immense impact on the world through her groundbreaking work and unwavering passion in the ice-o-later/water hash space. At the remarkable age of 78, Mila continues to push boundaries and inspire countless individuals with her exceptional contributions. Mila's influence is felt globally as she continues to travel throughout the world, sharing her expertise, knowledge, and extreme passion for Hashish. Beyond her extensive travels, Mila remains a true icon in the cannabis community. Her commitment to the craft is exemplified by her ability to out-smoke even the most experienced enthusiasts. Her dedication and unparalleled talent have earned her widespread respect and admiration among peers and enthusiasts alike.

Personally, I had the privilege of meeting Mila over two decades ago in Amsterdam. From that moment forward, she became my mentor and guide, introducing me to a world of possibilities via oral tradition. Mila's guidance and unwavering support have been instrumental in shaping my path, and I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to her. Mila Jansen is a true marvel, an inspiration to people of all ages. Her tireless efforts to educate, entertain, and advocate for ice water hash have left an indelible mark on the world. She is an extraordinary individual who continues to pave the way for future generations, and her impact will undoubtedly be felt for years to come.

**NIKKA T**

The first time I met Mila, "The Hash Queen," having grown up in (virtually hash-less) Southern California, I didn't know much about her. I was hosting a series of video podcast interviews for the Jack Herer Cup here in Amsterdam, and I had just heard snippets about her. I knew she was considered a legend in Europe, that she had created some machines that made hash, and that she had lived in the mountains in India. That was it.

When I finally had the opportunity to meet her face to face before the interview, I think it was about a minute into the conversation when it became apparent that she really WAS Royalty. Her wise, kind words and delightful demeanor set a tone for the entire room almost immediately. She was amazing. She sat down to the interview, and once she had finished rolling her hash spliff with a roll of hash and a pinch of tobacco, we began the discussion, and we all learned about her whole story. At one point, I asked her, "Out of all the hash in the world that you've tasted or sampled... Do you have a top 10 list?" To which she replied immediately while pointing to her spliff, "I will tell you that the best hash that I've ever smoked is right here." I couldn't believe how lucky I was to have caught her holding this incredible hash at this perfect moment. "Oooooooooooh hoooo hooo!" "Let's open up the auction lines. How much would you pay for that right now?!" I said to my virtual audience.

"No," she said, it's because all the rest was in the past or in the future, and this is what's happening now." I was completely blown away. FROM THAT MOMENT ON, I have been a huge fan and follower of this incredible lady. Over the last couple of years, I've had the opportunity to travel to different cannabis events in several different countries where Mila was also present. I've also had the honor of being one of the judges with her at the Squash Off event last year in Barcelona. At the end of that event, I introduced Mila to a friend who was fairly new to the industry and had never heard of her before that day. She sat focused with him for 45 minutes. When he came back to me, he had tears in his eyes. He showed me what looked to be a two or 3-gram rock of hash and said, "She's amazing, and she just gave me this hash... that's the most anyone... has ever just GIVEN to me... EVER." That's just ONE example of the many random acts of kindness I have witnessed...

**CAPTAIN HOOTER**



Meeting Mila was something my younger self never would have believed possible. In 2022, I had the opportunity to interview Mila for the Future Cannabis Project, but now, in 2023, I found myself heading to Amsterdam on vacation. I had reached out again to Miluz, who couldn't have been nicer or more accommodating. We had a date to meet Mila at the Pollinator factory and to have a private tour of her Hash museum.

In the presence of the Hash Queen, it was us that felt like royalty. Conversing with Mila was like having a conversation with an old friend. Our stream of consciousness flowed from her time as a fashion designer to her treks through the mountains to a brief history lesson of what it was like being a grower in Amsterdam. The hash on this day was exceptional, and the vibes in the room were even higher. Sessioning on the couch and hearing the backstories of the memorabilia that surrounded us was priceless. My wife and I are forever grateful that this cannabis icon decided to share her day with us. We hope to meet with her again when she comes to the US for her Dab-a-Doo events. I highly encourage people to read her book, Mila - How I Became the Hash Queen. I know you will be surprised by the fullness of Mila's life and adventures. Beyond the enjoyment of the story, you'll now have a million questions to ask her the next time you see her at an event.

-- Chad Westport 🌿

“I want to be just like Mila when I grow up,” I thought to myself at the 2023 Emerald Cup Awards when Mila received the Lifetime Achievement Award. As Mila accepted the award, she danced on stage to “On the Road Again” by Willie Nelson. It was at that moment I promised myself that I would embody her contagiously happy energy that lights up the room and puts smiles on peoples’ faces. The most important lesson I’ve learned from Mila is to live in the moment, enjoy the moment, and dance! From the bottom of my heart, Mila, thank you for inspiring us women to be bold, brave, and adventurous.

- Cherry Blossom Belle 🌿





**T**he bus stopped at a gathering of tents surrounded by a large group of camels that were most beautifully decorated. But there was dust everywhere. Dust reigned. Groups of women, not in the usual burkas but wearing colorful dresses, hid shyly behind their shawls in the large tent, where we drank tea and ate some flatbread and a meat stew. At dusk, we arrived at the Iranian border, where we had to take our luggage off the

bus. Then, our bus turned around and disappeared back into Iran. Our passports were stamped, but then we had to walk the rest of the way to the Afghan border, carrying our luggage, as well as Miloes. It was pitch black, and there was no moonlight to help show us the way. We walked through the desert, through a barren no-man’s land, to where about twenty small lights shone at Kuhsan, the Afghan border. Perhaps it took about forty minutes, but it seemed to take forever. In the darkness, shapes were moving in the same direction as us, while others were moving in the opposite direction, and there were shapes that just stood still in the dark.

At last, we arrived at a few custom buildings and a bunch of tea shops around a huge, empty, sandy square. There was no electricity, and other than halos of light from small kerosene lamps, it was just black space. It was fairly deserted, and there were no women to be seen at all. The customs guys were all armed, and so were all the teashop owners and their guests. It seemed we were the only unarmed people there. Each teashop had a central point: a fireplace with cooking pots and a hubbly bubbly, a large Afghan water pipe. We were soon seated on an old string bed in front of one of the teashops, holding cups of hot tea with fresh bread, beans, and a great smoke. The teashop we chose instantly became the place to be, and soon, even the customs men came over and offered some hash for the water pipe we shared. After showing us how to use the pipe, they left us alone.

I was happy to smoke here in Asia in the middle of the night. As one of the custom guys prepared the next hubbly bubbly, he said, “Welcome to Afghanistan!” (Sept. 14, 1968.)

– Excerpt from *Mila: How I Became the Hash Queen*, by Mila Jansen

**MAMA EDITIONS, PUBLISHER BIO**

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**MARIA CAVALI, COVER PHOTO PHOTOGRAPHER**

Maria embarked on her journey as a freelance photographer in 2011, dedicating her lens to capturing the essence of diverse editorials for prestigious publications such as Llamas Valley, Time-Out, 1st Dibs, Uitkrant & A-Mag magazine. With a background in modeling and acting, Maria has cultivated a profound understanding of human nature, a trait that resonates in her preferred genres - portrait and product photography. Living her dream, Maria feels blessed to maintain a harmonious equilibrium between invigorating personal projects, event photography, and personal brand photoshoots.

“Photography for me isn’t merely a profession; it’s my lifelong passion, a journey of the soul.

When my camera is in hand, I transcend mere moment capturing; I embrace the beauty of life and the tales it weaves. Photography stands as the unchanging force in my life - a wellspring of inspiration, vitality, and a plunge into the authenticity of others. Behind the lens, I unearth new perspectives, emotions, and connections. It is here, behind the camera, that I feel most alive, free, and secure. In a world where staying present is a struggle, photography is my presence. It’s the equilibrium between the masculine and the feminine, the technical and the creative, the form and the flow. Every click is a heartbeat, a distinct interpretation of reality seen through my eyes. I cannot cease framing, seeing, feeling. Photography is the best thing that ever happened to me. 🌿



# DAB-A-DOO LATIN AMERICA TOUR: SPREADING THE HASH WORD

WORDS | ROB BALSIEK

Since before most of us can remember, Mila Jansen, “The Queen of Hash,” has traveled the world looking for the best hash, meeting the locals and teaching them her techniques. It was 2013 when her South American adventures began; Mila visited Buenos Aires and Uruguay for a small tour she made in these countries, but it was in 2017 that the Dab-A-Doo made its first appearance in Latin America, Dab-A-Doo Mexico. That was the first contact with many newcomers in the hash scene in Mexico. Also, people from all over Latin America began to wonder if it was possible that the “Hash Queen” could get to their home countries.

The following year, 2018, when the Mexico Dab-A-Doo date was announced, the decision was clear: go to Mexico, meet Mila, and try to bring the Tour to Costa Rica. Days before flying to Mexico, the excitement was too much; besides being able to assist a Dab-A-Doo, we would meet several crews from Latin America that had in mind the same objectives that we had.

When we arrived in Guadalajara, the first thing we did was to attend a sesh where all the participants and Mila were. As soon as we arrived and met the people there, we knew

we were home; we met people we would hang out with, work, and be friends with for the rest of our lives. Some crews there were Resina Company from Chile, Sick Dog crew from Peru, Highly Questionable Travel from Miami, USA, the local Mjares Extracts crew,

and us 710Love from Costa Rica. It was great meeting minds like us, people who love the plant, people who live cannabis and who work with and respect the plant, and the best part was that we all spoke the same language.

Around 15 hash heads and Mila cruised Guadalajara and Michoacan in a minibus for a week, leaving fat clouds everywhere we went. The Dab-A-Doo event took place on Saturday and Sunday. Luckily, my Costa Rican friend and I got to be judges of the samples, the best way to try all the extracts firsthand. Not much of a surprise to us all, Resina Company took home most of the first places for Rosin and Hash and Sick Dog crew in the solvent category.

Another great addition to the event was the presence of Icke Glass from the USA; not only was he one of the most skilled and recognized glass blowers in the States, but this was when many of us finished falling in love with heady glass. Along with several of the participants, we took glass pieces back home with us, spreading the amazing glass world to our local peers.

During the whole week we spent together, we knew a hash family was born, and seeing this, Mila realized that too. When we approached her with

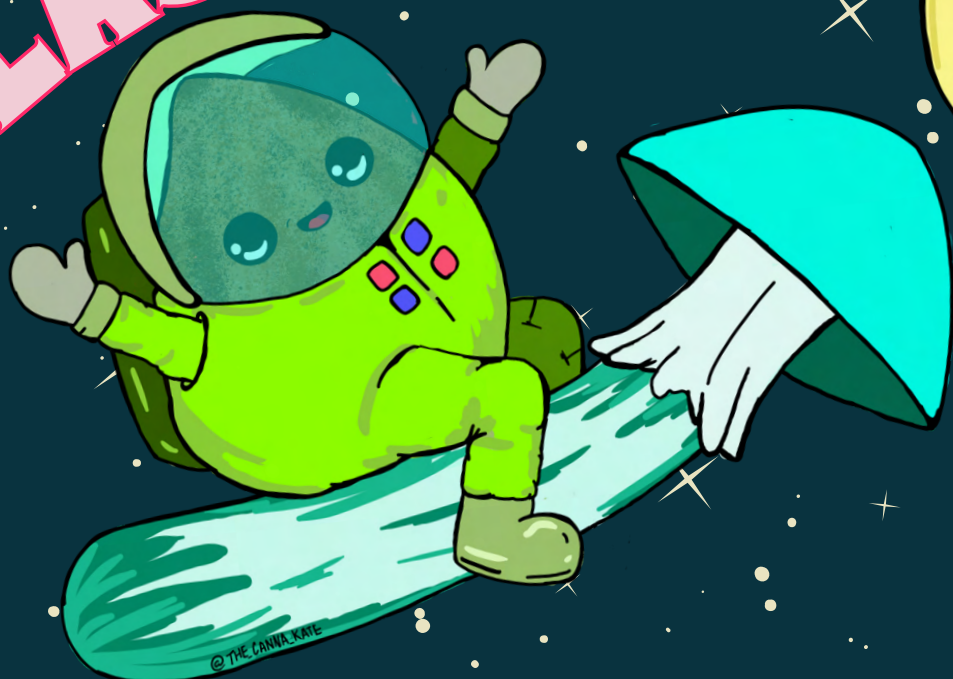
**“WHEN WE ARRIVED IN GUADALAJARA, THE FIRST THING WE DID WAS TO ATTEND A SESH WHERE ALL THE PARTICIPANTS AND MILA WERE. AS SOON AS WE ARRIVED AND MET THE PEOPLE THERE, WE KNEW WE WERE HOME; WE MET PEOPLE WE WOULD BE HANGING OUT WITH, WORKING, AND BEING FRIENDS WITH FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES.”**

the request to host Dab-A-Doo in each of our countries, including Costa Rica, we got a quick and lovely: “Yes, of course, we can plan that for next year!”

It was set: The Dab-A-Doo Latin America Tour for 2019 was happening not only in Mexico but in several other countries! 🌿

DAB-A-DOO

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## Masters Of Rosin Goes Global

### THE SEARCH FOR THE BEST HASHMAKERS IN EUROPE JOURNEYS INTO THE WEST

WORDS | MATT JACKSON    PHOTOS | HQ MEDIA

One of the most unique cannabis competitions in the world, Masters of Rosin is the only global competition that focuses solely on the squish. Each year, sixty-four candidates are chosen to travel to Spain and be judged by a selection of the world's most competent solventless specialists for a chance to have their work named the best rosin in the world. Their prize, a miniature iron cast in gold, silver, or bronze, the respect of their peers, and the offer to return as a judge the following year. After six successful contests in Barcelona, the hard-working team behind MOR has gained huge respect in the community and is expanding into a truly international event by hosting editions in New York this April and Los Angeles in the fall of 2024.

For David Madilyan and his crew, this marks the beginning of the next stage in this idea's evolution, one that sees them taking the battle straight to the shores of what he called "the biggest hash scene in the world." Wildly popular here in the U.S., hash rosin is still an evolving scene in Europe, particularly in Spain, where a large concentration of award-winning talent lives. Since opening HQ in Barcelona and starting Babushka Farms, Madilyan has championed the rosin scene in Spain, where

many of Europe's best-known hashmakers reside. Though people said there was too small of a community to start a rosin-only competition, he believed that if they built in, they would come. Now, this field of dreams has become Masts of Rosin, a widely respected event aiming for the fences.

For years now, Americans have been traveling to Spain to compete in MOR and asking when they would ever see a version that was closer to home, something Madilyan knew was only a matter of time. "You guys have the biggest community, speaking in terms of the number of people who have dedicated their lives to hash making," Madilyan stated. "We're doing this for these people who can't come to Spain but would love to be able to compete in this kind of event, to strive for the Golden Iron." Deciding to start with New York also felt natural to Madilyan, who described how his time spent there during the late 90s has always stuck with him and given him a special connection to the city. When asked if he sees this eventually growing even larger, he said, "I would love to see Masters Of Rosin Australia or Thailand someday, maybe even a championship that brings global finalists together, but for now, we know how much of a project it will be just coming to the U.S."

We asked what the biggest hurdle has been in bringing such a big event



overseas, and Madilyan expressed how it's been something as simple as the time change. The 7-9-hour time difference between the U.S. and Europe means that normal meeting hours aren't always possible. Plus, the small crew that helps him create and run the event is also instrumental in the workings of both Madilyan's social club HQ and their in-house brand Babushka Farms,

which means pulling them from existing projects is a difficult juggling act. These new versions will have a few differences but in ways that stay with the theme. They still plan on releasing judge's scorecards online and having a post-competition tasting event open to the public. In Spain, everything is anchored to Spannabis, an event that brings tens of thousands of people to the streets of Barcelona. Without the usual backdrop or the resources of HQ, Madilyan knows there will be small differences but also that you must let the water flow before you can really see what path it will take.

With a maximum total of 64 competitors that fit in the MOR judge's kit, the race for spots in N.Y. and L.A. will be steep competition. Madilyan stressed how vital the team he's built is instrumental to this process, including support from his ground partners Matt and Ben with Astor Club New York (and now Los Angeles), as well as Big Tuna here on the West Coast. "These individual's unconditional love and support is what makes this whole crazy idea a reality; they deserve all the credit in the world." If someone wants to compete in Masters Of Rosin, he issued this statement. "They should ask themselves, first of all,

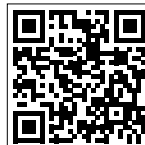
**“WHAT MORE COULD I ASK FOR? MASTERS OF ROSIN IS HERE, AND IT’S GOING INTERNATIONAL. I’M PROUD OF OUR ORGANIZATION AND OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN SEVEN YEARS. IT ALL STARTED AS A DREAM, JUST A SMALL CONTEST. IT’S AN HONOR TO SEE PEOPLE WANT TO COMPETE, AND IT MAKES ME KNOW THAT THIS REALLY WAS A GREAT IDEA. I WANT TO THANK ALL THE HASHMAKERS, SUPPORTERS, SPONSORS, MEDIA PARTNERS, AND FAMILY. LET’S PRESS ON.”**

if they have a passion for hashing. Are you someone who is crazy about rosin from beginning to end? Are you obsessed with studying new terps and drying techniques? Do you nerd out over the starting material while it's still in the field? These are the questions someone should ask before coming to New York or Los Angeles."

If you think you have the fire, entering to compete just means filling

out the forms for the tournament. However, at the intake beforehand, Madilyan and team inspect each entry to see if it can move past weigh-in. Some will be turned away, but, as he mentioned, this is asking for the best hashmakers to compete, and there's only so much room on the character selection screen. In fact, last year's champions, La Sagrada Farm, turned down their opportunity to judge in order to return as a competitor in 2024. When asked how it feels to see this level of excitement from competitors as they move to the next stage, Madilyan reflected for a minute on how far it's all come. "What more could I ask for? Masters Of Rosin 2024 is here, and it's going international. I'm proud of our organization and our achievements in seven years. It all started as a dream, just a small contest. It's an honor to see people want to compete, and it makes me know that this really was a great idea. I want to thank all the hashmakers, supporters, sponsors, media partners, and family. Let's press on."

Masters Of Rosin can be followed online to watch the events unfold in Spain this March and the U.S. in April and October. 🌿





## The Smoking Jacket Helps Re-Defines the Competition Scene

### WHAT DO SOME OF THE BEST GOLF PLAYERS AND HASH MAKERS HAVE IN COMMON? A KILLER JACKET

WORDS | MATT JACKSON    PHOTOS | MITCHELL PETERSON AKA EXTRACTS DAILY

**T**he cannabis contest scene has positively exploded. Every month, there seems to be an announcement for the next no-holds-barred, winner-take-all, no-guts-no-glory, slam fest. Within this growing list, a handful from within the hash community is turning things on their head by molding a more relaxed kind of contest that's just as much about bringing the community together as it is about securing bragging rights. The Smoking Jacket is one of these events. A private, catered competition run by the popular podcast The Hashish Inn, The Smoking Jacket brings together a community of dedicated dabbers for multiple days of education, judging, and tastings, all for the love of hash. Last year, attendees, competitors, and expert judges sat family-style as they worked through 25 unmarked entries to see who would walk away with a custom jacket.

These experts included some of the hashiest minds of our time, including Cuban Grower, Brandon from Third Gen Farms, Danny & Pepe of Ogre Farms, Flynn from Wooksauce Winery, and Simplee Adam, winner of the 2022 Ego Clash for Melt. Besides the experts and competitors, a small number of public tickets were available for people who wanted to experience the event and judge the entries. On a podcast episode, after the

event, creators Shoragim and Adam discussed how they want this to be a shared experience as well as a friendly fight. They understand that for some people the cost is a little prohibitive, but they also stressed that this isn't just a contest or just an event but something much more like a solventless symposium. It was during a planning session for one of the highly successful Coffee and Donuts events, that they both started unpacking this idea of a community gathering of hashmakers. As more and more ideas kept being added - like podcast recording, guided tastings, catered lunches, and gift bags, it was clear they had unknowingly created a whole new project.

When you first hear about a competition called "The Smoking Jacket," you think of the Master's Golf Tournament and its iconic green championship jacket, but the inspiration for the event is actually a classic piece of outerwear that's been around since the 1700s. Smoking jackets were used to keep your clothes from smelling like smoke and to protect you from the dangers of falling ash or cinders. Over the years, like smoking hash, this iconic piece of fashion has fallen in and out of favor, but participation has always made you part of a certain crowd. This crowd of attendees received a custom kit with the entries, a gift bag that included a



gram of full melt, as well as full food and beverage service for two days.

To tailor such a lavish event, managing the major duties was split between Shoragim, who handled logistics and event coordination, and Adam who helped oversee the creation of the judging criteria. Thanks to them and their indispensable team, once you walked through the entryway of The Smoking Jacket, everything was taken care of. Cold storage for your terps, rigs/torches were available through guest services, and a barista was ready to serve you coffee before you hit the dab brunch. Once you find your spot, tableside menus detailed your lunch and drink options. For competitors, intake, and portioning were all handled by the event, which then handed out custom pelican case judge’s kits to the crowd along with their scorecards.

The scoring sheet, which was shared online and has been used in other events around the country, was made with basic reaction scores to things like smell, taste, and appearance, almost a roundup of your gut reactions. Followed by sub-categories that you can use to express more nuanced qualities and help you break a tie between entries. To get everyone familiar with the system, a series of guided tastings allowed attendees a rare chance to interact while learning how to score an entry as a group. Cuban Grower, The Real Cannabis Chris, Humphrey Hashish, and Simplex Adam all brought exclusive offerings, taking the time to explain where each course came from, how it was grown, washed, and blended, and the inspiration behind the jar.

Though admittedly not a brand new concept, “guided tastings” are popping up around the event scene. Just sitting down and smoking some of this hash is an incredible treat, but to have the maker sit down with you and explain the journey it took from the garden to the jar is an inside-the-actor’s studio moment. As we try and break people away from our tiny screens to participate in activities, it’s these intimate shared experiences that will, in my opinion, be most memorable. The Smoking Jacket was a special moment where that hash you’ve been staring at online is right there in front of you, being held by the hands that put the plant to the press. People who attended got to sit

side by side with serious artists of the industry, many of whom came from outside the state to participate in this inaugural edition. We shared meals, grabbed each other coffee, and bonded over shared nerdiness for dabs.

Longtime supporters of the hardest-working hash makers in the world, Shoragim and Adam have a genuine positivity and passion for their scene that makes Smoking Jacket more than just an event. It honestly feels like summer camp the way you sit down at a table in the morning, have fun all day, then wave goodbye to a whole new set of friends you can’t wait to see the next day. People are expressing a strong desire for these smaller settings now that events have fully ramped up. Large festivals will always be popular, but two-to-one people say they prefer these private gatherings where you can really engage with people and walk away with not just new memories but shared memories.

Even though only one person can walk away with the champion’s coat, there are two other ways of winning at the Smoking Jacket. Along with their prized Expert Judge’s Choice, there’s also a People’s Choice determined by the public judges, and a Maker’s Choice taken from only the competitor’s scores. This means a hashmaker can have something that might not capture the judges’ fancy, but their fellow artisans or the hash-lovin’ public might easily see it as something award-winning. It’s nice to see three different perspectives (judge, public, and craftsman), all represented. It gave everyone

**“WHEN YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT A COMPETITION CALLED “THE SMOKING JACKET,” YOU THINK OF THE MASTER’S GOLF TOURNAMENT AND ITS ICONIC GREEN CHAMPIONSHIP JACKET, BUT THE INSPIRATION FOR THE EVENT IS ACTUALLY A CLASSIC PIECE OF OUTERWEAR THAT’S BEEN AROUND SINCE THE 1700S. SMOKING JACKETS WERE USED TO KEEP YOUR CLOTHES FROM SMELLING LIKE SMOKE AND TO PROTECT YOU FROM THE DANGERS OF FALLING ASH OR CINDERS.”**



Smoking Jacket's second event was an auspicious occasion held at the home of well-known cannabis brand Archive in Portland, Oregon. This year featured more names, an added day, and even more hash to smoke. Attendees were given more time to review their kits, get comfortable with the scoring system, and connect with one another since, in the end, The Smoking Jacket is somewhat less about the delicious kit in your hands and more about connecting with the people around you. Inside the custom-designed kit, we smelled a lot of Papaya and Z-ish terps and a couple of standout offerings ranging in flavor from funky onions to red icee drink.

The Tastings and Breakfast Bar this year also featured non-competitors like Xen Dog, Mushmelts, and Zap Solventless with fellow Oregonians Dammit Bobby, Barry's Bubble, and judges Yashi Melts and Kush Kirk. If I had to pick a favorite from this section, it would be the Chem Dog from Mendocino's Resin Ranch, which was so good I had to go in for seconds. More than just hash, the crowd also received food tastings from Terp Taffy as well as Pua Extractions and Amanda from Yashi Melts. Onstage discussions ranged from cultivation panels to live podcast recordings, a Q&A with Fletcher from Archive, and even an appearance from the Hot Dabs Podcast, who showed up to make volunteers spin the wheel to see if they'd be taking their hit at 550, 600, or 700 degrees. Even though the California competition crew was out in full effect along with the Oregonian local community, Michigan made its presence well known this year with a number of incredible competitors, including one who took home a big prize.

The five prizes went to four deserving people. Last year's champ, The Real Cannabis Chris,

brought home the Public and Makers Choice with his secret recipe, officially titled The Jordan #23. After securing his first-ever competition win last year, this man has been on a streak, now securing the prize from both people and peers in the crowd. The final three on the podium represented an experienced judging panel with refined palates from Colorado, California, Oregon, Washington, and even Europe, with the addition of Barcelona hashmaker Slite23. In my opinion, these finalists show that range of preference instead of one type of profile sweeping the dais. Coming in Third is Trichome Tortoise, whose cut of Superfoof bred by Blockhead Buds has been helping people remember what they loved about citrus terps. Second place winner is Turtle Trees, a respected Oregon heater who'd never competed in any hash competitions before but who swept the judges' scores for Bay Exclusive's OG Pie Breath, a clone-only strain as the seed company no longer exists. The 2023 First Place winner joining the velvet jacket gang is Michigan's Fort Wendy, who brought the heat with a Yellow Zushi that won the collective hearts of all seven judges and many of the people at the tables.

Speaking of which, you could find some out-of-control jars on display across the picnic benches. Professor Sift's Pink Yuzu was high on the list, along with the Tear Gas from Michigan's Spin Melts, a Pear Boba from Yeti Melts/Simplee Adam, and a Rainbow Belts 3.0 from Colorado's Rufus Rosin. After watching this second year, with its larger crowd and more days, you can see this ambitious but small team handled the growth spurt gracefully but still will have some growing to do, yet it was comforting to see that with more people, there was still that prevailing feeling of camaraderie and respect at each table I sat down at. 🌿





a sense that their votes mattered not just in terms of scores but also in terms of respect for their opinion and position in the scene. That's something this had which many other events are working to achieve, recognizing the identity and contributions of everyone who walks in the room.

As a journalist wandering the room, you could see the look of concentration on people's faces as they took their role in this seriously, inspecting each jar with quiet contemplation. At the end of the two days, top honors from the experts went to The Real Cannabis Chris for his Guava Pie #2 Reserva Privada. People's Choice went to Dammit Bobby for Oishii #7 rosin, a new Archive Seeds release. Maker's Choice was Helios Hash for their Chem Brulcee + Rainbow Belts rosin. Though the contest is currently only set for rosins, the organizers expressed that they want to leave it open for melt to walk through the door once they have another year or two buttoned up.

Like its first year, The Smoking Jacket II creates an amazing opportunity. Along with their judge kit, attendees receive another fully catered, fully stocked experience – even rubbing alcohol and butane are supplied. The competitor list, now increased to 30, had every spot snapped up within minutes of being released online prompting the creation of additional public judging tickets and GA tickets to attend the awards ceremonies. Oregon's cannabis community is expected to come strong with tastings by

Yashi Melts, Kush Kirk, and Mushmelts. This three-day affair is planned at Archive's new private event space. With a competitor list that includes Athena, Terp Wizard, and Solventless Refinery, and recruiting Slite23 from Spain to be an expert judge, we can't wait to see what other surprises are planned for the second year of this unique hash celebration. 🌿

THE *Smoking Jacket* 2022  
LOS ANGELES, CA

**Top 5 - Expert Judges**

**1st Place - The Real Cannabis Chris - Guava Pie #2**  
Pheno Hunted by Chris; Bred by Bloom Seed Co (AKA Harry Palms)

**2nd Place - Dammit Bobby - Oishii #7**  
Pheno Hunted & Bred by Archive Seed Bank

**3rd Place - Solventless Refinery - Papaya Bomb + Rainbow Belts**  
(Papaya B. Bred by Purple City Genetics; Cut Only) - (Rainbow B. Bred by Archive Seed Bank)

**4th Place - Hidden Forest Farms - Papaya + StrawGuava**  
(Poochie's Papaya Cut) - (Sensory Flipper's StrawGuava Cut)

**5th Place - Beachside Solventless - Grape Cream Cake**  
Pheno Hunted by Beachside Grower; Bred by Bloom Seed Co (AKA Harry Palms)

THE *Smoking Jacket* 2022  
LOS ANGELES, CA

**Top 5 - People's Choice**

**1st Place - Dammit Bobby - Oishii #7**  
Pheno Hunted & Bred by Archive Seed Bank

**2nd Place - Symbiosis Solventless - Tropical Runtz + Fruity Pebbles OG**  
(Tropical Runtz Bred by Exotic Genetics) - (Park Ranger Bell's FPOG Cut)

**3rd Place - Beachside Solventless - Grape Cream Cake**  
Pheno Hunted by Beachside Grower; Bred by Bloom Seed Co (AKA Harry Palms)

**4th Place - Hidden Forest Farms - Papaya + StrawGuava**  
(Poochie's Papaya Cut) - (Sensory Flipper's StrawGuava Cut)

**5th Place - Ganjah Guru & Cold Gold Solventless Strawberry Spritzer + Rainbow Belts**  
(S.S. Bred by Cannarado) Cold Cure & Jam - Cold Cure (E.B. Bred by Archive Seed Bank)

THE *Smoking Jacket* 2022  
LOS ANGELES, CA

**Top 5 - Makers' Choice**

**1st Place - Helios Hash - Chem Brûlée + Rainbow Belts**  
(C.B. Hunted & Selected by Wild Barn Farm) - (R.B. Hunted & Selected by Archive Seed Bank)

**2nd Place - Solventless Refinery - Papaya Bomb + Rainbow Belts**  
(Papaya B. Bred by Purple City Genetics; Cut Only) - (Rainbow B. Bred by Archive Seed Bank)

**3rd Place - Symbiosis Solventless - Tropical Runtz + Fruity Pebbles OG**  
(Tropical Runtz Bred by Exotic Genetics) - (Park Ranger Bell's FPOG Cut)

**4th Place - Yeti Melts - Lime Heads + Banana Od + Zeely**  
(Yeti's L.H. Cut) - (B.G. Bred by Masonic & Ibeanpoppin) - (ZZ Bred by CSI Humboldt)

**5th Place - Tree City Solventless - Garlic Juice (GMO x Papaya)**  
Pheno Hunted by Tree City Solventless; Bred by Harry Palms of Bloom Seeds Co



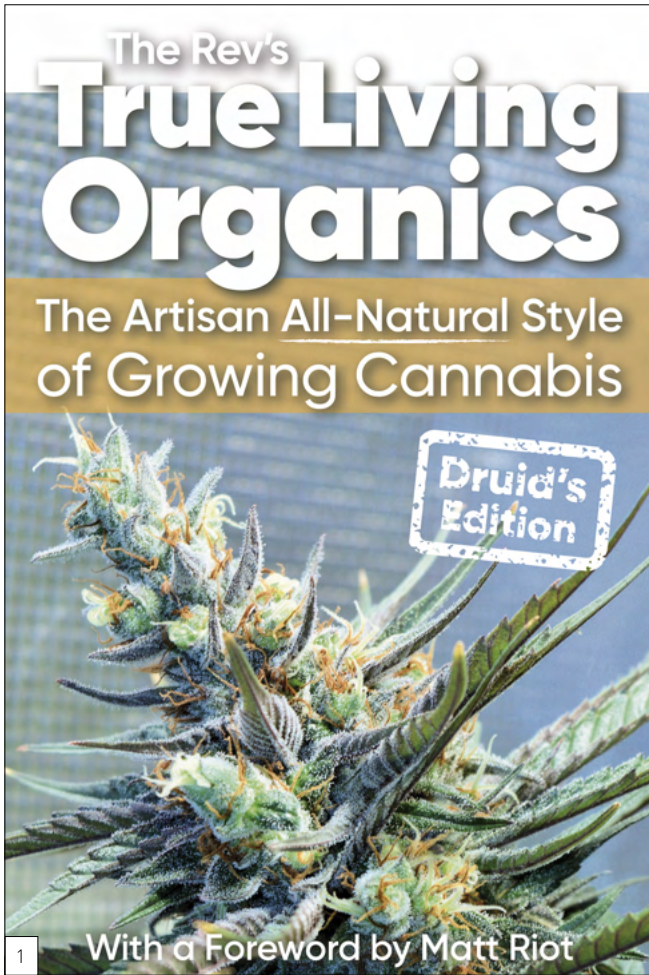
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# NEW TRUE LIVING ORGANICS

BOOK RELEASE FALL 2023

WORDS & PHOTOS | THE REV

**H**ey-hey-hey Skunkers! At long last, the new TLO (True Living Organics) book is coming out in the fall of 2023, whew ... It's been a lot of work, but it's all now worth it. If you are a grower that knows living soil is the way, then you want this book, baybee! If you are currently growing cannabis with liquid fertilizer, give TLO a try and prepare to have your mind blown.

This book (my 3rd in the TLO series) is put together a lot like a buffet. What I mean by that is that the book is chock-full of information and options—like a lot of both, when it comes to tweaking your plants up to sublime levels. And I do mean sublime. The book has many soil recipes, from very simple, fast mixes to more complex ones. And the way it's laid out, you can even mix and match to your specific environment and resources. There's an "apartment soil mix" and a "Bohemian soil mix" and, well, you get the picture. Let me tell you a little more below...

## RULE #1 NO BOTTLES

When growing in living soil, it is extremely important that you not dose your living soil with liquid fertilizer solutions, even organic ones—yup. This is particularly important when growing in containers. Like most rules, this one can be slightly bent, and in the book, I show you a pretty simple modification that allows you to use a couple of liquid organic nutrients. Like I said, the new book is FULL of options, and if you are uber short of growing space, the liquid option can be used successfully with living soil. But we want to avoid bottles fully for the best of the best.

In the new book, I show you guys how to balance the equilibrium of your soil life in your containers and, most importantly, keep them that way. Therein is where the true power lies. Allowing your plants to feed themselves from the soil, as opposed to you force-feeding your plants, makes such a huge difference; like a paradigm shift, it's so huge! I often compare TLO growing to catching a wave on a surfboard because once you have caught that wave, in other words, once you have reached equilibrium in your containers, all you have to do is not fuck up your ride; just stay on the wave. This involves you not doing things more than doing things, heh heh. The elegance of TLO-grown buds is mostly about what's not in them—wink.



1) TRUE LIVING ORGANICS DRUID'S GUIDE 2) NO BOTTLES EQUALS TRULY SUBLIME BUDS



**RULE #2 NO TEAS**

When I first began with TLO style growing in living soil, I really thought that using organic living teas, also known as actively aerated compost teas (AACT's), was the way to seriously rock the house. There are no tea recipes in the new book—guess why? Yup, no more teas. You see, teas are a problem for many of the same reasons liquid nutrient fertilizers are problematic. It's just too much food thrust into a closed ecosystem. This has major initial bad effects that won't show, and worse side effects will follow in weeks to come that will. Outdoor in-the-ground teas can be used with much more forgiveness. Lemme 'splain...

Using the TLO style, we ask ourselves often ... What would Mother Nature do? ... and with regard to teas and with any supplemental nutrient additions, we want them slow (small) and steady, just like Mother Nature supplies plants with. This keeps your living soil operation at maximum efficiency—keep riding the wave. So, using TLO style uses a PPM (parts per million) based philosophy regarding supplemental nutrients delivered via the plant water. Way-way-way fewer nutrients, delivered way more often. Slow and steady.

Rather than teas, we use what I call The Churn. Now, you can read all about The Churn in the new book or do a search for The Churn at SKUNK online. But what it is, basically, is a perpetual and uber-high PPM living tea (an AACT). We just add smaller amounts to the plant water every time we water. This methodology keeps everyone uber happy, the plants and the soil life. In turn, this will make you very happy when you experience the results of using my methodology. Wow! There are many of these types of cool new tweaks in the Druid's Guide of TLO.



**WATER IS HUGE!**

In the photo, you can see my favorite filter for groundwater that has chlorine (monochloramine) present. It's a dual carbon filtering unit, and as long as your groundwater is somewhere around 40 to 50 PPM and your only problem is chlorine, then; problem solved! In the book, I will show you how to deal with pretty much any water situation you have and show you how to make it Mother Nature (TLO) friendly. By that, all I mean is I show you how to end up with perfectly natural living water, exactly what plants love.

Since starting my TLO growing adventure about 20 years ago, I have learned a lot about water and living things. Anyone who says "water is water" doesn't have a clue WTF they are talking about, LoL. Water can exist in many different states, and the book will help you understand these better if you are fuzzy on the subject matter. Your own perspective on water and living things will likely change once you go down the TLO path; mine certainly have. Any water my girl or I consume is always dechlorinated, and even our pets drink only dechlorinated (dual carbon filtered) groundwater.

**“IN THE NEW BOOK, I SHOW YOU GUYS HOW TO BALANCE THE EQUILIBRIUM OF YOUR SOIL LIFE IN YOUR CONTAINERS AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, KEEP THEM THAT WAY. THEREIN IS WHERE THE TRUE POWER LIES.”**

3) KILLER BUDS USING THE CHURN

4) A DUAL CHAMBERED WATER FILTERING UNIT WITH TWO ACTIVATED CARBON FILTERS



5



7

**AFTERWORD**

The whole world of TLO growing is just really first recognizing and then leveraging Mother Nature. I have taken all these natural outdoor processes I recognize and show you how to apply them indoors and leverage them for the most incredibly high-quality herb ever! You don't have to become a scientist or even learn a ton of new things ... just some new things ... and reading the whole book will give you a very complete input regarding your options—yes, indeed.

**TLO BEYOND CANNABIS**

The TLO skills you will learn in the book go way beyond growing cannabis, and you can apply all this knowledge to growing other things. You have never tasted a tomato until you've tasted a TLO-grown tomato—WoW! When you recycle your soil, you end up with your soil volume growing over time with each recycling. As this happens, you can branch out and start growing food in containers or in the ground. Nothing like some excess TLO recycled soil used as a top soil layer in your outdoor ground gardens. We grow tomatoes, snap peas, strawberries, peppers, watermelons, chives, holy basil, and other things, and the flavors are nothing short of incredible!



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Growing TLO style can make you healthier as well since you will want to source food scraps and such to compost with. Since you don't want to be composting leftover Hot Pockets, or TV dinners, you will be inclined to get more real foodstuffs. This, in turn, will cause you to eat more real food resulting in a healthier and happier you, along with your plants. Don't worry, composting can be done without any stench or gnat invasions, no sweat, and I'll show ya how.

You will be able to score the new book over at Amazon online, and if you bug your local shop or bookstore to carry it, they may do it. There's so much good stuff in the new book; it's crazy, man—pretty much 50 years of hands-on growing skills, with the last 20 years being all TLO all the time, all laid out in this book for your consumption. Prepare for your growing skills to take a big ol' leap forward, along with the quality of your cannabis and anything else you want to grow. Get yourself a copy, and get another as a gift for someone that needs it! Ho-Ho-Ho. L8r G8rs...

REv ♻️



5) MY PERSONAL TLO CONTAINER SNAP PEA CROP 6) ALONG WITH KILLER DELICIOUS SMOKE, TLO MAKES YOU HEALTHIER TOO 7) THE REV 8) SUPER EXOTIC STRAINS OF CANNABIS THRIVE USING TLO STYLE



MILF Rev's Rave

# CHERRY THUNDERFUCK

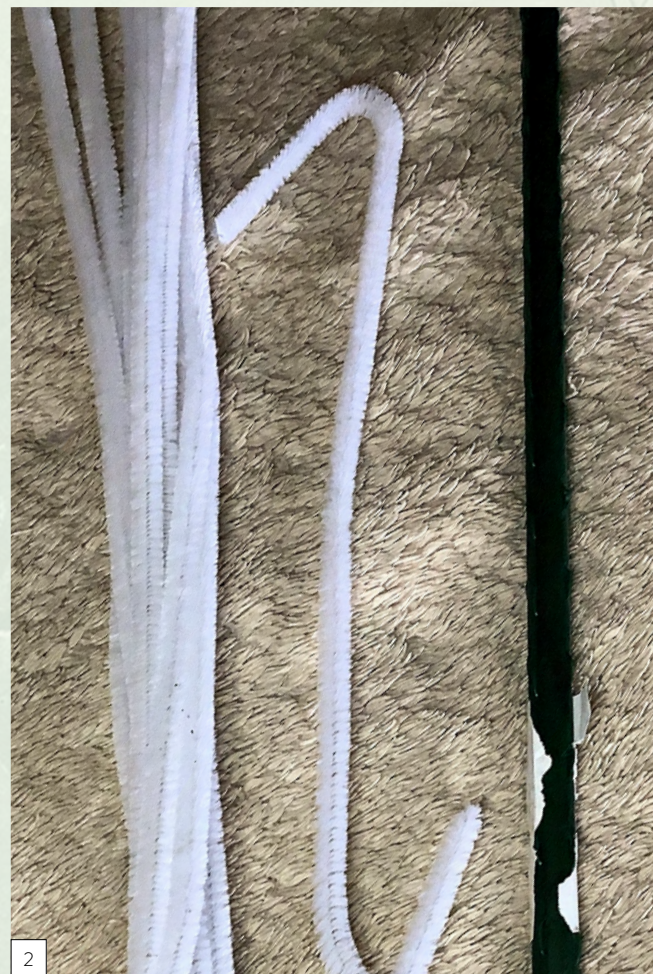
WORDS & PHOTOS | THE REV

**M**ale Breeder(s) Deets: The original P1 male I used in this cross was my Hawaiian Cherry Bomb (f3) which was a superior breeder with that almost “invisible” recombination tendency. He would bump up yields and resin production but otherwise would be mostly undetectable in the offspring generation. A very handy ability for this cross, keeping the Matanuska Thunderfuck mostly itself in the hybrid offspring.

## GROWING INFORMATION

### GROWER: THE REV

Now, I'm not going to bullshit you here; she's not the easiest variety of cannabis to grow via the Matanuska Valley Thunderfuck's genes. The Cherry Thunderfuck inherited what R.C. Clarke calls: “the creeper phenotype,” referring to morphology and not resin effects. I have only ever seen 2 of these creeper varieties in my life of growing cannabis. One being the MTF, and the other was a landrace and very kick-ass Cambodian. I've been growing cannabis for just about half a century now, so it's pretty rare—LoL.



For this inbred f2 generation, I selected a single superior (whorled) male f1 Cherry Thunderfuck that was uber stinky and crazy vigorous with large floral size. Yup, exactly what I was hunting; and that doesn't happen all the time.

Female Breeder(s) Deets: The original P1 female used in this cross, the Matanuska Valley Thunderfuck (MTF), was sent to me in clone form (like almost three decades ago) quite expertly by an old growing buddy originally from Northern California; around Fort Bragg in Mendocino that relocated to Alaska. Seems way too cold for me but okay... He sent me six cuttings, 3 of each phenotype he had, and he called these the A and B phenos. I ultimately kept and used the A phenotype as it seemed much heartier growing under my conditions.

For this inbred f2 generation, I selected 2 female f1 Cherry Thunderfuck individuals but ultimately only used 1 of these females. She was beyond smelly and literally glistened with resin, even from a distance.

These creeper varieties have a tendency to fall over and continue to grow like many tomato plants grow, creeping along on the ground. Outdoors in plenty of wind, this is not a problem at all. Indoors without very good air movement, or outdoors without wind, this can present growing difficulties. Above in the photo, you can see an easy countermeasure simply using support stakes along with bendable “Fuzzy Sticks” works great to help with support—the small hassle is well worth it, in my opinion.

- 1) WHORLED MALE CHERRY THUNDERFUCK BREEDER
- 2) FUZZY CRAFTING STICKS AND COMMON PLASTIC GREEN PLANT STAKES



She has thinner stems, and is kind of petite, except when it comes to the buds. Beefy buds with thin petite stems, yum! Make sure your dark hours during flowering are pitch black; the Cherry Thunderfuck does not handle light leakage or light poisoning well at all during flowering. She will also not tolerate overwatering very well. But, as long as she's happy, she's very vigorous and fat! Best to have some growing skills under your belt before growing this one, I would suggest.

**AFTERWORD SMOKING WITH REV**

Well, this is most def one of those varieties I do not smoke if I have things to do that involve attention to detail or math, heh heh. But, if you are just going to play some video games, get a haircut, maybe watch a simple plot movie, take a hike in a familiar area, or listen to some tunes, the Cherry Thunderfuck is a beautiful thing. The high type is what I call: "Drooling on Your Shoes" for a good reason. You

will be stupid, stoned, pure and simple. You get pretty baked almost at once, but then about 10 minutes later, you will get hit with the Thunder wave that really messes you up, but good.

The flavors are like the smells, and really it is a super dank and almost sickeningly sweet candy/fruity thang. I find the flavors very addictive, and I'm pretty sure you will too. Super stinky while growing also, so take note.

Here's a link directly to the Cherry Thunderfuck over at KOS. Wanna read another MILF by yours truly? Check this out, MILF Fat Tuesday. Using the plant stakes for whole plant support and the "fuzzy sticks" to support axial branches fat with heavy buds works awesome. Well, my esteemed homeskilllets, I'm outty for now but I'll be back soon with another article for you here on SKUNK.

L8r G8rs.  
REv 🌿



3) LUXURIATE LARGE AND UBER STINKY FLOWERS  
4) IT'S CHERRY THUNDERFUCK TIME - YIKES!

**NAME:**  
Cherry Thunderfuck F2

**BREEDER:**  
KOS

**GROWING / BREEDING STYLE:**  
True Living Organics (TLO)

**LINEAGE:**  
Cherry Bomb x Matanuska  
Valley Thunderfuck

**YIELD/SIZE:**  
Decent Yields

**FLOWERING TIME INDOORS:**  
9 to 10 Weeks

**SMELLS:**  
Fruity Sweet, Very Sweet  
Like Good 'n Fruity Candy,  
Background Notes of  
Cream Soda and Cherries

**FLAVORS:**  
So Fruity Sweet It is Almost  
Sickeningly Sweet and Very  
Addictive, Flavor-Wise

**STRETCH:**  
2x

**LIGHTING:**  
MH/LED/T5

**PHOTOPERIODS:**  
Sprouting 16/8 (or 12/12  
for first 10 days), Veg  
18/6, Flowering 12/12

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDI RATIOS:**  
About 80/20 Indica/Sativa,  
Very Indica Dominant

**HARVEST OUTDOORS:**  
2nd Half of October –  
Northern Hemisphere

**GERMINATION RATIO:**  
90%+

**BREEDING STYLE:**  
Regular Seeds – Using Real  
Males – No Selfing, Reversing,  
or Femming Used Anywhere  
in KOS' Breeding Philosophy



10
10

**STRAIN NAME:**  
Smartbomb

**BREEDER:**  
Kingston Herb of Verified Genetics

**HEIGHT:**  
Medium structure

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**  
Gargantuan yields, excellent washer

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**  
9 weeks

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**  
Polyhybrid

**TASTE (BURNED / UNBURNED):**  
Sour, mocha bubba, snappy tart blueberry, creamy kush

**SCENT (BURNED / UNBURNED):**  
Heavy bubba, coffee, creamy, sour, fresh ripe blueberry, kushy funk

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD / CRUMBLD BUD LOOKS LIKE:**  
thick, resinous greasy headed nugglets

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET: RAPID DURATION OF HIGH:**  
lasts for hours

**QUALITY / TYPE OF HIGH:**  
Powerful mind and body effects .... not one for humans with low tolerance

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**  
Great for stress, anxiety, pain, and G.I. issues

10
10

## SMARTBOMB

WORDS & PHOTOS | @KINGSTONHERB

Verified Genetics SmartBomb (GC4 clone only ~ Dr Funkenstein x Pink pheno Bubblegum) was developed with the ultimate goal of creating a heavy resin-yielding washer for all the bubble hashers out there to enjoy. This resulted in one of Verified Genetics' favorite manifestations in 20+ years of breeding cannabis.

The intensity of this mélange of flavors is truly mind-blowing and far greater than I ever could have imagined. Growers of this cultivar can expect the very essence of creamy mocha and bubba with accent notes of freshly picked sour tart blueberries and classic Kush. Selections are vital and Verified Genetics Smartbomb is the perfect example. 🌿



INSTAGRAM

FEELING SOCIAL? FOLLOW FOR MORE INFO!

@KINGSTONHERB

*Humboldt Seed Company Perfects***BLUEBERRY PANCAKES***Recipe - The Making of a Novel Strain*

WORDS | BEN LIND, CO-FOUNDER &amp; CHIEF SCIENCE OFFICER - HUMBOLDT SEED COMPANY

**B**lueberry Pancakes is a sibling of our cult classic Blueberry Muffin, beloved for its uncanny freshly baked blueberry smell. Blueberry Pancakes brings the super sweet syrup and is a fun riff on the popular blueberry theme. Blueberry Muffin is so iconic we wanted to see what other scents we could coax out of it. We decided to go into our seed vault and go back in time to when the original Blueberry Muffin was created over a decade ago when the helicopters were flying, and it was a different era. In the last few years, we have been pushing the envelope and really looking ahead. It was fun to go back and create a strain based on an old classic. We went back to the Purple Panty Dropper/Razzleberry cross that brought that baked muffin scent and focused on this insanely stable line, realizing there was an opportunity to use these foundational genetics (grandparents of Blueberry Muffin) to create something new and fun. We were on the hunt for a new style of blueberry perfume, one that hadn't been smelled before, and we wanted to create something with that scent that provided a pleasant smoking experience and packed a punch.

We took the Purple Panty Dropper, a three-way cross of Purple Haze, Oregon grape, and Matanuskan Mist, and crossed it with Slurricane, which is known for its super coated trichomes and frosty bag of glitter look. Slurricane has a nice berry nose and added that sugary candy punch

we were looking for, yielding the sickeningly sweet syrup terpenes.

When we created the original Blueberry Muffin, we crossed Purple Panty Dropper with Razzleberry, creating an unstable F1 hybrid specifically intended for phenohunting. We then phenohunted that population and found our unicorn, which became the original Blueberry Muffin. We stabilized that genetic, and it's been a favorite for many years. We re-phenohunted that original population, brought in Slurricane, and worked with Wave Rider Nursery in Salinas to look at thousands of plants to come up with Blueberry Pancakes. Drew Carson, the Owner of Wave Rider Nursery, and I have been longtime friends, and we really connect on having a shared extended family history of breeding and growing cannabis. It was such a pleasure to work with them on this scale. They took an existing Orchid growing facility and adapted it to growing cannabis. They kept the same workers from the Orchid business and hired the family that sold them the property to manage it, paying respect to what had come before. We have a lot of respect for them, and this is the kind of vibe we want to foster. We've got Don Carlos and the Slightly Stoopid varieties growing in the greenhouses there, and the chill, Cali surf vibe can really be felt when you spend time with them. That reverence, respect, and surf culture vibe is special. I like to think the plants feel it too.

We found that perfect pheno at Wave Rider that carried through all the frost, the bright green and the purple confetti flaking. Finding unique terpenes and

“special effects” is always our goal, but we are also very conscious of what commercial cultivators need today. We were looking hard for something that catches the eye like this one, adding to the bag appeal, and is a good fit for the modern, ultra-competitive market. We have been working with Wave Rider for years, specifically looking for genetics that perform well in the Salinas Valley area on the California Coast, where humidity and pest pressures are high. Pheno hunting in these coastal environments led to Blueberry Pancakes being mold resistant and easy for both home and commercial growers. It's an approachable strain for newer home growers just starting, and the high yield and bag appeal will satisfy the

commercial operator's benchmarks for cannabis seeds. It has a stalky growth habit with large, wide buds and is relatively fast flowering at 60 days and finishes in Norcal in the first couple of weeks of October. With THC coming in at upwards of 31%, it gives a super heady, strong high. The Razzleberry roots add a sense of comfort to the smoking experience. I've heard it described as a warm hug. The pancake syrup aroma carries through to the smoke. It's an experience. After you smoke it for a few minutes, you can still smell a strong, pleasant, sweet scent lingering in the air. And, if you nibble on a bud, you'll quickly discover that even the flower tastes subtly like blueberry syrup. 🍓



INSTAGRAM

FEELING SOCIAL?  
FOLLOW FOR MORE INFO!

@THEHUMBOLDTSEEDCOMPANY



# SOUR CHEESE BERRY

WORDS | BRANDON RUST

PHOTOS | MARK WOODS @LIFTEDMACRO

**S**our Cheese Berry comes out of my own personal stable, a clone-only variety that was bred in 2013 by myself from much older clones. It is a sour diesel cross taken to UK Cheese and Trainwreck Blueberry, a mix of classic cannabis varieties that bring together a unique terpene and flavor profile with a high that is unlike most varieties currently available on the market! There are not too many plants that have been kept as long as I have this lady.

It's a staple in my garden mostly because of the high cannabinoid levels and terpene profile she expresses. Dominant terpenes are Delta-3-Carene, ocimene, humulene, and camphene. Delta-3 carene is a terpene known for its mentally stimulating and euphoric effect, with a sweet pungent odor of earth musk and pine.

Ocimene is similar to Delta-3-Carene in the fact that it is known to be mentally stimulating and energizing, with a heavy

floral, musky, and woody scent.


Humulene is known to be spicy pepper, herbaceous, and subtly floral, adds a relaxing experience, and can help decrease inflammation and pain.

Camphene is another very pungent terpene that has notes of citronella, camphor and fir, found abundant in Sour Cheese Berry. Its effects are relaxing and slightly sensitive with a THC content ranging between 25 to 29%.

With a terpene percentage between 3.5 and 4.8, this variety is sure to bring soaring highs with unexpected effects. It is highly mentally stimulating but also has a calming body high that leaves you feeling stoned, ready, and relaxed.

When you smell the dried flower, she, like her name, has notes of pungent sour, musky cheese and a sweet floral berry scent. Sour d x UK Cheese x Trainwreck Blueberry, a hybrid with a flowering time of 60-65 days and medium to high yield. 🌿



 **INSTAGRAM**  
 FEELING SOCIAL?  
 FOLLOW FOR MORE INFO!  
 @RUST.BRANDON

**STRAIN NAME:**

Tropicana Cherry

**BREEDER:**

Relentless Genetics

**HEIGHT:**

Medium Stature

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**

Heavy Yielder

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**

Early flower onset with 65-day finish. Super colorful and terped out

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**

60% Sativa / 40% Indica

**TASTE (BURNED AND UNBURNED):**

**BURNED:**  
Dark Roast Cherry Coffee  
**Unburned:**  
Milked up Fruit Loops

**SCENT (BURNED / UNBURNED):**

**Burned:**  
Essence of Incense  
**Unburned:**  
Fruit Loops cereal

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD / CRUMBLD BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

Dark purple with frosty trichomes and dense

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**

Smooth transitional high

**DURATION OF HIGH:**

Strong and long-lasting high

**QUALITY / TYPE OF HIGH:**

Groovin' and Movin'

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**

Welcome to the relaxation station, where your body will melt and regenerate. Be sure to stay hydrated




# TROPICANA CHERRY

WORDS | FARMLIFE PHOTOS | NOEL CATHERINE

After acquiring the clones, we vegged them for about two weeks before flowering for sixty-five days. The bud holds its purple color and doesn't turn after curing. Imagine being at a modern-day Willy Wonka factory, going up and down the aisles in search of the tastiest candy. At last, you've come to a stop where you're staring at a crazy-looking lollipop. It's a purple Rock Candy lollipop. That is what Trop Cherry reminds us of. The trichomes are crystalized, and the bud is extra sticky. 🍬



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# CHOCOLATE OG

WORDS | FRANK T PHOTO | @XENOGROWS



**STRAIN NAME:**  
Chocolate OG (Chocolate Hashberry x OG "X")

**BREEDER:**  
Purple Caper Seeds, available regular and feminized

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**  
High; Yield indoor per 1000 watt 2.75 lbs; Yield Outdoor 2-5 lbs. per plant

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**  
55-65 days

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**  
Hybrid - 80%  
Indica/20% Sativa

**TERPENE PROFILE:**  
Chocolate, Gas, Candy

**SCENT (BURNED / UNBURNED):**  
Strong, sweet, skunky aroma and flavor with undertones of gasoline

**CANNABINOID PROFILE:**  
≤ 28% THC

**QUALITY / TYPE OF HIGH:**  
Blissful, euphoric, long-lasting, lucid, electric, happy, and peaceful head high, calm, and stoned

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**  
This is a combination of 2 California legends. This is a powerhouse and delivers a psychedelic effect with a full-body effect



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## MENDO BISCUITS

WORDS | NATE HEIGHTS PHOTOS | CHRIS ROMAINE, KANDID KUSH @KANDIDKUSH

**M**endo Biscuits is a cross I made in 2022 using the infamous Mendo Crumble clone and my selected Rockers male. The Crumble came to me from my good friend Mendo Mikey Lion, who hunted it from seeds made by CSI Humboldt around 2016. The genetics are GSC(Forum cut) x Mendo Purps reversal. This clone was selected as the outlier of the group for its huge stature, very loud Terps, and 28%+ THC. The Rockers, father of the Mendo Biscuits, is another cross of mine, which is LA Pop Rocks x Green Apple Gas.

Green Apple Gas is a new meets old linkup with one side of the line dating to seeds I made in 2002. This male was selected concurrent with a 21-plant Pheno Hunt of Rockers females in 2022. The females exhibited a

striking consistency in plant structure, color, and timing, with people often mistaking them for clones until they got close enough to see and smell the differences between the flowers themselves. The flowers on Rockers are well built, super resinous, very colorful, and have a range of Terps from Creamy Vanilla Gas to White Wine and Sugary Candy.

I just completed a 16-plant Pheno Hunt of Mendo Biscuits, and pictured here is the #16. She was the last in the row and is a major contender for “Keeper Clone” status. Very low leaf, large, beautiful flowers, very resistant to pathogens, tons of color and nose, and strong resin coverage make this a winner in my book. Keep your eye out for a clone drop of this

strain on the California market in 2024. Anyone interested in genetics or overall questions can contact me on Instagram @higherheightsmendo 🍀



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### BREEDER:

Higher Heights

### HEIGHT:

Vertical growth habit

### YIELD:

Lots of large, heavy flower in a small footprint, 1/2 pound in Dep, 2-5 Outdoor

### FLOWERING TIME:

Most phenos in a Dep are 55-60 days, Outdoor mid-October in Mendo

### SMELL AND TASTE:

Terps and Flavors range from Loud Spicy Perfume and Gas to Candy Shop Grape and Street funk. Both Parents regularly test at 2.5+ Terps with Outdoor Mendo Crumble as high as 7% Terps.

### FLOWERS:

Large and Full, tops like soda cans and side pieces like strawberries. Plenty of color, from purple stripes in grey/green flower up to heavily Purple and Red multicolored expressions. The Resin is the best part, with heavy surface area coverage and large heads.

### GROWTH HABIT:

Plants are strong growers, very vertical in nature, with thick branches to support the large flowers. With good vertical space, they are easy to grow, and the low leaf makes maintenance and processing easy.

### HIGH:

This herb is truly medicinal. It has a powerful relaxing effect, immediate stress relief, and euphoria. It's that chilled-out, freed-up, goofy grin kinda weed, really enjoyable for an evening or weekend smoke when you want to relax. Between the loud flavors and smells and the serious potency, she always has me coming back for more.



**STRAIN NAME:**

Fifty One Fifty

**BREEDER:**

ITAL FOUNDATION

**HEIGHT:**

Dependent on cultivation technique. Outdoors 10-20' Plants

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**

Heavy harvest. Above average yield

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**

10-12 Weeks

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**

Hybrid

**TASTE (BURNED / UNBURNED):**

Sweet Garlic flavor translates well from fresh to smoked flower

**SCENT (BURNED / UNBURNED):**

Girl Scout Cookie Dominant with heavy Garlic Funk

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD / CRUMBLED BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

The kind that you really want to roll up BADD like

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**

Quick onset. Headspace all the way down to your toes

**DURATION OF HIGH:**

Long lasting high

**QUALITY/TYPE OF HIGH:**

Locks ya up and brings ya to a place of deep relaxation

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**

Includes relaxation, pain relief, sleep aid

# FIFTY ONE FIFTY

WORDS | ITAL FOUNDATION PHOTOS | LAURANCE GAINES, HUMBOLDT SUNRISE

**T**he ITAL FOUNDATION consists of ITAL and Mama K. Female: GMO Cookies Male: N15 x Cherry Chem/ Fifty One Fifty consists of GMO

Cookies which is a clone selection made five years ago that I propagated in my commercial nursery from then until today. It originated from a selective breeding program in Mendocino County California, where it was bred for trichome production for hashish. It is a very good commercial hash strain that has proven to wash at 5-7% for Rosin and also sits well on a shelf as flower. The NL5 x Cherry Chem was the

male used in this hybrid which was selected in 2020 for its full body and vigor, and the ability to bring a broader spectrum of terpenes to the GMO cookie clone.

Farmers across the globe from California, Central America, Africa, Europe, Thailand have all had the opportunity to grow out 5150 with fantastic results. It is a visual standout in the garden with its perfect purple and green hues, bright yellow hairs, and fantastic structure. Beyond its visual splendor, 5150 flower boasts remarkable medicinal effects. Its medicinal effects include pain relief and promote heavy relaxation. 🌿



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*Duke Diamond Punched Me, A Tale of the*

# NORTH END PUNCH

WORDS & PHOTOS | JAMES BEAN C.E.O. SEEDSHERENOW.COM

**STRAIN NAME:**

North End Punch

**BREEDER:**

Dominion Seed Company

**HEIGHT:**

2.- 2.5ft finish 4 - 4.5ft

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**

Heavy yield

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**

56-65 Days

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDERALIS / ETC.:**

80% indica 20% sativa

**TASTE (BURNED / UNBURNED):**

Flavor revolves around Chem honey bun on the inhale and lingering pruno wine on the exhale

**SCENT (BURNED / UNBURNED):**

Sweet Chemdog 91, with an underlying citrus punch

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD / CRUMBLED BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

It was as if Frosty the Snowman had visited us, with the buds glistening like fresh snow under the sunlight.

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**

Strong punch to the head buzz

**DURATION OF HIGH:**

Long-lasting

**QUALITY/HIGH:**

Heavy on the exhale and creeps into a sedative euphoric floaty stone. Narcotic slow-motion body effects

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**

Sleep, Anti-anxiety, muscle aches



**T**he North End Punch strain is a unique blend of Hoodoo and Sangria

Punch, two strains that have carved their niche in the world of cannabis. This strain is a testament to the innovative spirit of the Dominion Seed Company. The lineage of North End Punch is a testament to the dedication and expertise of the Breeder Duke Diamond at Dominion Seed Company, who has successfully combined these two strains to create a unique and potent cannabis experience.

The terpene profile of North End Punch is a symphony of flavors, with dominant notes of citrus and berry, courtesy of its Sangria Punch parent. The undertones of earthy pine from the Hoodoo lineage add a grounding element to the mix. Smoking North End Punch is like taking a stroll through a lush forest with the occasional whiff of a distant fruit orchard.

You can always find these strains and more at SeedsHereNow.com, your trusted source for quality cannabis seeds.

**A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH DUKE DIAMOND AND NORTH END PUNCH**

I'm James Bean, with over 13 years of experience in the cannabis industry; I had the privilege of spending a weekend with Duke Diamond at the Dude Grows Show, Growers Cup, the first weekend of June 2023. Duke had jars of his new strain, "North End Punch," on display for all to see. The sight was nothing short of spectacular. People lined up to get a glimpse of the strain, and the color was just unique. It was as if Frosty the Snowman had visited us, with the buds glistening like fresh snow under the sunlight.

**MEET THE BREEDER: DUKE DIAMOND**

Duke Diamond, a Virginia native, has deep roots in the cannabis world. After a court-imposed hiatus, Duke returned to the community, even helping Mr. Soul reboot Brothers Grimm before founding his own seed company, Dominion Seed Co. Duke is renowned for his work with many old heirloom classics like the old Skunk and Afghan lines maintained by those in and around Virginia.

**THE BIRTH OF NORTH END PUNCH**

One of Duke's most notable creations is the North End Punch strain, a unique blend of Hoodoo and Sangria Punch. This strain is a testament to Duke's innovative spirit and meticulous breeding process. The result is a cannabis seed strain that is both unique and potent, offering a smoking experience that is as intriguing as its lineage.

**THE AROMA AND FLAVOR PROFILE OF NORTH END PUNCH**

Regarding the aroma and flavor profile, the North End Punch strain is a symphony of scents. The dominant notes of citrus and berry come from its Sangria Punch strain parent, while the earthy pine undertones from the Hoodoo strain add a grounding element to the mix. Smoking North End Punch strain is akin to a walk through a lush forest with occasional whiffs of a distant fruit orchard.

**THE SMOKING EXPERIENCE**

As for the smoking experience, North End Punch delivers a strong head buzz. The flavor is a delightful mix of Chem honey bun on the inhale and lingering pruno wine on the exhale. The effects are heavy on the exhale and gradually transition into a sedative, euphoric, and floaty stone. It offers narcotic slow-motion body effects that are long-lasting.

**CULTIVATION TIPS**

When growing North End Punch strain, it's important to provide support for the top third of the plant, as the chunky variety can get so heavy it may flop over. This strain thrives with a light to medium feeding regimen and shows no light sensitivity issues. It's not generally fussy and can be grown as a single cola or multi-headed bush. It's also an excellent strain for SCROG (Screen of Green) growing method due to its productive stretch that quickly fills canopy space. 🌿



@THEREALDUKEDIAMOND



*Highly Awarded*

## 818 HEADBAND

WORDS & PHOTOS | JOHN MOTSIS

**T**he 818 Headband, also known as Sour OG, has been my go-to strain for the past nine years. I consider myself incredibly lucky to have grown two elite phenotypes from a single pack of seeds purchased in 2012. This cultivar, bred by Swerve at The Cali Connection Seed Co., has truly been my best medicine and remains my favorite to this day.

For those unfamiliar with its lineage, the 818 Headband is a cross between the original AJ Sour Diesel and the SFV OG Kush IBL male. It is a medium-sized plant that produces beautiful, resinous buds. With a flowering time of 60 to 70 days, it can even be harvested as early as 56 days with the help of UV and solar cure bulbs.

The two phenotypes I have cultivated are distinct from each other. One displays the classic golf ball structure and turns purple, while the other remains shorter and green regardless of light spectrum or temperature. The green phenotype is particularly elusive and offers a potent combination of lemon, skunk, and funk, with hints of anise. The purple phenotype leans more towards a fruit and berry profile, accompanied by a wonderful gas aroma.

Testing at 29% total THC, this strain is incredibly potent and offers a diverse range of cannabinoids, including THCa, CBGa, CBCa,

CBC, THCa, CBT, CBC, CBDA, and CBL. Its cannabinoid profile contributes to its effectiveness as a medicine, providing relaxation, anxiety relief, pain management, and a focused, creative high.

In addition to its cannabinoids, the 818 Headband boasts a dominant limonene terpene profile, along with nerolidol, linalool, b-myrcene, b-caryophyllene, b-pinene, a-pinene, a-humulene, camphene, terpinolene, and bisabolol. These compounds contribute to its relaxing, anxiety-reducing, and motivating effects as well as its analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties.

The 818 Headband has received recognition in the cannabis community, winning the Detroit High Times Medical Cup in 2011. Personally, I have also been honored with nine awards for my two exclusive phenotypes of this strain.

In conclusion, the 818 Headband is a highly sought-after strain, cherished for its potency, unique phenotypes, and therapeutic benefits. Its effects are long-lasting, and even a small amount provides a full therapeutic experience. While it may be too strong for novice or occasional users, it is a valuable medicine for those in need of potent relief. Cultivating this strain has not only improved the quality of my life but also deepened my connection and appreciation for the Earth and all life. 🌿





**STRAIN NAME:**  
Gorilla Zkittlez (autoflower)

**BREEDER:**  
Fastbuds 420

**HEIGHT:**  
4ft

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**  
3oz

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**  
75 days from seed

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**  
Sativa 30%/Indica 70%

**TASTE (BURNED / UNBURNED):**  
Emanates a spiced and woody aroma that develops with each toke into a potent candy-like sweetness.

**SCENT (BURNED / UNBURNED):**  
Candy and gas

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD / CRUMBLD BUD LOOKS LIKE:**  
Perfect little golf ball size nuggets, once broken down, fit perfectly into your grinder.

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**  
Immediately

**DURATION OF HIGH:**  
The strong head high gradually fades away and gives place to a long-lasting narcotic effect that works great for treating symptoms of insomnia and muscle pain, while still leaving you motivated to go through a busy day untroubled. Truly an all-around crowd-pleaser.

**QUALITY/TYPE OF HIGH:**  
Something that will keep you coming back for more

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**  
Insomnia and muscle pain

# GORILLA ZKITTLEZ

*(Autoflower)*

WORDS & PHOTOS | RYAN GAGEBY

**G**orilla Zkittlez Auto is one of the most potent and tastiest autoflowers out there. So, make way for the most flavorful, highest-yielding money maker that delivers nothing less than perfection when it comes to flavors, yields, and quality of resin. Those looking for a potent and long-lasting experience will have an excellent time with our Gorilla Zkittlez Auto. This hybrid combines old-school flavors with

a modern fruity twist, resulting in a unique terpene profile that produces a range of effects. It begins with a strong and uplifting head high that boosts creativity before transitioning into a long-lasting body stone. With up to 27.66% THC, this Indica-dominant hybrid produces highly resinous buds, yielding up to 650 gr/m<sup>2</sup> in just 65 days. It is a

top choice for extractors and hash makers seeking the most potent trichome producers in auto flowering version. 🌿



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# CHERRY KUSH

By Hanzo Gardens

WORDS | KATHERINE WOLF PHOTOS | @TERPHOVA

Noe of Hanzo Gardens out of Eastern Washington has been hitting the PNW with some seriously heavy hash terps for over twenty years. Most recently, he's become known for his Cherry Kush – a cut of Cherry Pie x Durban Poison that was gifted from a friend in the Bay area a little over a year ago.

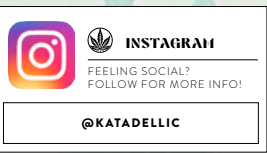
During flower, Cherry Kush grows green with a slight strawberry-red hue and hints of deep purple. Extremely frosty with a “staircase effect” of stacked colas, she dumps for hash at over 4% consistently. Noe fell head over heels for her nostalgic terp profile and super sedative effects, and she’s been a staple in his garden and a winner around the competition circuit ever since.

Cherry Kush rosin took home Captain’s Choice by Mothership Glass ringleader Scott Deppe and Artist’s Choice from JP Toro, the mastermind behind the Terp Slurper, at Legends of Hashish II in LA. She also won sixth place in the Melts category of Melting of the Heads NYC and an award at

the 2022 Mothership Class 4/20 Competition out in Bellingham, Washington.

Opening the jar, it’s not hard to see why hash heads from coast to coast are all about the Cherry Kush. I immediately get hit with an intoxicating aroma of mushroom and gas that Noe says can only be described as “raunchy.” He goes on to tell me, “I was chasing the style of terps that were around my area when I was growing up in Eastern Washington...gas, funk, and that gnarly petroleum jet fuel.” When it comes to first flavor impressions, I personally get a taste reminiscent of amaretto cherries – bitter and earthy with a slight fruity nuttiness. These complex notes combine to create that highly sought-after umami terp that lingers on the tongue long after a dab. I’d say Noe hit the nail on the head with his hunt, finding a pheno with very little sweetness until she’s smoked. While the smell and inhale are all gas no brakes, a bit of that classic doughy pie terp we all know and love does finally come creeping through on the exhale. Truly the cherry on top... 🍷

**GROWN & PROCESSED BY:**  
@hanzo\_gardens





# BAHAMA RUNTZ

WORDS & PHOTOS | KEVIN BLOMBERG

**B**ahama Runtz is a beloved cannabis strain that has taken Chicago by storm. This exceptional well-balanced strain was meticulously crafted by one of the city's top breeders, G.O.A.T GENETICS.

Bahama Runtz is an exquisite 50/50-hybrid cannabis strain that was meticulously crafted using a combination of G.O.A.T's carefully selected Solfire's Bahama Mama (Tropicana Cookies X Black Banana) and ABF's S1 Runtz.

The breeding process involved a thorough hunt to identify the most exceptional phenotype out of 50, which was then transformed into an S1 version for public availability in seed form. To further refine its genetic profile, Bahama Runtz was expertly crossed with a selection of premium strains to create the Bahama Runtz Fem line. The strains included are Glazed Cherry Pie (G.O.A.T GENETICS), Gatorade (LIT), Purée (WOLFPACK), Slurrigan (IN HOUSE), Runtz S1 (ABF), G.O.A.T Cheese (G.O.A.T GENETICS), Gelato 41 (Mr. Sherbinskis), G.O.A.T OG (G.O.A.T GENETICS), Sugar Black Glue (G.O.A.T GENETICS), Cherry Gelato (G.O.A.T GENETICS), and Platinum Gushers (IN HOUSE).

In addition, as an added UIOS collab bonus, Bahama Runtz was also crossed with the PSGX Mag #76 cut in a collaborative effort between G.O.A.T GENETICS and PSGX. This partnership resulted in a unique fusion of high-quality genetic traits from both strains.

The plant takes 9-10 weeks to flower and contains the primary

terpenes limonene, alpha-pinene, linalool, and beta-caryophyllene.

She is easy to grow, has a very high tolerance to stress and pathogens, is very vigorous in veg, and easily doubles in size when switched to flower.

What truly sets Bahama Runtz apart is its captivating aroma and taste. Expect fruity notes reminiscent of tropical flavors enveloped in a gas and sour berries essence.

This delightful combination is a sensory delight that truly elevates the overall experience of consuming this strain.

Bahama Runtz has quickly become a local favorite, captivating enthusiasts with its potent effects and delightful flavor profile. In fact, the strain's incredible potency has raised eyebrows, as it has been tested at an impressive 35.6%. This extraordinary level ensures a deeply relaxing experience and produces a remarkable high that users are drawn to time and time again.

The strain's popularity has transcended national boundaries and reached international acclaim, making its way into grow facilities and dispensaries in Bangkok, Thailand. Its availability in this bustling metropolis has excited cannabis enthusiasts from all walks of life, allowing a global audience to savor the unique experience that Bahama Runtz offers.

G.O.A.T GENETICS' dedication to perfection shines through in Bahama Runtz. This exceptional strain promises an unforgettable experience for cannabis connoisseurs and enthusiasts alike. 🌿

**STRAIN NAME:**

Bahama Runtz

**BREEDER:**

G.O.A.T GENETICS

**HEIGHT:**

tall, stretcher, spaced out nodes with a low leaf-to-bud ratio

**WEIGHT:**

8 out of 10

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**

65 days

**RATIO:**

hybrid, 50% indica, 50% sativa

**SCENT:**

The aroma hits with a mix of sweet fruit and berries with back notes of gassy pineapple, sour pine, mixed fruit, and hops

**TASTE:**

The flavor mostly matches the aroma but with stronger gas, sweet fruit, vanilla, and mixed berries on the inhale and a pungent lightly peppered gas and sour berries on the exhale. The aroma and flavor also carry back notes of a sour citrus that somehow adds to the sweetness.

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD / CRUMBLD BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

The Bahama Runtz buds, sticky to the touch, are olive green, gray, and dark purple and covered with creamy trichomes, creating solid bag appeal

**EFFECTS:**

The effects land smack-dab in the middle, which makes Bahama Runtz extremely suited for patients searching for that true hybrid strain. The uplifting head high is relatively clearheaded, especially early in the buzz, but at heavier doses, the high turns less cerebral and more relaxed. Either way, the head high is not too energetic or lethargic but rather stuck right in the middle of chill mode. The body buzz starts in the core and works its way out until a floating sensation takes over. The body buzz also hits that hybrid middle with strong relaxing effects on the muscles and joints but without that unmotivated or couchlocked feeling. Late in the buzz, especially with multiple doses over hours, both the head high and body buzz become more sedative.



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## PURE BEAUTY GSD

*(Get Shit Done)*

WORDS & PHOTOS | KEVIN JODREY

**T**HC has become a hot topic in the industry, and finally, there are multiple cultivars containing unusually

high levels of this cannabinoid available to the consumer. This review concerns GSD (Get Shit Done), a THC-dominant flower tested at 19% THCV and 9% THC to create a 2:1 high THCV to THC ratio flower, bred by Natural Natural. The producer is Pure Beauty out of Southern California. They focus on indoor production under fluence lighting and a living soil bottom end—all flower hand-watered and trimmed, and the flower I got in the jar reflected that attention to detail.

Jar pop released a nice blast of an odor I can only describe as a warm printer spitting out fresh copies with a spicy moss and eel back note.

The dry hit was mild black licorice; light flavor but crisp aftertaste.

The buds broke up by hand into BB-size bracts, which left a nice greasy sheen on my fingers. The broken-up flower really turned up the printer paper odor.

The burn was excellent. I lit the joint once and didn't need to

light it again. The moisture level was on point, and the ash felt like talcum powder between my fingers.

Interesting flavor. It made me think of an old wooden sea chest opened for the first time in a century. The back notes were bird seed stored in a hot space and fresh grass early in the day.

Smooth all the way to the roach with a fuller-bodied smoke than the smoothness would usually indicate.

The high was fast but not in a typical way, at least not for me. I felt it in my body, but the lower THC levels didn't overly stimulate my mind. I can see why they call it Get Shit Done. Energy to move, but the mind is capable of focus.

The duration was longer than expected: About 90 minutes of stable effects followed by an easy come down with no groggy effects or savage hunger.

The appetite suppression lasted for a few hours for me. It was more of a satiety sensation than no desire to eat. I could eat, but my receptors said you don't need to if you don't want to.

Overall, it is an interesting flower with some great effects produced by a stellar brand that clearly places the focus on the consumers' experience. 🌿



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@PUREBEAUTYPUREBEAUTY



# ROMSCOTTI

*Heavy Hitting Indica Bliss*

WORDS | MEGGEN LEWIS

PHOTOS | JAKE W. - ROMULAN GENETICS

Romulan Genetics set out to create a truly unique cultivar, and they got exactly what they had set their sights on when they made Romscotti. When Romscotti hit the market in April 2023, it debuted as their fastest-selling seeds to date. Every single pack sold-out in less than 24 hours at over a dozen different seed banks. Each one had their stock cleaned out before many folks had a chance to grab any. So, RG set out to make more, and it is finally back in stock in October.

During testing, it was found that even poorly grown Romscotti seeds would result in 40% Cannabinoids, THC in the 35% range, and terpenes testing from 2.5-3+%. When folks found this out prior to its release, the frenzy was already palpable come drop time. Romulan Genetics owner Jake responded by sending flower samples to many luminaries in the industry. People like Rick Campanella from Brothers Grimm Seeds remarked how wonderful Romscotti was. Well-known author and overall Cannabis guru Ed Rosenthal specifically stated Romscotti as one of his favorites of the samples sent to him. Word had spread before the seeds were even available publicly. That is how much people anticipated this very special creation. As you're reading this, Romscotti has already been restocked in October of 2023, and if you're lucky, you can get a few seed packs yourself.

Romscotti has hints of chocolate and coffee with a bit of gasoline while still presenting a bit of

sweetness, delighting those who enjoy earthier flavors and aromas. Romscotti delivers fast-acting effects, full body relaxation, and a euphoric sedation that quickly fills the senses. The smells and tastes are very complex, with the scents slightly easier to interpret. The tastes, however, are so complex it can be difficult to describe them to others accurately. We like to say that Romscotti is an entirely new cannabis taste, like nothing you've had before. Yet it's as familiar as every old-school strain you have ever loved. The rich, complex flavors all blend together into something that is comforting and delicious, reminiscent of the indica strains of the 90s. The notes of coffee, chocolate, earth, spice, sweetness, dough, fruit, and gasoline all form something quite unforgettable and unique in its own right.

As a very easy-to-grow cultivar, expect Romscotti to finish on average at week 9 with a heavy yield. Resistant and resilient, Romscotti can even be knocked out of the park by new growers. Veteran growers will find her very responsive to being pushed even further than testing shows she is capable of. But the smokers and tokers will truly fall in love with Romscotti. It will be one of the most potent strains you have ever had, and the owner Jake practically guarantees it. If couch-locked indica dominance is up your alley, think about adding Romscotti to your garden and grow now. RG seeds tend to sell out quickly, so don't waste your time! 🌿

**STRAIN NAME:**

Romscotti

**BREEDER:**

Jake W. - Romulan Genetics

**HEIGHT:**

Average

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**

Heavy Yields

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**

63 days

**SATIVA / INDICA /  
RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**

90% indica

**TASTE (BURNED  
AND UNBURNED):**

Complex, Chocolate,  
coffee, and gas

**SCENT (BURNED  
/ UNBURNED):**

Sweet, Earthy, Gasoline  
and Chocolate

**WHAT THE DRIED  
BUD / CRUMBLD  
BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

Pure White buds

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**

Immediate Couch lock

**DURATION OF HIGH:**

2-6 hours

**QUALITY/TYPE OF HIGH:**

Extreme, not for beginners

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**

Great for insomnia, pain,  
anxiety, and nerve damage



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# INSANE SEEDS

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**STRAIN NAME:**

Mag #76 aka Mag Landrace  
#76 Magnificent Mile #76

**BREEDER:**

John Dieser is credited online  
and PSGX Justin Lehmann  
is as the S' 76 Selector

**HEIGHT:**

Medium to large indoor  
beast outdoor simple train

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**

Heavy and golf ball chunky

**FLOWERING  
TIME IN DAYS:**

62-69

**SATIVA / INDICA /  
RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**

Landrace indica S'  
clone only selection

**TASTE (BURNED  
AND UNBURNED):**

Hashy earth spice  
fuelish fuelish

**SCENT (BURNED  
/ UNBURNED):**

Pungent earthy chlorine

**WHAT THE DRIED  
BUD/CRUMBLLED  
BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

Bright green high-def resin  
production sugar covered slight  
mauve coloration blended

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**

Heavy quick full body body

**DURATION OF HIGH:**

Long and strong strong

**QUALITY/TYPE OF HIGH:**

It will have you speaking  
ancient proto-Elamite and  
writing in Cuneiform

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**

Narcotic pain med  
with clear high

## MAG LANDRACE #76

WORDS | JUSTIN LEHMANN

PHOTOS | COREY DEAL, JOHN MORENZ, WILLIAM STEPANEK & KEVIN BLOMBERG

**M**ag Landrace #76 aka Magnificent Mile Iranian Landrace is the #76 selection made by Justin Lehmann as Prairie State Genetix out of 300 S<sup>1</sup> seeds. The seeds came from 2019-2020 Ataraxia workers in Illinois as a project to save the Mag they contacted me discreetly. Mag Landrace is probably the most popular strain ever from Illinois. It was only offered by Illinois and Nevada locations.

These seeds were direct from the main cultivation center and off the Magnificent Mile money cut that selfed so seeds were collected, verified, and shipped to me. I could go on and about Illinois and

all the people like Corey Deal of Pekin who helped spread my #76 selection across the U.S and or my selection process or all the work done with it since, but I could never fit it all inside cause the Mag #76 story keeps rolling into collaborations. This cut is a true gem, and she will be kept by people forever in the Midwest! She is one of the finest S<sup>1</sup> selections I ever made, and she keeps getting better & better with age. Mag #76 has telltale signs via Selector that are: The 3way terp stage transitions, heavy chlorine earthy funky smell, high-def bright diamond heads against a green golf ball chunk flower with mauve under stripping on the bottom of her leaves in early flower. All my buddies in Illinois 309 will be excited to see this strain here. 🌿



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# MR. NICE SEEDBANK - CRITICAL MASS

WORDS & PHOTOS | SHANTIBABA

**M**r. Nice Critical Mass has been an exceptionally successful strain used by most established seed companies, growers, and hash makers since its inception in 1998 by Shantibaba/Nevel/Howard Marks. The ultimate breeding team that has contributed so many strains that changed the industry from NL5, Super Silver Haze, White Widow, Mango Haze, Nevel Haze and so many more.

Critical Mass was awarded plant of the year in 2009, but it has been the most influential breeding tool for increasing potency, yield, and flavor to many other hybrids over the past 20 years!

For those cultivators who wish to grow compact large colas or for those who love to do extraction, this is a plant that is hard to find fault with. Easy to grow, fast finishing, fragrant, aromatic, and with a full range of terpenes. It is medical-grade product for those who are looking for a narcotic effect. It is normal to find

plants that finish in 6-8 weeks of flowering and grow to 1.2-1.5 meters if vegged for a week before switching to flowering. It is a big feeding plant and can handle higher levels of EC than many other plants. Its origins come from Afghan and Skunk#1 and every so often really strong and pungent seed plants can be found that remind you of the old-school skunks.

Critical mass is an absolute winner for hash makers. It produces a large quantity of dry sieve resin, and then if you put the rest through the ice-bubble bags and blend these together, you are on to a winner!

In an indoor 10-week cycle, you can expect to crop 650 gr/m2 minimum and some growers have doubled that! Critical mass is for all types of cultivation and suitable for all levels of cultivators, from beginners to advanced.

There are many reviews from growers online to support these stories with many photos available to show you what to expect, but no matter what your experience is, this is a fine strain that will never disappoint you. Available at [www.mrnice.nl](http://www.mrnice.nl)



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**STRAIN NAME:**

Hova Cake

**BREEDER:**

Massive Creations

**HEIGHT:**

Tall

**WEIGHT:**

35 grams of flower per sq. ft.

**FLOWERING TIME:**

60-62 days

**SATIVA / INDICA /  
RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**

Hybrid with sativa

**CHARACTERISTICS:**

Tall, long branches  
and long kolas

**TASTE:**

Smells like cotton candy,  
sweet tarts, and cake with  
a touch of caramel

# MASSIVE CREATIONS' HOVA CAKE

WORDS | SHILOH MASSIVE    PHOTOS | @YUNGVITAL

**H**ova Cake is an exceptional hybrid strain that offers a delightful and distinct flavor experience. Its captivating taste combines notes of caramel, cotton candy, and sweet tarts, resulting in a lovely blend of sweetness and tanginess that is genuinely satisfying. This selection stood out from the f1 generation of seeds due to its impressive size and vigor. The plant's growth is robust, with beautiful, long, slender colas that gain considerable weight as they mature. Additionally, it's highly regarded for its ability to produce large quantities of award-winning hashish. We have seen 6% returns, making it a favorite among growers and hash enthusiasts alike.

Upon inhalation, Hova Cake immediately reveals its sweet and sugary cotton candy flavor, followed

by the delightful tartness of sweet tarts. The earthy undertones of caramel add depth to the overall taste, culminating in a smooth and satisfying finish. Beyond its exceptional flavor profile, Hova Cake is renowned for its potent effects. Its high sets in rapidly, delivering a solid cerebral buzz that energizes and relaxes. It has tested from 34% to 39% THC. This strain is ideal for individuals seeking a surge of creativity or a way to unwind after a long day. For cannabis enthusiasts, Hova Cake is a must-try. Its unique flavor profile and powerful effects make it an outstanding strain bound to impress. You can find Hova Cake flower at these dispensaries throughout California: Perris Farms, Del Rey Farms, Valley Farms, PR Farms,

Coco Farms: Concord, Coco Farms: Antioch, Rio Vista Farms, and VTown Farms. 🌿



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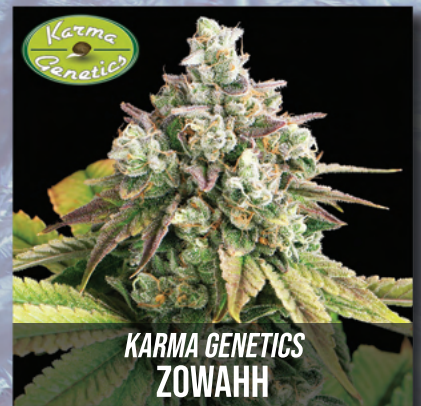
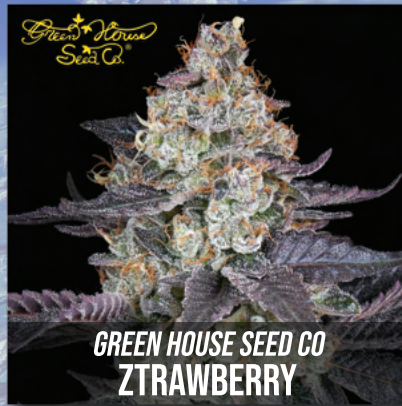
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**GENETICS:**  
(Gelato 33 x Cookies) x  
(Banana OG x Purple Punch)

**TYPE:**  
60% Indica / 40% Sativa

**YIELD:**  
500 - 600 P.S.M

**FLOWERING TIME:**  
7 - 8 Weeks

**FLAVOR:**  
Sweet, Creamy, Banana, Candy

**EFFECT:**  
Physically and  
Mentally Relaxing

## G13 LABS SEEDS BANANA LATTE

WORDS | ATTITUDE SEEDBANK

PHOTOS | G13 LABS SEEDS

A delightful blend of Gelato 33 x Cookies and Banana OG x Purple Punch. She is very appealing, resinous, potent, and full of flavor. Banana Latte matures in only 7-8 weeks, turning into an impressive plant with unique structures and very dense resin-covered buds. As expected from her name the flavors are creamy and sweet, with notes of banana and candies. Not only is it one of the most enjoyable smoking experiences you can have but also very powerful; one flavorful puff will take you to a blissful state that will last for hours.

In terms of cultivation, the plants from Banana Latte seeds need only around 7 - 8 weeks to mature, which is quite impressive for a photoperiod strain. After this period, you can expect beautiful plants with unique structures and lots of extremely dense buds with high resin content, making it a favorite among extractors. Furthermore, growing Banana Latte is an easy process. She is resistant to extreme and harsh growing conditions, therefore, she's an excellent strain for novices looking to start their journey in cultivating cannabis. No doubt, every grower will achieve spectacular results with minimum effort. 🌿



@G13LABS



**STRAIN NAME:**  
Black Bubblegum

**BREEDER:**  
Xeno Seed Company

**HEIGHT:**  
Above average

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**  
Huge!

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**  
56-63

**SATIVA / INDIC / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**  
75% Indica/25% Sativa

**TASTE:**  
Smooth, rich candy gas with a creamy backend

**SCENT:**  
Bubblegum, grape, cherry, creamy gas

**DURATION OF HIGH:**  
3+ hours

**QUALITY/TYPE OF HIGH:**  
Euphoric, incredible relaxation both physical and mental

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**  
Perfect for stress and pain relief, smile-inducing

# BLACK BUBBLEGUM

WORDS & PHOTOS | XENO SEED COMPANY

**C**andy, cream, cherry, and pineapple collide with a dank, mouth-coating gas to form the flavor profile of Black Bubblegum. A cross between Spritzer and Horchata, she combines a multitude of stellar traits into a champion. We at Xeno Seed Company found incredible color throughout these plants, turning very dark purple and black. The yields and vigor in this line are apparent both indoors and out. Black Bubblegum is a workhorse for the farmer, with smashing yields, perfect structure, and easy-to-trim buds. The nose is a mix of the grape bubblegum terp of the Spritzer and the creamy gas from the Horchata, creating a rich and layered terpene experience.

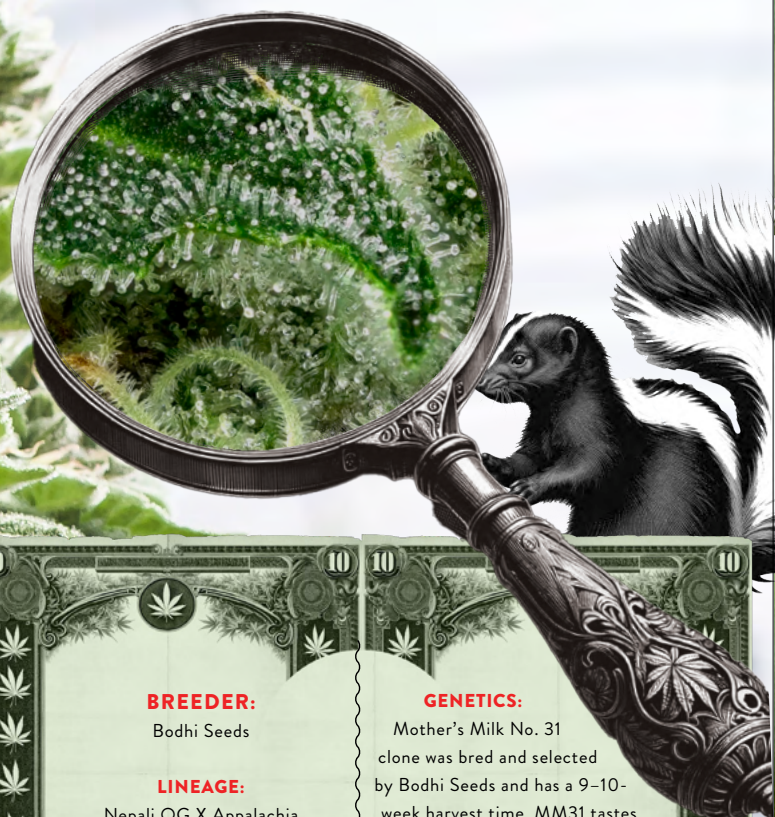
Black Bubblegum is a joy to smoke, thick and heavy but very smooth with amazing candy gas flavor. The high is immediate and potent with a strong body

effect that leaves you relaxed and satisfied. This strain is perfect for those who need pain relief, stress relief, or just want to get high and kick back. During a 30-plant pheno-hunt of Black Bubblegum we discovered incredible vigor and resilience in this line. She grows fast and yields high with an amazing flower-to-leaf ratio that makes her a joy to grow, trim, and smoke. Her uniformity is impressive, every single phenotype turned purple with great candy flavor and huge yields. This is a commercial cultivator's dream.

After selling out upon initial release, #18 was selected for reversal to father the Black Bubblegum seed line. We are pollinating the best of the pheno-hunt to make a variety of F2's. We are also pollinating elite clones both old and new for some powerful new hybrids. The Black Bubblegum genotype displays incredible strength and consistency. Unparalleled quality. 🌿



**@XENOGROWS**



## MOTHER'S MILK NO.31

WORDS | DANIEL HENDRICKS PHOTOS | HENDRX

Over the decades as a cannabis grower, we have all wondered where these magnificent dried flowers end up and who blows the ashes. Similarly, with cannabis clones, we rarely know their full history or path. It is only because of legalization we were able to learn about the MM31 history. Bred by @plantmoreseds, and preserved with care by Eva and Ryan with @radioridgenursery in Santa Cruz, the Mother's Milk No. 31 traveled to the Emerald Cup in 2017 and was purchased by our folks at Three Creeks Farms. Gifted to @hendrxfarm / @hendrxfarmers, clones were propagated and given to the potstar @Sovereign\_707 who claimed Best Sativa in the High Times Cup Santa Rosa and Sacramento back-to-back. Mother's Milk No. 31 is an abundant producer, a unique and thoughtful cultivar that has and will bring people together from worlds apart. 🌿

### BREEDER:

Bodhi Seeds

### LINEAGE:

Nepali OG X Appalachia

### TERPENES:

$\beta$ -caryophyllene,  $\beta$ -myrcene, d-limonene, a-humulene, a-bisabolol, Linalool, b-Pinene, a-Pinene

### THC:

22-36%

### HARVEST TIME:

60-65 Days

### OUTDOOR:

Mid to Late October

### FLAVORS / AROMAS:

Butter, Cheese, Grapefruit, Vanilla

### COLORS:

Yellow, Orange, Green

### EFFECT:

Enhanced relaxation, concentration, heightened sense perception, cognitive benefit, sociability

### CLASSIFICATION:

70% Sativa 30% Indica

### GROWTH:

Healthy green, Strength, Wide internodal spacing

### YIELD:

High

### GENETICS:

Mother's Milk No. 31 clone was bred and selected by Bodhi Seeds and has a 9-10-week harvest time. MM31 tastes and smells of powdered milk and creamy gas with excellent bag appeal. It grows strong and sturdy with an above-average height and a high yield. Mother's Milk No. 31 is a prolific clone for traditional hashists following ancient methods to produce charas and those who have followed, like the late great Frenchy Cannoli. Plant the MM31 with early morning sun exposed to mother nature, or perhaps open beds with room to branch out and reach for high ceilings. Mother's Milk No. 31 genetic relationship was mapped by Phylos to what was claimed to be various open-source cannabis genetics. Though little was achieved concerning "open source," more information may be gleaned from the Mother's Milk genetic report and arguably a more trusted source, the Medicinal Genomics Kannopedia report.

### CANNABINOID PROFILE:

This clone produces flowers with pungent fuel and lemon aromas. MM31 is potent with a head and body high. Certificate of analysis cannabinoid reports topple over 30-36% THC, fortifying commercial purpose as a work of modern art. The cross of Nepali OG and now retired Appalachia. Mother's Milk 31 has a creamy taste and finish. Add Mother's Milk No. 31 clone as a world-class cannabis genetic line.



# FIFI

WORDS & PHOTOS | BLACK SHEEP

I chose to show the stud we selected; far too many times, males go overlooked and are a sight unseen. Purple and red, his crab claws are covered with glistening trichome barnacles. He is a true marvel of the expression that this sacred plant is capable of.

So as the story goes, FiFi showed up in my patch two years ago. I had a hunch that a skunk had sprayed my patch. Come to find out, it was one of the danky, stanky ladies. My nose had led me straight to the source. We came to name her Pepé Lew Pew (Rain Bird x NL5) a jump out skunk phenotype. Moreover, this year we evolved the cross and tossed Jelly Roll into the mix to create a one-of-a-kind skunksation.

Out the shell, FiFi was quite a sight to see. Behold, her fur is a mix of purple and white instead of the traditional green skunk you're used to seeing. Our stud mixed in the purple hue of the Rain Bird and the pink pistils of the Jelly Roll to create a stunning combination.

We hunted over 100 seedlings, and he was the skunkiest standout I decided to select. With a stroke of luck and the help of the sun, moon, and stars, he graced our flock.

FiFi is my gift for the people to bring back the lost skunk genetics many seek. After two years of hard work, we finally created a skunk strain that is ready to take back its rightful place & make its mark on the world. Get ready to see a lot more FiFi crosses. We're working together with other farmers, bringing skunky funk back—black sheep out. 🐺

**STRAIN NAME:**

FiFi

**BREEDER:**

Black Sheep Genetics

**HEIGHT:**

3-20ft

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**

High

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**

60

**SATIVA / INDICA / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**

Indica-dominant hybrid (65% indica and 35% sativa)

**TASTE (BURNED AND UNBURNED):**

Sweet and citrusy in flavor and tangy in aroma

**SCENT (BURNED / UNBURNED):**

A combination of pungent, skunk, and tar aromas that give it a classic "skunky" flavor profile. Skunky and earthy with underlying notes of citrus and spice.

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD / CRUMBLIED BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

Purple and Pink melted on top of Neon Green. A salad mix of pink and purple with a pile of twinkling crystals buried underneath the treasure.

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**

Fast

**DURATION OF HIGH:**

Get ready to hit cruise control and ride, you're going on a trip

**QUALITY/TYPE OF HIGH:**

Skunk #1 also provides deep-body relaxation. The head high is energetic and creative, while the body high is peaceful and soothing.

# 1980



## 1980 (FEM)

HAPPY PLACE R1 X NORTHERN LIGHTS R1

YIELD: ABOVE AVERAGE/BIG

FLOWER PERIOD: 49-60 DAYS

PLANT SIZE: SHORT/MEDIUM

A PERFECT BLEND OF OLD SCHOOL AND NEW SCHOOL CREATED 1980. SHE TAKES YOU BACK TO BETTER TIMES WHEN THINGS SEEMED A LITTLE SIMPLER. SHE'S SUPER TERPY, EASY TO GROW AND REWARDS YOU WITH AN AMAZING YIELD.



DESTINY  
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STEP INTO A TIME CAPSULE AND EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF 1980. THIS EXCEPTIONAL STRAIN IS A PERFECT FUSION OF OLD SCHOOL CHARM AND MODERN EXCELLENCE. JUST LIKE STEPPING BACK INTO A SIMPLER ERA, 1980 BRINGS A NOSTALGIC TOUCH TO YOUR CANNABIS COLLECTION.

ONE OF THE STANDOUT QUALITIES OF 1980 IS ITS INCREDIBLE TERPENE PROFILE, CREATING AN AROMATIC JOURNEY THAT WILL TRANSPORT YOU STRAIGHT TO THE PAST. WITH ITS DELIGHTFUL FLAVORS AND FRAGRANCES, THIS STRAIN TRULY CAPTURES THE ESSENCE OF A BYGONE ERA.

NOT ONLY IS 1980 A JOY TO CULTIVATE, BUT IT ALSO REWARDS GROWERS WITH AN IMPRESSIVE YIELD. ITS EASY-TO-GROW NATURE MAKES IT SUITABLE FOR CULTIVATORS OF ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS. WHETHER YOU'RE A SEASONED PRO OR JUST STARTING OUT, THIS STRAIN WILL THRIVE UNDER YOUR CARE.

SO WHY NOT EMBRACE THE ALLURE OF THE PAST WITH 1980? LET THIS STRAIN TAKE YOU ON A JOURNEY TO A TIME WHEN THINGS SEEMED SIMPLER, AND ENJOY THE BOUNTIFUL HARVEST IT OFFERS.



## THE BRUNCH S1

WORDS & PHOTOS | JP - DIRTY BIRD GENETICS

**T**he Brunch s1 is a feminized reversal of one of our keeper F1 Brunch mothers (Peanut Butter Breath by Thug Pug crossed with a Mimosa male from Symbiotic), which we called the “apple pheno” (#8) due to its pleasantly unique apple terpene profile. It is a perfect medium-sized plant with notable stability for its generation. It isn’t too bushy, it isn’t too stretchy, but it is very vigorous. Most notably, The Brunch has one of the most pleasant effects we’ve ever encountered. It is as perfect for a night in with friends (the TV show or your people) as it is for a high-intensity meeting at the office. We experience no anxiety with this sativa-leaning hybrid and find it to be social, comfortable, and easygoing. It is also an incredible appetite stimulant, making you want to eat a million brunches!

The Brunch was the star of our outdoor gardens last year and finished late September in our northeastern climate. It’s an equally suitable candidate for your outdoor garden for your indoor boutique grow. Her bag appeal is astounding. 🌿

**STRAIN NAME:**

The Brunch S1

**BREEDER:**

Dirty Bird Genetics

**HEIGHT:**

Average

**WEIGHT (YIELD):**

Medium/High

**FLOWERING TIME IN DAYS:**

55-65 Days

**SATIVA / INDIC / RUDERALIS / ETC. RATIO:**

Sativa Hybrid

**TASTE (BURNED AND UNBURNED):**

Appley, Earthy, Fruity

**SCENT (BURNED/ UNBURNED):**

Apples, Sweet, Limonene, Caryophyllene, and Pinene

**WHAT THE DRIED BUD/CRUMBLED BUD LOOKS LIKE:**

Vibrant purple and magenta to neon green with striking orange pistils, dripping with trichomes that crumble like sugar powder to the touch

**SPEED OF HIGH ONSET:**

Rapid

**DURATION OF HIGH:**

Several hours

**QUALITY/TYPE OF HIGH:**

It’s hard to overstate how much we collectively love the effect of the Brunch. It is one of our all-time favorite flowers for social and daytime use. Zero anxiety and a very happy, comfortable, creative, and social effect. In our minds, a perfect sativa and a great appetite stimulant to boot.

**MEDICINAL QUALITIES:**

Appetite stimulating, anxiety relief

# SUNDAE THUMPER

*Mephisto Genetics Newest Artisanal Strain*

WORDS | MITCH AND BRAD FROM MEPHISTO GENETICS

PHOTOS | JIMBO@MEPHISTO

## INDICA/SATIVA:

50/50

## FILTERING (SATIVA NUMBER):

50

## CYCLE TIME (X TO X DAYS FROM SPROUT)

70 to 85 days from sprout

## SIZE (X TO X CM):

85 to 100+cm (about  
33 - 40 inches)

## SIZE CATEGORY:

Medium

## YIELD (X TO X GRAMS):

80 to 140 grams

## AROMA AND FLAVOR:

Sweetness, cream with  
artificial grape. Lemons and  
fuel. Smooth and sweet.

## EFFECT:

Starts as a more heady  
hybrid before settling into a  
relaxing body high. Calming  
and sleep-inducing

## MEDICINAL EFFECT:

Great for insomnia and  
appetite stimulation.

## REFERENCED STRAIN COLLECTION:

Artisanals

## RELATED STRAINS:

Forum Stomper, Iced  
'n' Baked, Mephisto's  
Wedding, Sour Stomper

**S**undae Thumper is the second installation in our Gelauto series, after our first foray in Iced 'n' Baked (Gelato #41). Gelato #45 (AKA Michael Jordan) is a less common phenotype than the wildly popular #41 (Bacio) (parent strain to our Iced 'n' Baked) but is no less of a slam dunk strain. She sports the characteristic rock-hard flowers the size of golf balls and has strong ice-creamy aromas, with hints of lemon and gasoline that will take you on a magical mystery tour through our Mephisto ice cream parlor of delights.

To produce Sundae Thumper, we pollinated an S1 selection of Gelauto #45 with a special Forum Stomper pollen donor. During the beginning of this breeding project, we also pollinated several other popular Cookie, Sherbert, and Gelato-derived clones to progeny test, but after running the F1 generation of these crosses, it was very apparent that the Gelato #45 x Forum Stomper was by far the most unique and true to its clonal parent. From several hundred F1 individuals, we selected just eight that carried the characteristic aromas most like Gelato #45 and intercrossed them to advance the project. From the F2 generation, we germinated approximately 800 F2 seeds and selected 4 of our favorite donors and 8 of our favorite receivers. After screening the F3 populations, we chose our two favorites to intercross for F4 seed production. We focused on capturing the classic aroma and flower morphology of Gelato #45 but wanted to make sure to include individuals that contained notes of the Forum Stomper's mouth-coating grape undertones.

Sundae Thumper stands out as a worthy addition to our catalog

and our Gelauto series, offering sweeter notes on the palate and a more beginner-friendly plant to contend with. It acts as a magnificent strain for anyone, either a seasoned autoflower grower or a newbie taking their first steps into the world of elite automatics.

## STRAIN BEHAVIOR AND STRUCTURE

Sundae Thumper grows vigorously from the get-go and greatly benefits from selective leaf tucking; opening her up and allowing light to reach her innards will result in a low apical dominance plant, or easier to say



she'll bush out in a lovely way for you with an overall even canopy and give the potential to produce many mid-sized colas of supremely nice nuggetty equating to a high yield potential relative to her size.

Greaze-mode is switched up to 11 for this girl; trichomes are produced in abundance from early flower. As she stacks her golf ball buds, she doesn't turn it off.

Her branching and bushy stature are generally pretty sturdy, but she may require some support later in flower as her glorious crowns of buds get significantly top-heavier.

Another wondrous factor in Sundae Thumper is her appearance; as she transitions from mid to late

flower, she puts on a total color show, commonly creating a beautiful palette mixing purple, pink, green, and anything pretty in between.

Her flowers are routinely very dense in structure and super oily, and she is a great candidate for pressing. Her flowers reek, and the common notes are predominantly of lemon peel, ice creamy to sweet candy with additions of more subtle hints of artificial grape flavoring and jasmine perfume.

Sundae Thumper will not fuck you in the game of canna-monopoly; you will never draw the Do Not Pass Go, Go Straight to Trim Jail card as she

has a really low leaf-to-flower ratio and makes harvesting as pleasurable as it can be.

Even more delightful notes can be expressed from Sundae Thumper during cure. There's peach to be found in her too.

From our own in-house and community testing, she has proved a very easy grower, with no inherent sensitivities to nitrogen, unlike her Mephisto Gelauto sister Iced 'n' Baked, which you have to tiptoe around nutrients with.

Sundae Thumper is the second installation in our Gelauto series, after our first

foray in Iced 'n' Baked (Gelato #41). She sports the characteristic rock-hard flowers the size of golf balls and has strong, creamy aromas with hints of lemon and gasoline. Sundae Thumper stands out as a worthy addition to our catalog and our Gelauto series, offering sweeter notes on the palate and a more beginner-friendly plant to contend with. It is a magnificent strain for anyone, either a seasoned autoflower grower or a newbie taking their first steps into the world of elite automatics.

Please check us out on social media: Instagram: @\_mephistogenetics  
reddit: r/MephHeads



# BEARD BROS PHARMS

THE MSB THAT EVERY MSO WANTS TO BE

WORDS & PHOTOS | STEVE GOLDNER, CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER, BEARD BROS

Legacy California cannabis culture was about intent. Intent to provide amazing cannabis genetics and cultivation. Intent to provide cannabis consumers a safe, all-natural relief from medical conditions or a recreational uplift from life's daily challenges.

An intent to do right by the plant and by the people who share your love for it.

This was the motivation for Beard Bros Pharms co-founders Bill and Jeff Levers to migrate to California and participate in the legal cannabis industry.

However, not everyone who pivoted their careers to the newly regulated cannabis industry did so with the same honorable intent. Many saw this as a new Green Rush of potential profit instead of the long-awaited and much-needed Green Renaissance of the plant and the culture at her roots.

## MSO VS. MSB: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Most people in the cannabis industry know what an MSO is – a Multi-State Operator - but for many outside the industry, this is new terminology.

As the term suggests, a multi-state operator (MSO) is a cannabis business that obtains the required licensing and permits to operate in more than one state at a time. While many self-funded Legacy operators struggle to stake a claim in their home state due to the incredibly high costs to do so, MSOs are deeply funded and even sometimes publicly traded corporations.

Most MSOs gain presence in multiple states by acquiring underperforming brands for cents on the dollar - this is called corporate raiding in any other industry. By stacking various license types, they often run multiple brands under a corporate structure and (try) to focus on operational efficiency and leveraging financial savings by cost-cutting what they see as redundant functions and employees. They often run on a "loss-leader" mentality, banking on their ability to bleed financially longer than their competition, buttressing their damning quarterly reports by laying off a couple of dozen employees or running another round of funding.

If that sounds like stuff that makes weed un-fun, you're right; for MSOs, it is strictly business.

So, what is an MSB, and what is the difference between the two?

MSB stands for Multi-State Brand, and while MSOs and MSBs both aim to push their products in more than one state at a time, the similarities end there.

For a perfect blueprint of how to become an MSB, look no further than Beard Bros Pharms. Based in California, this self-built Legacy brand relies on no board of directors or financial benefactors to produce its highly sought-after RSO products. Instead, they have built their brand the old-fashioned way by refusing to sacrifice their authenticity or the quality of the products they craft, pairing their presence in cannabis media with proven grassroots marketing strategies.



By building their business on a target audience that naturally vibes with the brand's belief system and values, Beard Bros Pharms has earned respect from connoisseurs coast to coast and even worldwide, translating into demand for their products once they become available.

Compare that to MSOs, which are driven solely by the bottom lines of spreadsheets outlining operational efficiency and financial leveraging. Is it any wonder they only produce mids?

The Beard Bros Blueprint to becoming a successful MSB is to remain consumer/patient focused first (i.e., if you wouldn't smoke it, eat it, or rub



it on your skin, don't sell it!). By putting INTENT back into the business plan, a brand's ability to connect with a community will invariably lead to financial success.

This can feel like a slow process, but if you are looking to provide your products to as many people as possible, the alternative is the MSO model, which has yet to be proven profitable.

The real bottom line is this: Cannabis patients and consumers don't care about operational efficiency and financial leveraging. They care about optimizing their lives, they care about the quality of the products that support them in that goal, and they want to know that the companies that they choose have some damn 'tegrity.

Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong morals and principles. Ask any seasoned weed farmer, and they will tell you that the cannabis plant uptakes all the good and all the bad from the environment in which it is grown. A strictly corporate mentality will lead to a corporate grow and a flood of corporate boof flooding the market. We are watching it happen, and we are watching them fail.

Most MSOs treat cannabis like a commodity, a widget, a numbers game.

Most MSBs, on the other hand, treat cannabis as a valued and rejuvenating plant that their target audience will use on their personal path to wellness.

### BEARD BROS FARMS – THE GRASSROOTS MSB BLAZING A NEW TRAIL IN CANNABIS

Beard Bros is a trusted brand built on the personal and professional values of its co-founders, Bill and Jeff Levers. They are both legacy and contemporary cannabis cultivators, manufacturers, and entrepreneurs.

As well-rooted thought leaders throughout cannabis culture, the Bros are highly respected for their knowledge, education, mentoring, extensive media coverage, authenticity, and willingness to help others without consideration of personal/professional benefit.



**“FOR A PERFECT BLUEPRINT OF HOW TO BECOME AN MSB, LOOK NO FURTHER THAN BEARD BROS PHARMS. BASED IN CALIFORNIA, THIS SELF-BUILT LEGACY BRAND RELIES ON NO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR FINANCIAL BENEFACTORS TO PRODUCE ITS HIGHLY SOUGHT-AFTER RSO PRODUCTS. INSTEAD, THEY HAVE BUILT THEIR BRAND THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY BY REFUSING TO SACRIFICE THEIR OWN AUTHENTICITY OR THE QUALITY OF THE PRODUCTS THEY CRAFT AND INSTEAD PAIRING THEIR PRESENCE IN CANNABIS MEDIA WITH PROVEN GRASSROOTS MARKETING STRATEGIES.”**

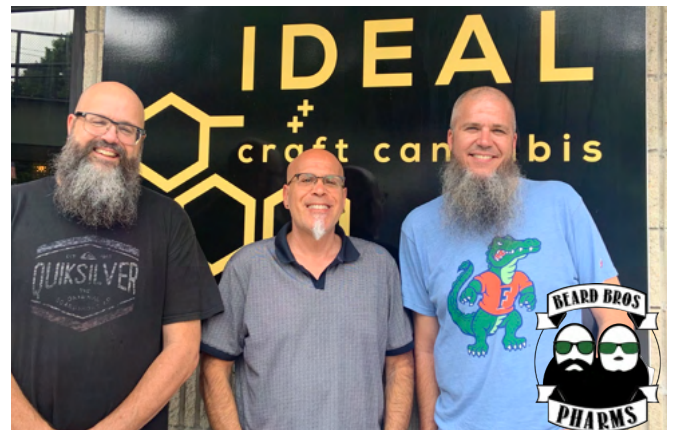
The Beard Bros core mission and driving commitments are:

1. Delivering safe and highest-quality cannabis products to medical patients and consumers.
2. Complete integrity in all business aspects such that our entire circle of stakeholders (which includes patients/consumers, business partners and supporting companies, Beard Bros employees, and the cannabis industry as a whole) are treated fairly, morally, and respectfully with a keen focus on increasing quality of life for all.
3. Continued help and support for communities that are underserved, including those affected by the war on drugs, those serving time for non-violent felony drug charges, military veterans, and patients who cannot afford all-natural

solutions that relieve their medical symptoms.

This commitment shines through on every golden batch of cannabinoid-rich RSO that they produce and is the reason why the Beard Bros' expansion into a multi-state brand - and perhaps soon as an MNB, or multi-nation brand - has begun.

Beard Bros products have been available in California's adult-use recreational cannabis market for years, gaining popularity and changing lives for the better. Their best-selling RSO is now available in Massachusetts in partnership with Ideal Craft Cannabis.



Additional products such as Beard Bros Pharms tinctures and gel caps will be available soon in this emerging market, and the great state of Missouri is up next! Beard Bros Pharms is even in negotiations with a potential partner in Canada that would provide distribution of Beard Bros products nationwide to our neighbors in the north.

As the federal government here in the U.S. begins to relax its stance on regulated cannabis, and as more states sensibly revise their own cannabis regulations, look for the emergence of more multi-state brands like Beard Bros Pharms that focus on demonstrating their values and integrity to drive consumer/patient demand to finally see some financial success. 🍀



# TAKING THE HIGH ROAD

## A WHIMSICAL GUIDE THRU THE SUPERPOWERS OF CANNABIS

WORDS | MA SHERRY GLASER

ART | BRANDON PALMA / 8THDAYCREATE.COM

**G**etting High, yes, that’s the goal: To rise above the maddening crowd, looking at life from a loftier point of view. Upon smoking or eating, the sacred green herb releases inhibitions and lets us experience the absurd nature of life and play on! Yeah. We want to tell our truth, laugh, dance, sing, fuck, cat, or jump in a river. Sometimes, it’s emotionally scary and sad, but those emotions were just looking for an outlet. Herb is the relief valve. Ganja is an elevator going up when I’ve been in the basement all day. Lest we forget, because we are too busy, booked, and broke to enjoy her blissed ways, cannabis can be the antidote, the remedy for what ails us all.

I’ll spend my time in this column sharing the benefits, the stories, the wisdom, and the essential oils of the Mother Plant, the

feminine in all her glory. There are so many topics she touches on, and I’m here to translate her high vibrations for you.

As “Recreational” hijacks the stage thanks to bilious billionaire corporate conquerors, they are still clueless when it comes to the medical benefits of Hemp and Cannabis. I’ve seen IBS cured; I’ve seen chemo nausea recede. I’ve seen cancer go into remission. I’ve seen depression lift and Bipolar conditions find balance.

Who am I? Ma Sherry Glaser. I’m legendary because I have barreled through barricades to create mischief and curiosity. I opened the first Medical Cannabis dispensary, LOVE IN IT, with my then-wife, Sheba Love, in the Village of Mendocino on Valentine’s Day 2011.

Obama was Prez, and we felt like the coast was clear. It was time to come



out of another closet. We were already legally married dykes, but our budding abundance remained secret, underground. It was time. We found a storefront in Mendocino. We got a lawyer, the infamous freedom fighter Matt Kumin, to legitimize us through rigorous cooperative paperwork even still, he warned us, it's still illegal federally, "no matter what." We chose to pay taxes, too. We even got a credit card machine, unheard of in those early days. (Only a .25 cent surcharge). Yes, we were legends breaking through the Grass Ceiling. Those tales of the "Grey Area" and the Wild West will razzle and dazzle you, too.

I'm also a published author and comedian. I have written five complete one-woman shows – all comedies with a healthy splash of tears. My solo show about my life as a potwife was called Taking the High Road, Comic Confessions from Behind the Cannabis Curtain. It made audiences laugh and cry. What's better than laughing through your tears or vice versa? I believe the cannabis industry has lost its sense of humor, and that's a huge advantage of using the plant. Still, all the movies about our lives are crazy, dangerous, and violent. Drama. That's true but disregards the #1 benefit of smoking a joint: Joy. I'd like to offer more of that element.

I know there's pain, especially economically and politically. Folks still in prison for simple possession haunt the legal market

**"I KNOW THERE'S PAIN, ESPECIALLY ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY. FOLKS STILL IN PRISON FOR SIMPLE POSSESSION HAUNT THE LEGAL MARKET IN THIS COUNTRY. IN MENDOCINO, WE GRIEVE THE UNNECESSARY AND CLUMSY LOSS OF OUR GOLDEN GOOSE, OUR SACRED INDUSTRY THAT WE ORGANIZED AND EXECUTED EFFICIENTLY FOR MODEST PROFITS."**

in this country. In Mendocino, we grieve the unnecessary and clumsy loss of our golden goose, our sacred industry that we organized and executed efficiently for modest profits. And then the Damn Mendo B.O.S. shut it down with massive regulations, permits, and costs. Oh, the farmers we lost. The legacy, the old women in the hills bringing us the finest handmade butter and goo, too. The old ones in Albion holed up in their grow rooms, tending and regulating temp, humidity, fungus, mites, and water, singing to the girls to become those leggy sour diesels. Oh, those Dank Mendo purps, Sour D, epic Durban Poison, and, of course, our beloved Blue Dream.

I have stories I'd like to leave you with because I'm an old witch now. And it's time to lay my stories down on a page, a hard copy on paper, like in a magazine. It's the real thing, and it's yours. So, thanks for picking up Skunk, and thanks to Julie Chiariello, my Hero and modern iconoclast, one who slays dragons and smashes false gods. She's

Kali, Editor in chief and I humbly serve here as a cannabis advocate, ally, activist, abolitionista, and old auntie delivering the good news, and that is: Cannabis and Hemp may not save the world, but they can make it a whole lot better. I'll explore that kaleidoscope in this column, Taking the High Road, because it's got the best view. 🍄



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# MOONSPIRED: CIRCLES AND CYCLES

WORDS | LAURA CLEIN    ART | BRANDON PALMA / 8THDAYCREATE.COM

**T**here are many natural cycles, individually and as integrated systems that we can learn to use to our advantage. One of them that is extremely important to all on Earth is our moon. More ancient than astrology, more universally recognized by the world’s seasonal and spiritual pathways, is the cycle of the moon.

The sun shows us the four seasons. The moon is akin to a month. And they work in tandem while orbiting our planet, each casting their magic in their own circular pattern. The sun, moon, and stars are important to Earth’s indigenous cultures and contemporary religions. Fisherman and farmers, butterflies and frogs, hunters and gatherers, and many other walks of life are guided by the moon.

All that flows moves with the moon. Humans and all the inhabitants on our planet are made up mostly of water. Our world itself had more water than land covering its surface. The moon pulls on the tides, the weather, and all the currents of the field of fluids... including influencing the waves and energetic rhythms, mood swings of the mind, swelling of the body, and more. Our behaviors and emotions can be attributed, at least in part, to the moon.

Liquid life force is the elixir. When it comes to watery elements of our world, neither too much nor too little is beneficial, as we know clearly from recent droughts, excessive rains, and floods. We can each learn to manage the equilibrium within our own nervous system in tumultuous times.

One method is by making it part of our regular practices to seek balance with the ebb and flow of the moon cycles. This requires continuous adjustments. Consider it fine-tuning, strengthening a sort of muscle memory for homeostasis.

Celestial bodies impact our bodies. The sun and moon are Earth’s guides to natural time. Plants and animals follow them religiously as if they’re hands on a clock. We should consider the fact that we follow this

instinctual tradition as well. Humans have been aware of solar and lunar cycles for as long as we have recorded history and surely long before that. Let’s try to re-learn how to sync ourselves with these universal cycles.

On our California equity-licensed small farm, our tagline, “Martyjuana™: Plants by the moon with sun soil & soul,” is not just a marketing strategy; it’s how we choose to live our lives. And it’s how we gauge when to plant, as well as chores like feeding and pruning when to harvest, and so on. We are third-party SUN+EARTH certified, which is like saying we are growing beyond “USDA organic” standards. We have seen firsthand how to embrace the magic that existence offers when we align our lives to the sun and moon cycles.

When we first moved from South Florida to northern California twenty years ago, we experienced seasons in ways that had been unavailable to us in the tropics. That’s about the same time we literally dug in to learn all we could about the ideology of permaculture as well as regenerative and biodynamic agriculture, with our focus on sustainability. An important component of all the above-mentioned farming practices is seeing our surroundings as an integrated system.

There are so many wonders to spring, summer, autumn, and winter. It quickly became clear to us that our own cultivation style must align with the natural rhythms. The summer and winter solstices, along with spring and autumn equinoxes, are the dividing lines/times between Earth’s seasons. Like the points of north, south, east, and west guide our navigation on a compass, these seasonal alignments of the Earth and the sun are solar guideposts of the year.

The moon is somewhat more subtle in its guidance than the sun, which is ticking off the minutes of every day. But the moon’s circle of power is only elusive until you start to pay attention to it. The moon is (approximately) a month, and it’s a pivotal timekeeper as well. There are cultures that still keep time by it exclusively. In that case, there

are actually 13 moons annually and a different accounting of a year. In the modern era, most people keep time by the Gregorian calendar.

The lunar calendar calls our attention to moon-inspired vibes, or, as I like to call it, Moonspired. The moon has two intensities, new and full, in each cycle. And there are two weeks of waxing and waning in between them. We can use that time to process the archetypes initiated by each moon phase based on the position in the sky and the corresponding astrology. Cause and effect are inspired by potent characteristics differentiating each monthly moon.

Humans are much acquainted with the full moon. My guess is most likely because it's easy to see it in the night sky. But the new moon is equally as potent. Just ask emergency services personnel, or a rabbi, or a shaman or a sailor, and so on.

The new moon is the origin point of each moon cycle. It is a one-day event; even more accurate is to say that it is an exact moment in time. It is the darkest time of the month, the phase when everything else in the night sky—stars, constellations, as well as other planets and space stuff, like comets, meteors, and more, are most visible.

Some cultures measure this time at the black or void of moon, while others measure it by the crescent moon. The reason we cannot see the new moon at night is due to its alignment with the sun and, therefore, the brightness of reflection within the same zodiac. New moons can sometimes be seen in the daytime and other times obscured by the sun. That's because the new moon happens in the same astrological sign that the sun is in at that moment. For example, if we are in Taurus, the new moon happens in Taurus, too.

The new moon always symbolizes new beginnings. In ancient days, women menstruated together and gathered to comfort each other while literally shedding their blood, and with it, a sort of processing of all that remains from the previous month on the new moon. Due to the alignments in the orbits of the Earth, sun, and moon, at certain times of the year, solar eclipses occur, which is only possible on new moons. The waxing moon is the period of growing from a new moon to a full moon.

The full moon phase completes each moon cycle. It is also a one-day event, and, again, it's

an exact moment in time. Yet it arises with such potency many people tend to feel it coming for days! We all seem more aware of the full moon. It is big and bright in the night sky. And people are aware of the heightened senses and intensities at this time, as well. We sometimes say people can be loony, but are the lunatics actually crazy when lunacy comes from the same Latin root as lunar, which is Luna, translated as moon?

The full moon brings on the highest tides. Our own body chemistry is comparable since our blood has the same salinity as the oceanic salt water. While the ocean tides are bigger, our bodies actually also swell. That's why some folk wisdom warns it is not the best time of the month to have surgery. We on Earth are affected physically, emotionally, and mentally by outside factors of the current sky patterns every

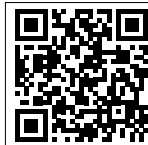
single day and night, but especially in connection it the intensities of the moon phases as documented over the millennia of human existence. The moon is our planet's nearest celestial neighbor, and the orbital pull is strong.

Full Moon astrology is always opposite of the sun signs of the zodiac at full moon since the moon and sun are at opposite positions in the sky. So, for example, if we are in Taurus, the Full Moon happens in Scorpio. It's, without exception, directly across from the sun sign on the astrological chart. And astronomically speaking, the reflection of the sunlight is shining fully on the moon at full moon.

In ancient days men and women gathered and celebrated together at the full moon. Two weeks from the women's menses cycles and red tent rituals is their most fertile time of the month. Of course, with the moon bright in the sky, it was also a better time of month to plan a nighttime party pre-electricity. Due to these alignments in our orbit at certain times of the year, lunar eclipses occur, which is only possible on full moons. The waning moon is the period of shrinking from a full moon to a new moon.

Always balancing the wheel of life, forever cyclical, new to full to new to full to new to full, around and around, again and again... Look to the sky. Look around. Look within. Remember, we can all shine like super stars on Earth under the moon!!! 🌙

**“ALL THAT FLOWS MOVES WITH THE MOON. HUMANS AND ALL THE INHABITANTS ON OUR PLANET ARE MADE UP MOSTLY OF WATER. OUR WORLD ITSELF HAD MORE WATER THAN LAND COVERING ITS SURFACE. THE MOON PULLS ON THE TIDES, THE WEATHER, AND ALL THE CURRENTS OF THE FIELD OF FLUIDS... INCLUDING INFLUENCING THE WAVES AND ENERGETIC RHYTHMS, MOOD SWINGS OF THE MIND, SWELLING OF THE BODY, AND MORE. OUR BEHAVIORS AND EMOTIONS CAN BE ATTRIBUTED, AT LEAST IN PART, TO THE MOON.”**



Laura Clein once upon a time worked as a recreational therapist in retirement communities and an event coordinator on college campuses. She was in graduate school for an MSW at the University of Southern California and wrote a paper for a Social Policy class on medical marijuana in 1996. While Laura has endured chronic pain and complex debilitating illness for many years, she & Marty have created a lifestyle that works. She writes many articles and manages social media. She is proud to be patient #1 at Martyuana™ & she says often, “Thank goodness, cannabis helps.”



# APHID ATTACKS GO VIRAL: HOW TWO COMMON PESTS THREATEN CANNACULTURE

WORDS | MATTHEW GATES

## 樹

上開花

Shù shàng kāi huā

Decorate the Tree with False Blossoms

—三十六計 (36 Stratagems)

Make something appear valuable that is not.

Cannaculture has exploded in popularity across Earth in recent years, and with it, the natural consequence of pest abatement, such as with most agricultural forays. Personal, professional, and everything in between has been affected by the huge uptick in cultivation, which has exacerbated an already enfeebled appreciation for the various organisms that are attracted to this wonderful plant due in part to prohibitive dross that has impaired research efforts but also resistance to the traumatic contemplation of severe crop losses and other problems that may befall the grower. The most important thing a grower can do is stay informed as a cacophony of information from various angles, some well-intentioned, some not, proliferates. Viral agents like the abominable Hop Latent Viroid (HLVd) spread silently and surreptitiously, especially in large-scale operations, and have historically compelled some to make their plants out to be anything but viruliferous, damaging the trust between growers and their source whether seeds, cuttings, or whole plants.

Ultimately, we don't like to think about it. But we should for our own sake and that of our plants.

Fortunately, centuries of combined knowledge have culminated in many resources for pests that have been found to also affect Cannabis and knowledge about their interactions with their host plants as well as other pests which they may compete with or, in some cases, collaborate. One of the most infamous collaborations is the strong co-evolution between an almost 300-million-year-old group of insects—Aphids—and one of the oldest groups of microbes documented—viruses.

Viruses that colonize plants are usually specialized in plant physiology, and for obvious reasons, this might make movement between immobile hosts difficult, at least for those species that are incapable of seed-borne transmission. Despite this, not all viruses are pathogens. Research into pathogenic viruses is and was relatively easier because, by their very nature, there are symptoms that can be observed, so this has informed most documentation. However, when more sophisticated and discrete analyses became available, a massive array of viruses became identifiable, many of them having no discernable negative effect, or a facultatively negative effect when hosts were stressed, while others bestowed positive effects in the plant host, making them consummate

mutualists either in their host or in their associated microbiota.

Many insects eat plants, representing the vast majority of herbivorous animals by a gigantically sheer margin, and this relationship was established relatively soon after the landfall of plants. While there are several groups of insects that may pass plant viruses, there is one in particular that does this best: the Hemiptera, with their iconic needle-like mouthparts used to probe and siphon plant fluids. Of the thousands of species within the Hemiptera, it is the aphids that have gone viral as their mouthparts are so fine and specialized they can wind between plant cells like a deft surgeon, penetrating individual cells for a small taste test without rupturing the cell's structure in the process before tunneling into the sap channels where they judiciously feed on a diet of mostly sugars and free amino acids. As this is happening, they secrete compounds and proteins in their saliva that suppress the plant immune system in a sophisticated way that stacks with their offspring, which are themselves born pregnant. Since most aphids are specialists, they tend to be narrowly effective on a few plants. Conversely, a minority of aphids have the ability to move between many hosts, having obtained an arsenal of various defense mechanisms as well as other organisms that might be ingested. Because aphids have an exceptional ability to disrupt the immune system and secrete substances into plant cells, they are highly efficient virus dispensers, giving

their symbionts a great head start at replicating and further diminishing the physiological barriers that would imperil their feeding. If a virus is in the cells or sap of the plant, then it will likely be imbibed. Different viruses have different compatibilities with various aphids and vice-versa, but all it takes to vector is the transference from one plant to another or to different parts of the same plant. Even plants that aphids reject as hosts can still be infected during the probing stage, and since viruses are not typically conventionally curable, they represent a death knell for cultivators. Examples of both narrow and broad-feeding aphids colonize Cannabis and may be a cornerstone of viral promulgation based on preliminary research and historical precedent.

The two most prolific aphids in Cannabis are the Rice Root Aphid *Rhopalosiphum rufiabdominale*, and the eponymous Cannabis Aphid *Phorodon cannabis*. Besides HLVD, some of the viruses found in Cannabis so far include Beet Curly Top Virus (BBCTV), Lettuce Chlorosis Virus (LCV), Cucumber Mosaic Virus (CMV), Alfalfa Mosaic Virus (AMV), and what appears to be a nominally harmless virus called Cannabis Cryptic Virus (CanCV) which is associated with hemp populations particularly and doesn't seem to be suited to transmission between plants but from parent to offspring.

Cannabis Aphids are specialists and so far, have only been documented successfully colonizing and reproducing well on Cannabis. Like Cannabis, they



1-2) CANNABIS APHIDS PHOTOS | MATTHEW GATES



**“CANNABIS APHIDS ARE SPECIALISTS AND SO FAR, HAVE ONLY BEEN DOCUMENTED SUCCESSFULLY COLONIZING AND REPRODUCING WELL ON CANNABIS.”**

MATTHEW GATES



have a relative associated with hop plants, the Damson-Hop Aphid *Phorodon humuli*, which does switch between hop and plum trees, inviting questions about whether the Cannabis Aphid derives from an ancestor that was more varied or was always rather specialized on the Cannabis family (Cannabaceae). Since Cannabis and hop *Humulus* derive from a common ancestor several million years in the past and most aphids are specialists that follow their hosts as they themselves diverge and change, it is possible that the Cannabis Aphid as we know it has been an ardent companion for most or all of this time.

Rice Root Aphids are generalists and feed on dozens of different plant species, many of which are prominent crop plants. They have been known to vector several viruses in other plants on which they feed, such as Plum Pox Virus (PPV), but also the Cucumber Mosaic Virus. Some researchers have observed circumstantial evidence that suggests they may be capable of

transmitting Hop Latent Viroid, which may become present in the digestive tract after feeding. As transmission through internal seed tissue and mechanical transmission from touch between plants has been demonstrated, in addition to a penchant for latent, asymptomatic development, aphid movement adds another layer of perniciousness to the HLVd repertoire.

Depending on how prevalent initial findings are, populations of Rice Rot Aphid and possibly Cannabis Aphid with the right viral load could represent a high-level threat that cannabis cultivators should take seriously, not for their direct damage but indirectly as a viral vector. In the search for cuttings, it has become imperative that growers of all levels resist worthless “fake blossoms” and pursue safe, verified sources as much as practicable, limiting the spread of these dangerous pathogens. 🌿



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# Nurturing Sustainable Growing: THE BIOBIZZ APPROACH

WORDS & PHOTOS | BIOBIZZ



## MAINTAINING HEALTHY GROWING PRACTICES:

Growing and cultivation are fundamental practices that contribute to the sustainability of our planet and, most certainly, our own individual well-being. These provide us with essentials, from food to medicinal resources. Though growing is beneficial for many aspects of life, it is vital that we maintain healthy and sustainable growing practices to protect both the environment and our own health as individuals. This ensures the longevity of all natural resources.

There are many natural growing practices that are considered fundamental for both the production and consumption of sustainable products. These include things such as organic farming, crop rotation, and using natural fertilizers to promote soil health and biodiversity, as well as reduce the use of harmful pesticides and fertilizers.

These practices also encourage responsible land management and foster resilience to climate change. Overall, embracing these growing practices helps safeguard our planet's health while providing consumers with wholesome, sustainable, and chemical-free options.

## MEET BIOBIZZ

Founded in 1992 on a farm in Groningen, Netherlands, Biobizz was created

out of a need to establish a sustainable and conscientious set of products. It's no mystery that Biobizz has played and continues to play an important role in promoting natural growing practices through its wide range of natural and hand-crafted nutrients. Biobizz has established itself in the industry thanks to its commitment to contributing to a greener and better world.

Today, Biobizz continues to strive for sustainability and fosters it through being present in more than 70 countries. Biobizz CEO Luis Pinheiro Bartolo explains that: "Our product is not just a bottle with a liquid inside or a bag with a substrate. Our product is also a feeling; it contains the talent of the people who created it".



## BIOBIZZ'S MISSION

You've heard the phrase "You are what you eat," and though it seems like a bit of cliché, it's exactly the mantra Biobizz tries to follow as well as project onto the grow community. Biobizz takes nature's recipes and puts them in a bag or bottle... Makes sense. What we're really trying to say is you get out what you put in, and this can be adapted to both plants and humans. Biobizz is committed to the principles of sustainable agriculture and believes in the importance of nurturing healthy soil ecosystems to produce healthy plants.

During the 1940s, new agricultural farming and growing methods were



put in place, but their effects, although apparent, were not entirely clear. Scientists were aware of a decrease in soil fertility and certain health concerns due to the toxicity of chemicals entering the food supply. Nevertheless, these are things we now understand with much more clarity and drive us to continue finding solutions and providing the safest products possible.

### OUR BIOBIZZ PHILOSOPHY

Our philosophy is quite simple: we want natural agricultural practices to reach as many people as possible in order to minimize the impact we leave on the world we live in.

By reinforcing the importance of growing and cultivation practices in society, we can educate future generations about the value of nature and promote sustainable lifestyles. Children who learn about growing and cultivation methods are more likely to develop a deep appreciation for the environment and make conscious decisions about their consumption habits.

The Biobizz Foundation projects are a very important part of what we do as a company, and we have been able to bring some of our dream goals to life. We are working on creating new opportunities for children in less favored communities all around the world and have introduced educational workshops in countries like Kenya, Colombia, and Mexico, among others. This allows children to learn more about natural growing and acquire new life skills that they can use to promote sustainability within their communities. Our latest and most recent project has taken place in Mexico, a truly magical occasion for both the Biobizz Team and all the children that took part.

Our trip to Colombia was by far one of the most special projects as it was dedicated to aiding fragile communities and groups of people, such as orphaned and socially excluded children. We were able to provide these children with the opportunity to take part in educational workshops and understand more about how to make the most out of the resources that surround them and their families.

Our Biobizz Team worked with the Kogui people living in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. They listened to the community's needs and helped them by bringing water to their village and helping build a garden to diversify their crops.

Additionally, Biobizz donated surfboards and equipment in order to teach the Kogui children how to surf as a part of its commitment to environmentally friendly activities. We were lucky enough to bring along

two of our friends, Natxo Gonzalez and Kepa Acero, who are both renowned professional surfers from Spain. This initiative exemplifies the company's values and reinforces its promise to extend natural practices worldwide while providing educational opportunities to underprivileged communities.

Our ability to help and give back is something that drives the brand, and we hope to continue doing so for many more years.

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Biobizz World Wide Organics, based in Europe, has acquired an impressive array of seven internationally recognized certifications that guarantee the quality and natural character of our products. In Europe, we proudly hold the Good Soil Quality Mark, ensuring contamination-free and high-quality potting soil, soil improvers, and fertilizers. Control Union, an international organization, certifies that our products derive from natural products and are sourced carefully.

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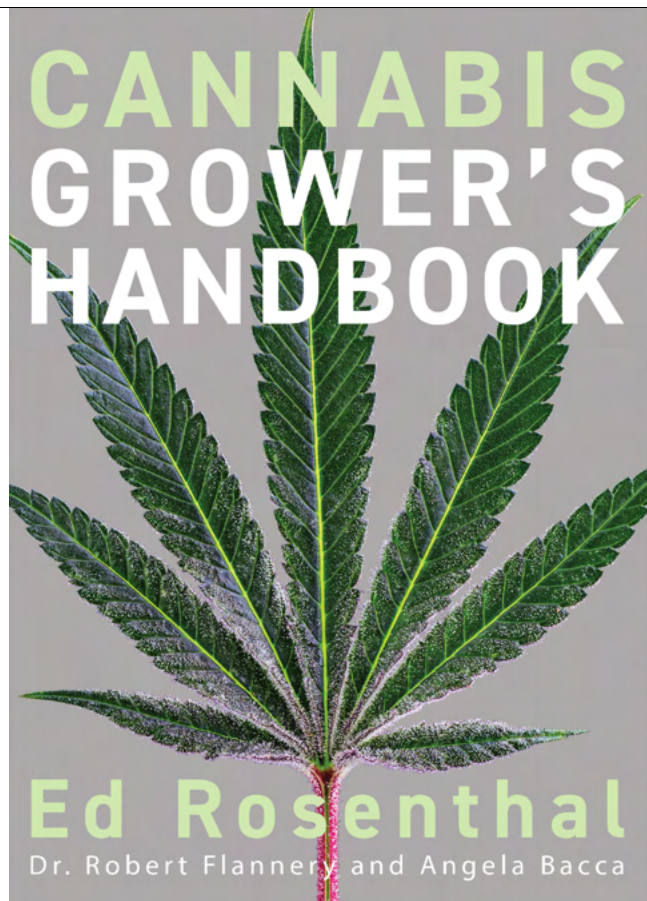


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# Legacy Humboldt Farmers Fight Back Against Citizen Initiative That Threatens Their Existence with Devastating New Regulations

WORDS | HEATHER DUNBAR

PHOTOS | DYLAN MATTOLE, MATTOLE VALLEY SUNGROWN

The hardship is real for small-scale cannabis farmers in California who continue to struggle to keep garden gates open and with not much sign of hope ahead. Many small, multi-generational farms are succumbing to market and industry forces and shutting down their farm operations because of financial and regulatory constraints.

From the outset of California's Proposition 64, the law that legalized and regulated the recreational sale of cannabis, small-scale and legacy cannabis farmers have been forced to surmount outrageous hurdles in order to participate in the legal cannabis industry. The impacts of local and state regulations have especially hit these communities hard, with an overwhelming sense of frustration, vulnerability, and uncertainty about what the future holds for legacy cannabis farmers.

Regulations aside, outdoor cannabis farms and communities all over the state have had to endure compounded devastation—from drought and wildfires to unprecedented winter weather—over the last few years. Overproduction from large-scale monocrop operations also continues to drive down prices. Add to that excessive regulatory fees and taxes and the already high cost of operating a farm.

And now, there is a new political obstacle on the horizon in Humboldt County, a legendary frontier of cannabis farming that has supplied quality sungrown cannabis flower for generations.

The Humboldt Cannabis Reform Initiative (HCRI), now known as Measure A, is a voter initiative that will appear on the March 5, 2024, ballot in Humboldt County. If approved by voters, it would establish 38 pages of new rules and restrictions applicable to all current, legal cannabis farmers in the county. While proponents claim the intent



of the HCRI (Measure A) is to restrict industrial-scale cannabis cultivation, the reality is that the HCRI would have devastating effects on cannabis of all sizes in Humboldt, including the very smallest and oldest in the county.

According to the Humboldt County Growers Alliance (HCGA), the HCRI was written behind closed doors by a San Francisco law firm with a history of supporting anti-cannabis initiatives, with no opportunity for review or input from the public before it was submitted in final form in March 2022. The vast majority of the provisions in the HCRI would restrict all legal cannabis cultivation in Humboldt, regardless of size and regardless of whether the operations are longstanding or new. The initiative

includes no provisions that would support or incentivize small-scale cannabis agriculture, only additional onerous restrictions, and red tape, making it impossible for small-scale cultivators to comply.

For example, one section of the initiative would require farms to be located on "category 4" roads, excluding hundreds of farms with the stroke of a pen. Local engineers estimate the cost of these upgrades at \$200,000-\$250,000 per mile, a prohibitive price to pay for small-scale farmers.

An additional example of how the initiative





will hurt farmers comes from its restrictions on “expansion,” which prevents any increase in the number or size of any structure used in connection with cultivation. This would prevent sensible farm improvements and often necessary structures, like a new dry shed, ADA-compliant bathroom, solar arrays, and water storage, all of which would benefit small producers, workers, and the environment.

“The only way I can compete with large-scale farms is to make sure everything I do is as quality-focused and environmentally sustainable as possible, and every aspect of the HCRI is at odds with that,” said Dylan Mattole, owner-operator of Mattole Valley Sungrown. “In the long term, I envision having on-site direct sales, hosting farm tours, and offering tastings like a winery,” continued Mattole. “The HCRI takes away that potential by confining me to my existing operations and prohibiting any additional permits. We can’t compete as a craft business without the ability to add on-farm value.”

“Before the passage of Proposition 64, a collective effort involving Humboldt farmers, county government, state agencies, community members, and diverse environmental organizations resulted in the development of reasonably functional land-use regulations to oversee commercial cannabis in our county,” said Natalynne DeLapp, director of Humboldt County Growers Alliance. “After hundreds of hours of public meetings over the past eight years, our county has diligently worked to permit over 850 farmers who willingly embraced California’s newly regulated cannabis economy,” continued DeLapp. “These dedicated farmers have invested everything to align their properties and businesses with all pertinent environmental regulations, even going above and beyond with regenerative organic cannabis certifications like Sun+Earth Certified. The HCRI is more than just a disagreement; it strikes at the heart of everything we’ve labored together to establish over these past eight years, and, most importantly, it spells the demise of countless legacy farms.”

The Humboldt County Planning and

Building Department reviewed the HCRI earlier this year and, in March, presented a damning report to the Board of Supervisors. In the report, county staff warned that the initiative would have “dire consequences” for the industry and would immediately consider hundreds of the county’s permitted farms “non-conforming.” The report also states that existing county cannabis regulations are intended to “encourage a well-regulated cannabis industry, but the HCRI could have the opposite effect by making compliance so difficult that the legal market is rendered not viable in Humboldt County.”

Measure A would have a major impact on local environmental improvements that farmers are required to implement under current regulations. This includes road and building improvements, building culverts, ensuring fire resilience, undertaking agroforestry projects, as well as installing and improving solar power systems. Underlying all of these regulatory changes is the ability to almost entirely exclude the public from determining county cannabis policy.

“This is not just about cultivating cannabis,” said Ted Blair of Canna Country Farm, another small-scale farm threatened by the initiative. “This is about a culture, a legacy, and lineage,” continued Blair. “This is a way of life for so many communities in Humboldt County. There would be no positive impact on the small farmer if this initiative passes. It would mean a total farm shut down! This is a culture killer and an attack on our community.”

Humboldt County farmers are not willing to let this attack on their way of life go unchallenged, and they are organizing to defeat Measure A. A formidable campaign opposing the HCRI was launched earlier this year to draw attention to the political wolf in sheep’s clothing. To learn more about HCRI and why this initiative would be fatal to small farmers and the community, please visit <https://www.noheri.com/>. If this can happen in Humboldt County, at the center of the world-renowned Emerald Triangle, it can happen anywhere. 🌿



**“WHILE PROPONENTS CLAIM THE INTENT OF THE HCRI (MEASURE A) IS TO RESTRICT INDUSTRIAL-SCALE CANNABIS CULTIVATION, THE REALITY IS THAT THE HCRI WOULD HAVE DEVASTATING EFFECTS ON CANNABIS OF ALL SIZES IN HUMBOLDT, INCLUDING THE VERY SMALLEST AND OLDEST IN THE COUNTY”**



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## The Rise of Massive Creations

WORDS | BRIAN MALIN PHOTOS | BRIAN MALIN & JORDAN TABAYOYON

It all began in a small fishing town in Washington state in the late 1980s. Washington state was known as a hub for getting Beasters (British Columbian/Canadian weed). Some weed up there at that time was better than others, and Washington was definitely seeing a much better product than people on the East Coast who got the lower-grade BC bud. A teenage Shiloh Massive got an idea to grow his own weed. He went to the hardware store and bought a “grow lamp” bulb. He took it home to his room and installed it in his lamp. He planted some Beaster bag seeds and was off to the races. The plants actually grew and got some decent-sized leaves. It was now time to put them outside. So, he cut a tunnel in the blackberries in the woods near his house and planted his first patch. Shiloh fed his crop “roots man” style. He amended his ganja plants with harvested kelp and fish from the sea. The first couple of attempts in Washington didn’t fully come to fruition, but that didn’t discourage this young aspiring farmer. He finally got a good harvest; some chronic came from seeds of a grow that got busted and abandoned.

After high school, Massive moved to Oahu. It was awesome to spend time around the Hawaiian culture that embraces a ganja lifestyle to the fullest.

High Times Magazine helped inspire Shiloh to figure out how to grow weed full-time. After moving back from Hawaii, he bought a grow light. Does anyone remember those 430 son agros? Shiloh emerged himself in the weed culture, hustling Beasters to pay for college and cover the costs of his grow. He definitely knew this was the life for him. He bought a second light and a house in Portland. Bam, he was really growing now! Shiloh still worked a day job at Odwalla until he got the coveted Blueberry strain. This was the push that allowed him to be the full-time grower he knew he was meant to be.

Shiloh Massive was always interested in genetics and breeding. He had been reading about it in HT. The hub for genetics and breeding was Amsterdam, so that is where he went. Once involved in the scene there, he helped start Apothecary Seeds in Holland. That was an exciting time in the cannabis industry. Many of the seed companies and genetics that we still smoke and grow today were developed in the late 90’s early 2000’s. DNA genetics, Greenhouse Seeds, Sinsemilla Seeds, and many others were making their mark in Europe. And remember, growing in the US was still highly frowned upon, so breeding at scale was difficult and risky. Many of Shiloh’s friendships and business relationships started in these early years.



After Europe, Massive spent some time growing in crawl spaces in the cowboy country of Wyoming. He linked up with the solventless pioneer, possibly why I know Shiloh today, Solventless Supreme. Shiloh looked out for the young Jedi and helped spark the quest for him to be the accomplished professional hash maker he is today. Cowboy country wasn't the place for these two. It was time to head west to the California promised land. His first stop was the notorious county east of Mendocino, Lake County. Shiloh was unsure where to begin, and then he saw a sign with a number on it. It was the Summer of 1998. Shiloh called the number to get a medical marijuana card, and unbeknownst to him, it was Eddy Lepp. Eddy was well ahead of the curve and had an entire hillside planted. He called it Eddy's Medicinal Garden. It was still risky in the first few years of 215 growing in California. CAMP, the Feds, and local law enforcement were active despite the looming legalization. Shiloh connected with Eddy and started helping on the farm. Eddy gave him a hillside to plant his own patch. Shiloh called it Rasta Ridge. Jack Herer was living at the farm at that time as well. In 1998, weed farmers were hopeful that legalization would be lucrative and, more importantly, that they wouldn't go to jail for it. Needless to say, prop 215 went through many phases and degrees of enforcement.

Massive was not only working at Eddy's Medicinal Garden and Rasta Ridge, but he also took up residence there. Shiloh was living with Eddy and Jack Herer, a notorious crew, to say the least. While Massive was living on the farm in Lake County, a young whipper snapper from Mendo named Brandon would come hang out and smoke weed. There were a lot of people coming through the property that year. Some later became legends, and others were a bit more "unsavory." Remember, weed was going for \$4-5k a pound at that time. Unfortunately, the cops came and cut down that year's crop.

Brandon and Shiloh later went on to start Dying Breed Seeds. Dying Breed was created with the premise of making some legendary genetics. At the time, OGs, Diesel, and GDP dominated Nor Cal's hills. Shiloh brought a beast of a plant called the "Adonai" to the camp. The Adonai was The Russian Kush x Silver Tooth (Sweet Tooth x Super Silver Haze). The cross was made with Nate of Higher Heights. Big respect to Higher Heights, for sure. Nate has gone on to make a name for himself as an incredible organic grower and a fabulous breeder as well. This strain made a huge impact on Northern California, combining OG terps with haze terps and shortening its flower cycle considerably. Dying Breed was a force, and they hit the 215 California market hard. They won multiple High Times Cups and placed with multiple strains. They took the coveted Emerald Cup by storm. If you attended The Emerald Cup back in the day, you saw crazy lines at the The Dying Breed booth. The booth was an epic design reminiscent of an old barn/saloon. Rumor has it that they would walk away with 200K from seed sales in 2016-2017, strains like

Eddy Lepp Og, Oz Kush, Roze, Gak, and, of course, their crosses of Zkittlez. Dying Breed was among the first to have and to combine Z terps. Today, everyone is still on the quest for Z combinations that may change the game.

Like many partnerships in the cannabis industry, Dying Breed came out of

the gate strong but had some personality conflicts. Shiloh decided to leave Dying Breed to start his own seed company, Massive Creations. Massive Creations is more than just a seed company. It is a lifestyle brand with an emphasis on art as well as genetics. With a new mission, Shiloh focused on building his new company without a partner. He took it back to the basics and put faith in himself. He focused on what he knew best, creating strains resonating with him and pursuing his creative outlet. Massive Creations entered the prop. 64 California recreational market in 2020 with pre-rolls of his popular strain Lemon Hammer. By 2021, Massive took 3rd place in the Emerald Cup infused pre-roll category in a collaborative effort with Sticky Fields and Vital. With some success and positive signs, Shiloh began focusing on health and clarity on taking it to the next level. Shiloh Massive and Pacific Reserve had a good working history together. Pacific Reserve is a large-scale facility in Salinas that was started by some dedicated growers who love the plant and want to make clean cannabis available to all. Pacific Reserve began growing a few of Massive's strains with an understanding that they could work more together in the future if things went well. Things went very well at PR; the Massive strains performed beyond their expectations. The weed was fire, yields were good, and most of all, it differed from what everyone else was growing. The Massive crops were on an organic soil and nutrient program provided by Vital Garden Supply, which made the genetics really show what they were capable of. All Massive Creation Seeds have been made with Vital soil and nutrients. Which means all Massive Seeds are Organic. With all the positive

outcomes at PR, it was time for them to make the bond with Massive more permanent. Kolaborative Ventures Corporation is the parent company of Pacific Reserve, Rio Vista, Coco Farms, as well as several other dispensaries and cannabis businesses. KVC made an offer to acquire Massive Creations late in 2022. The deal closed in early 2023, and Massive Creations is an in-house brand and genetic company for the vertically integrated conglomerate. Shiloh is now the director of the genomic division and a shareholder of KVC. Both sides are grateful and honored to join forces and build something based on exotic terpenes, preserving exotic terpenes and sharing them with the world. In 2023 KVC purchased a 25-acre farm in North San Juan where

Massive Creations will propagate, cultivate, and create cannabis varieties for years to come. Massive Farms is proud to call Nevada County home. Massive Creations flower is available at Coco Farms, Rio Vista, V-Town, as well as many other KVC dispensaries. 🌿



**“MASSIVE WAS NOT ONLY WORKING AT EDDY’S MEDICINAL GARDEN AND RASTA RIDGE, BUT HE ALSO TOOK UP RESIDENCE THERE. SHILOH WAS LIVING WITH EDDY AND JACK HERER, A NOTORIOUS CREW, TO SAY THE LEAST.”**



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## Cultivating Community with Cannabis Culture Club

WORDS | ALEXANDRA (ALLIE) BUTLER PHOTOS | MIKE ROSATI

**T**he community we find in cannabis culture is one of the most beautiful we can find in this world; we come together and bubble up in our own space like a perfect dab. Some may think of cannabis users pejoratively, and some may think of us aspirationally; to my mind, rather than looking down on or up the heady boys and babes who start smoking hash in the morning, we should just look straight ahead across the table, and pass the dabs.

Many of us who engage in the community find not just friendship and not just family but also creative inspiration and reinforcement in social gatherings centered on the plant and the cannabis lifestyle. We come together to gather and support the plant, and we love the people who do so, too. Cannabis culture is rarely embodied in the patchouli-scented person you saw outside school who played with a hacky sack; it is more often found in

whoever is standing behind or before you in line at the store. The once-in-a-lifetime community we may find is very special; one easy way to connect like this is by engaging with Cannabis Culture Club. This organization is so unique because it holds space for cannabis lovers from all walks of life and all over the world. It is accessible to everyone seeking to engage with the community, and that is what is so unique about Cannabis Culture Club and so unique about what they set out to create. The Club is a dream that sprouted when two seasoned craft cannabis enthusiasts joined forces and melded minds and built an amazing team that can put on events worldwide.

It has grown into an established community that has manifested a desire to explore and build spaces and build the scope together of the cannabis world sphere. It's the most beautiful because it has given us an opportunity to come together over the pairing of solventless concentrates with culinary



creations in elevated settings, with each get-together incorporating unique concepts designed to highlight the narrative of our industry and its creative leaders in culture. It's not just a lifestyle; it's a lovestyle.

This project is very unique; it tends toward the wonderfully unexpected and creative. When one thinks of cannabis culture, one might have many ideas, but few may realize those ideas. Cannabis Culture Club is one that has grown into a rocking and thriving business. Founded in 2021 by true friends who integrated the pairing of solventless concentrates with culinary creations, this Club is one of a kind. Born and delivered in an elevated setting, CCC incorporates unique concepts designed to highlight the narrative of our industry to bring together people, product, healing, community, and creativity, incorporating some very special individuals who are part of our culture.

Cannabis as a plant has been around for centuries, and so has its culture; this particular coming together of communities has been a lifelong dream for the founders of Cannabis Culture Club. I hold deep respect for everything this team does; they consistently put on, curate, and contribute to excellent events and cultivate a community everywhere they go. Founders Guarav Mehta (@elgeeproductions) & Camran Hussain (@yungslabbyy) combined their knowledge and grasp of the space with their experiences from the medical era of Prop 215 into the current world of recreational cannabis spanning all facets of the industry. The goal was to create a platform that would connect like-minded individuals and organically present the best of our culture in a container that could appeal to die-hard connoisseurs as well as be accessible to new users stepping onto the scene. They have built a great community with their talented team, especially Amber Davidson (@tough\_mama710), who manages all operations and logistics; Ashlee Aronson (@garden\_muse), who designs the table plateau and menus; Pamela Gwyneth (@pamelagwyneth.design) who does all the graphic

design and artwork for the club and its partners plus a rotating cast of amazing characters. Cannabis Culture Club has completed a full season of dinners and is currently in the midst of its second and planning its third.

The Cannabis Culture Club first got started when Camran's first event series, the Cosmic Supper Club, came to a close; Gaurav (G) approached Camran with a vision to bring the project to Humboldt and beyond. As a cannabis mecca, Humboldt was the perfect place to start off this new business and community, and events are now being planned not just nationwide but worldwide with the Club. Taking the show on the road has been an invigorating experience full of adventure, friendship, love, and laughter; almost like a musical tour, this team pops up, dabs out, brings the best vibes, and leaves each place they go happier than they find it. Working with the best cannabis producers, farmers, chefs, and other creatives in every region, they have turned a mobile pop-up idea into an experience the community comes together to enjoy. Per G, "[we] hit the road and work with local purveyors of produce and food and cultivars of cannabis products and local hash artists," bringing together the very best in a way that innately answers the needs and desires of each local cannabis community.

The project officially launched its first season in June of 2022 with "Shakin the Trees," the inaugural gathering that took place in one of the meccas of the plant and the people who enjoy it in Humboldt County. High above the streets of Arcata, perched atop the iconic clock tower overlooking the creamery, a select group of fifty founding members embarked on a remarkable journey through the flavors of the Pacific Northwest. The evening featured a meticulously crafted super gourmet six-course tasting menu, drawing from locally sourced ingredients and expertly curated by Chef Arin McBlaine (@arinmcblaine), paired with terpene-rich flavors harvested and processed from the very same region by Cold Gold Solventless

(@coldgoldsolventless) including collaborations with the renowned Ganjah Guru (@ashhoktheguru\_) and his brand Guru Cannabis Co. (@gurucannabisco). It was an evening for the books, and the evening started the series off on an incredibly high note bringing together so many people from the community in such an intimate and special setting.

The next gathering curated by Cannabis Culture Club, rightfully dubbed “A River Runs Through It,” took guests directly to where the magic happens, with a special on-site experience hosted at Terp Mansion (@terp.mansion), pairing their singularly crafted, single-source rosin with some of the freshest local ingredients. All the hash and flower were cultivated on site. Our members were able to meet the team at Terp Mansion led by Lucas Sanders and get an in-depth walkthrough of the farm, how their plants go from start to finish on the stalk all the way through the wash lab to what eventually ended up on the table pairing each with a course from the six-course tasting menu designed by Chef Arin to showcase the quality that this region is known for. After enjoying the meal, everyone was then provided a menu celebrating the launch of Terp Mansion’s direct-to-consumer service, where they had the opportunity to purchase any of the offerings, they had tried from the farm that night and exhibiting a first-of-its-kind cannabis retail experience, not dissimilar from our wine culture compatriots.

“A Flower in the Garden” marked the project’s first steps down south in the golden state just in time for the Hall of Flowers (@hallofflowers\_) in Sonoma County and was hosted at the historic Hessel Grange (@hesselgrange), the world’s first recognized cannabis farmers grange. This pairing also welcomed the fresh vision of Chef Haejin Chun (@bigbadwolfsf) as a culinary collaborator, bringing her signature style and vibration as a first-generation Korean-American to the table, as well as her experience as an avid fan of cannabis. To match with her potent skills in the

kitchen, the award-winning solventless of Kalya Extracts, spearheaded by Marc Hammond (@kalya.marc), were specially crafted for the evening and showcased some of the most memorable terpene profiles of the year. Everyone was able to tour a hash processing and packaging facility. Beyond the highlights of the main dishes, the space was filled with the smells of eucalyptus and hydrangea designed by Cassandra Cederlund (@thymeandflower), active demonstrations from brand partners Proper Wellness Humboldt (@properwellness.humboldt), Space Gem Candy (@wendythospacegem), Fresh Strain (@fresh\_strain), the Ganjery (@ganjerydistro), Graham’s Glass Gallery (@grahamsglassgallery) and Cannacraft (@cannacraftbrands). In terms of offerings within the space, this team and setting yet again took the Club to a new level. It was the first event of its kind where patrons were

able to legally consume the products on-site and purchase them right there before they went home. The response from attendees was amazing.

Upcoming events are multiplying, as one might imagine, and include musical pairings to go with the cannabis, hash, and delicious food; There are a lot of exciting events planned for the future. Cannabis Culture Club is also involved with producing events surrounding the Emerald Cup and other seminal get-togethers and getaways. Focusing on local culture, accessibility, and community is a priority for CCC; upcoming events will be held, which are expected to be more affordable and, therefore, even more inclusive and warm to all of those in the community who want to take part (and take dabs).

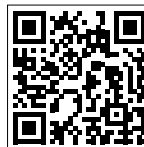
Cannabis Culture Club is not just a lifestyle; it’s a culture. We’re no different from other groups of people who are passionate about what and how we consume. We know what we prefer and how we want to be treated. Cannabis Culture Club offers everyone the chance and the space to consume the way we deserve. We invite you to join us. 🌿



**“THIS ORGANIZATION IS SO UNIQUE BECAUSE IT HOLDS SPACE FOR CANNABIS LOVERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE AND ALL OVER THE WORLD. IT IS ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE SEEKING TO ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY, AND THAT IS WHAT IS SO UNIQUE ABOUT CANNABIS CULTURE CLUB AND SO UNIQUE ABOUT WHAT THEY SET OUT TO CREATE.”**

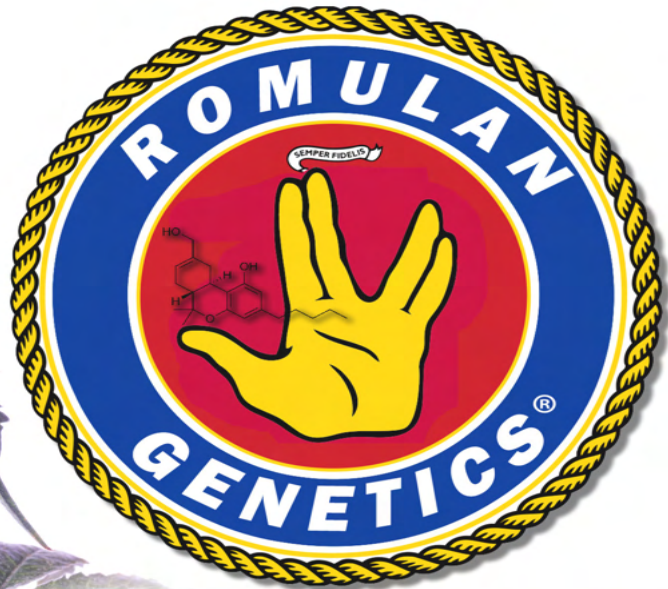


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SKUNK MAGAZINE X THE CLEVER ROOT

WORDS | CHRISTINA WONG

PHOTOS | NICOLE BOGGS FOR THE CLEVER ROOT

**P**ass me the cheese?" Rachel asks as she exhales and smoke drifts upwards into the sunlight from the joint in her fingertips.

I pour us both a glass of Sauvignon Blanc, and she passes the j. I inhale deeply as we catch up over cheese and wine before dinner, waiting for the high to wash over us before we dive into the food in front of us. The lemony pine aromas from the OG Kush we're smoking are an amuse-bouche paired with tonight's dinner.

I'm starting to feel hungry, like really hungry, and we're eyeballing the dinner spread in front of us. There are crusty loaves of bread with creamy butter, a cheese board with soft brie cheese, juicy red grapes, and thinly shaved slices of prosciutto. At the center of the table is a large bowl of Cannabis Pesto Pappardelle Pasta.

I pull the large bowl towards me and gently toss the thick, silky ribbons of handmade pappardelle pasta with creamy ricotta, green peas, pesto, mint, and lemon zest together and onto our plates.

"This looks and smells incredibly beautiful with the green and lemon zest. What did you make?" asks Rachel.

Earlier that day, I made handmade pappardelle pressed with cannabis leaves in a hand-crank pasta machine. Each strand of pasta is beautifully pressed with fan leaves that add a light grassy flavor to the pasta. The sauce is a cannabis leaf pesto. Fan leaves are blended with sweet basil, pine nuts, parmesan, garlic, and cannabis-infused olive oil to make an infused pesto that tastes better and more complex than the original.

As I bite down on the first forkful of pasta, the creamy ricotta and pesto clings like a thick sauce. There's a bold aromatic scent from the basil and lemon zest, a funky sharpness from the parmesan cheese, a burst of sweetness from the peas and mint, and a slight hint of the unmistakable earthy, skunky aroma of weed.

"Oh-my-fucking-god, this is so good," Rachel said, smiling through bites of pasta. "Will you share the recipe when we relaunch The Clever Root?"

"Hella yea I will." I replied and lifted my glass, "Cheers!"

Christina Wong and Rachel Burkons are editors and partners of The Clever Root, a food lover's guide to modern cannabis.





## CANNABIS PESTO PAPPARDELLE PASTA RECIPE

Pappardelle Pasta pressed with cannabis leaves gently tossed with ricotta cheese, peas, mint, cannabis-infused pesto, and lemon zest.

Cannabis pairing recommendation: Strains high in limonene with citrusy notes and/or ocimene to pair with basil in the pesto, such as Super Lemon Haze or Lemon Tart.

### DOSING:

This dosing makes two large servings. Double-check the math if your cannabis % THC is different.

Low Dose // 10mg THC per serving: You'll need a total of 20mg THC in the entire recipe. Approximately 0.15 grams of ~20% THC cannabis flower.\*

High Dose // 100mg THC per serving: You'll need a total of 200mg THC in the entire recipe. Approximately 1.5 grams of ~20% THC cannabis flower.\*

### INGREDIENTS:

- Pappardelle pasta (recipe follows)
- Cannabis leaf pesto (recipe follows)
- 1 cup green peas, cooked and blanched
- 1/2 cup ricotta cheese
- Lemon zest from 1 lemon
- A handful of mint

- leaves, chiffonade
- Salt and pepper, to taste

### CANNABIS-INFUSED OLIVE OIL

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- [ \* ] coarsely ground cannabis flower\* (~20% THC)

### PASTA DOUGH

- 1/2 cup (64 grams) of all-purpose flour, plus more for kneading and dusting
- 1/2 cup (60 grams) semolina flour
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 whole large egg
- 2 large egg yolks
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

### CANNABIS LEAF PESTO

- 1/4 cup pine nuts
- 1 clove garlic
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup fresh basil leaves
- 1 1/2 cups fresh cannabis leaves, stems removed
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/8 teaspoon coarse salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

### FOR DECORATION:

- 15-20 small/medium-sized Cannabis fan leaves or basil leaves

### DIRECTIONS:

**1. Make Cannabis-Infused Olive Oil\*:** Preheat the oven to 240°F. Place ground cannabis flower into a pint-sized 16 oz. Mason jar, seal with the lid to reduce smell, and heat for 40 minutes in the oven to decarboxylate, which activates the THC. Remove from the oven and let cool until the mason jar is safe to touch. The ground flower will look lightly toasted. Reduce the oven temperature to 170 degrees F. Pour olive oil into the mason jar, close the lid, and shake or stir to combine. Place

the sealed jar back into the oven to infuse for 2.5 hours. After 2.5 hours, remove from the oven and cool to room temperature.

**2. Make Pasta Dough:** On a flat work surface, pour the all-purpose flour and semolina flour into a pile and mix. All-purpose flour can be used as a semolina flour substitute. Using your fingers, make a well/hole in the center of your flour pile so it looks like a donut. Crack eggs into the well and pour in olive oil. Use a fork to carefully stir and mix the eggs and flour together bit by bit. Use your hands to keep the runny egg mixture in the center. When it forms a shaggy dough, use your hands to squeeze and knead the dough together.

The dough should feel soft and slightly sticky but not dry. If the dough feels too dry, add a little bit of olive oil to moisten the dough. Knead for 5 minutes until soft and smooth. Cover with plastic wrap and let the dough rest for at least an hour or overnight.

**3. Make Cannabis Leaf Pesto:** Put pine nuts, garlic clove, parmesan cheese, basil leaves, and cannabis leaves (with tough stems removed) into a food processor. Blend until pulverized. Slowly drizzle in the infused olive oil while the food processor is on until it becomes a creamy paste. Add in lemon juice, salt, and pepper, and blend to finish and set aside.

**4. Roll Pasta Dough:** Take your pasta dough and cut it into four even chunks. Take one piece and cover the other three so they don't dry out. Lightly flour a work surface, and using a pasta machine, roll your pasta into a smooth flat sheet. If you don't have a pasta machine, you can use a rolling pin to hand roll into thin sheets. Lightly dust the work surface and pasta dough with flour to prevent sticking.

**5. Press Cannabis Leaves into Pasta Dough:** Lay one flat sheet of pasta down on a floured work surface. Gently press edible flowers and leaves onto the dough. Take a second flat sheet of pasta and place it on top of the first, sandwiching the flowers and leaves between the pasta dough. Lift and run the pasta dough through the pasta machine again to flatten and press the florals into the dough.

**6. Cut Pasta Dough into Pappardelle:** Sprinkle flour on the pasta sheet and gently fold on top of itself, like an accordion or zigzag. Use a sharp knife to cut the pasta into 1-1.5-inch-thick ribbons. Lift the ends of the pasta up and shake it out to get long pasta ribbons. Place into little piles like "nests" and cover lightly with a cloth until ready to cook. Repeat with the remaining dough. To dry the pasta: Let it sit out uncovered until completely dry. Store in an airtight container in the fridge until ready to use.

**7. Cook Pasta:** Bring a pot of salted water to a rolling boil. Cook pasta in boiling water for a minute or two until soft. Fresh pasta cooks much faster than dried. Lift pasta out of the water with tongs and into a large bowl.

**8. Make the Dish:** Gently toss the cooked pasta with pesto. Add a little pasta water to help make a silky sauce. Transfer pasta into individual bowls/plates. Garnish with peas, ricotta cheese, lemon zest, salt and pepper. 🌿



**“AS I BITE DOWN ON THE FIRST FORKFUL OF PASTA, THE CREAMY RICOTTA AND PESTO CLINGS LIKE A THICK SAUCE. THERE’S A BOLD AROMATIC SCENT FROM THE BASIL AND LEMON ZEST, A FUNKY SHARPNESS FROM THE PARMESAN CHEESE, A BURST OF SWEETNESS FROM THE PEAS AND MINT, AND A SLIGHT HINT OF THE UNMISTAKABLE EARTHY, SKUNKY AROMA OF WEED.”**

Christina Wong is a cannabis food, drink, and travel writer, creator, and baked baker in Los Angeles, California. She’s the culinary & content editor of The Clever Root, founder & CEO of Fruit + Flower Co., and the host of Fruit + Flower Unfurled, a newsletter, and podcast for culinary cannabis enthusiasts. Her work has been featured in Thrillist, High Times, Cherry Bombe, CannaCurious, and Kitchen Toke magazines.





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# THE CANNABIS SONGBOOK JAMAICAN EDITION

WORDS | CHRISTOPHER CORBETT

ART | BRANDON PALMA / 8THDAYCREATE.COM

The most likely cultural source of cannabis use in Jamaica is the tribes of Central Africa, in particular the Batetala, the Basakata, and the Bakongo. The religious role the herb has served for these tribes, the emphasis placed on supernatural voices and religious meditation as well as their great reverence for cannabis shares many similarities to the use of herb amongst the Rastas. It's no surprise that there are many references made in 19th-century colonial correspondence to the cultivation and smoking of cannabis by central African indentured laborers in Jamaica.

The history of Rastafari was influenced by innovations in the cultivation and smuggling of the herb, which, by the mid-70s, was reaching markets in Europe, Canada, and the United States. Rastafarians used their new wealth

**“BEFORE THE INVENTION OF REGGAE, DEMAND FOR MUSIC IN JAMAICA WAS SO HIGH THAT AMERICAN SOLDIERS STATIONED IN JAMAICA DURING WORLD WAR II WOULD TRADE THEIR PERSONAL VINYL FOR THE HERB.”**

and influence to elaborate their belief systems and penetrate the formal political institutions of Jamaica. While they were often met with persecution, racial stereotyping, and incarceration, the invention of reggae music helped to both champion and propagate Rastafarian ideals. Rastafari musicians, likening themselves to the Biblical psalmist David, blended Jamaican, folk, and musical conventions with the rock and roll of herb smoking American artists

Prior to the Rastafarian movement, the Bongo Nation was a distinct group of Jamaicans possibly descended from the Congo. Kumina also emerged through the practices of indentured laborers brought to Jamaica after the abolition of slavery. It refers to both their religious practice and a form of music. Their distinctive drumming style became one of the roots of Rastafarian drumming and served as a source of the distinctive Jamaican rhythm heard in ska, rocksteady, and reggae. The use of cannabis or ganja in Kumina is likely an influence on the adoption of this plant as a sacrament in Rastafari. Before reggae, demand for music in Jamaica was so high that American soldiers stationed in Jamaica during World War II would trade their personal vinyl for the herb. Sex workers were often compensated with vinyl as well. As the islands' enthusiasm for Big Band music began to wear off, Jamaicans were



growing weary of mainstream American sounds. Instead, they turned their radio dials to New Orleans and Miami, where they could hear the cannabis-influenced rhythm and blues of artists like Jelly Roll Morton, Amos Milburn, and Roy Brown. It wasn't difficult for the descendants of enslaved Jamaican laborers to identify with a music that evolved into something entirely new as it passed through the customs and traditions of New Orleans, Miami, Central Africa, and beyond. The radio introduced Jamaican audiences to American artists whose sounds influenced the evolution of Ska music. Some music historians believe that the choppiness of ska guitars and the use of delay in the mix is the product of Jamaican artists mimicking the delay in breaks of radio waves from far-off stations. Others believe it's simply the influence of the fast-paced boogie-woogie and R&B piano stylings coming out of New Orleans. The herb, for Rastafarians, is both a sacrament and a sacred wellspring of inspiration—the healing of the nation. If a loaf of bread can be divided to nourish the bodies of the masses, the herb is nourishment for both the mind and soul. The herb is the seed of inspiration that finds nourishment and comes to fruition through song and dance. The sound system would serve as a mobile temple in this regard, spreading music like a traveling preacher man spreads the word of God. In this way, the Rastafari spread their message not only to the inhabitants of Jamaica but to anyone who could be reached by a stack of speakers, an amp, and a mixer. Bob Marley's releases on Island Records helped him cross over to a more international, rock-oriented audience, gaining radio airplay and amplifying the message to every corner of the globe. Lee Scratch Perry was a sonic architect of Rastafarian ideals and would even blow weed on his recording equipment to bless up a session. Weed and music were increasingly becoming synonymous in Jamaica, and while artists like Eek-a-Mouse rose to fame writing songs about ganja smuggling, Peter Tosh had a massive hit with a plea for legalization, and Pato Banton found an audience with an anti-coke anthem in praise of the almighty herb. No subject matter has been as inexhaustibly entertaining to an audience as the herb is to fans of Jamaican music.

In the late 70s, Jamaica experienced a shift away from the more internationally oriented roots reggae towards a style geared towards local preferences. Dancehall, a style that reflected the energy and spirit of live sound system events, became the prominent sound, and lyrics about dancing, full clips, and sex overtook themes of social injustice, repatriation, and the Rastafari movement. Deejay records, for the first time, became more important than records featuring singers, opening the doors for artists like Josey Wales, Triston Palma, Burro Banton, Ward 21, and later Damian Marley. One thing that remained consistent was a devotion to the herb, which remained omnipresent in music and culture. It was common to see ganja lyrics side by side with weed anthems on the same album. The growing and export of the herb in Jamaica is a dangerous business with serious consequences. As in the Emerald Triangle of Northern California, the conscious family-oriented cultivators are often overrun by gangsters and cartels as lawlessness prevails and the body count climbs. Police in helicopters keep the jails full while lining the pockets of politicians and the for-profit prison system. It wasn't until 2015 that Jamaica legalized medical cannabis and decriminalized possession under two ounces, after more than a century of prohibition that saw the plant weaponized to silence and disenfranchise all that refused to abide by the draconian laws of the colonial ruling class. Music remains a potent medium for dissenting voices, calling out the corruption and hypocrisy of the ruling class and providing a vehicle out of the destitution of segregation and ethnic subjugation. 🌿



## SELECTIONS FROM THE CANNABIS SONGBOOK

- **BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS: NATURAL MYSTIC**
- **PETER TOSH: LEGALIZE IT**
- **JOHN HOLT: POLICE IN HELICOPTER**
- **LEE SCRATCH PERRY: BLESS THE WEED**
- **JOSEY WALES: IT A FI BURN**
- **BURRO BANTON: LIVING IN A WONDERLAND**
- **CARLTON LIVINGSTON: 100 WEIGHT OF COLLIE WEED**
- **BARRINGTON LEVY: UNDER MI SENSI**
- **TRISTAN PALMA: JOKER SMOKER 12 INCH MIX**
- **WARD 21: GANJA SMOKE**



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## Open for Winter

WORDS & PHOTO | KEVIN BURGESS    ART | BRANDON PALMA / @8THDAYCREATE

**T**he transition from warm to cold weather is a reminder of the inevitable changes that come our way. The garden no longer requires so much attention. The first freeze has arrived and transformed the landscape; green has given way to brown, and it seems as though Mother Nature has closed shop.

But I assure you, she has not. As a matter of fact, she has opened an entire outlet mall of newly arrived organic materials perfect for my growing environment. Moreover, she is giving it away for free, and I have been taking advantage of it all.

In my environment, Mother Nature gives an abundance of nuts: small acorns, burr oak acorns, hickory nuts, black walnuts, chestnuts, and pecans. I invest considerable time collecting nuts, running them through a woodchipper, and transforming the shredded pieces into IMO3. Nuts offer a vital food source for microbiology by providing carbohydrates. Carbon, in the form of dead bark, twigs, nut shells, leaves, pinecones, etc., is incorporated into IMO3 serving several essential purposes.

While collecting these materials, I forage

fruiting mushrooms and add them to compost and no-till spots, fostering future fungal activities and a healthy soil food web.

Numerous fallen apples, pears, pawpaws, and persimmons are crafted into various FFJs. Many houses in my area have fruit trees, and most of the fruit is never utilized—the fruit returns to the soil as fertilizer for the tree. But if you ask for permission to gather up surplus fruit, it can be manipulated into fertilizer and used in various ways to benefit your garden.

I also load my compost bins with old decorative pumpkins, corn stalks, and gourds I find left over from Halloween and Thanksgiving. Not to mention, there is an abundance of bagged grass and leaves sitting by driveways. I often grab these bags and layer the material onto my no-tills or fill-up compost bins. A few bags will be inoculated with LAB and sat to the side to use as garden mulch for next spring.

Furthermore, cold weather conditions allow me to wash my frozen summer cannabis flowers and make hash rosin. After the flowers have been washed, I repurpose the hash water to make hash water LAB. Once

the HWLAB is ready, it's used to make an FPE from the washed cannabis buds. The remaining HWLAB is made into EMI for storage, and the washed flowers are recycled into the compost. Thus, closing the loop.

Lastly, winter is when organic material needs to be added to your growing areas. My garden and no tills have been layered with rabbit, quail, sheep, and chicken manure that were bartered from a local homesteader. Then more layers of green manure, bokashi, pookashi, bocoffee, mowed grass and leaves, liquid IMO2, IMO3, IMO5, JLF, et al. This all breaks down over winter and spring, rejuvenating the soil with needed nutrients and ensuring the continued success of a healthy microbiome.

So, Mother Nature has not closed shop. In the supposed dormancy of winter, she supplies a great number of organic materials to replenish her soil with life and nutrients. And soon, when warm days return to transform the landscape, brown will give way to green, and Mother Nature will open her summer stores, sharing her treasured remedies, flowers, and foods. 🌿

**“ON MY ENVIRONMENT, MOTHER NATURE GIVES AN ABUNDANCE OF NUTS: SMALL ACORNS, BURR OAK ACORNS, HICKORY NUTS, BLACK WALNUTS, CHESTNUTS, AND PECANS. I INVEST CONSIDERABLE TIME COLLECTING NUTS, RUNNING THEM THROUGH A WOODCHIPPER, AND TRANSFORMING THE SHREDDED PIECES INTO IMO3.”**



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# Community Ceremonies - Winter Solstice

WORDS & PHOTOS | ANN BRIGIT WATERS ART | BRANDON PALMA / @8THDAYCREATE

Community events create true community. As we continue to spiral through legalizations of cannabis and the uncertainties of our future, community becomes real social capital, its value priceless. Let us create community where we are and make where we are - where we want to be!

Winter Solstice is coming; "the light is returning! Even though this is the darkest hour, no one can hold back the dawn."

The cold and darkness of winter invites us into our homes to nest, to gestate dreams, and we also want to be together with others, to pass the long nights in meaningful activity.

Throughout time, humans have kept a solar calendar based on the sun's position, warmth, and their own agricultural activities. The cycle of the year was marked by festivals and ceremonies.

The eight seasonal celebrations that have come down to us through many solar traditions are clearly marking the solstices and equinoxes. Winter Solstice marks the shortest days between Dec 20 and 22, when the sun appears to "stand still" in the sky and also begins the sun making longer days at its pivot point. Feasting in gratitude. Festival of lights. The return of the sun-fire mimicked with candles and bonfires in ceremonies of celebration. The longest night encourages storytelling, coming together for warmth, and sharing the food and medicines harvested

**"THE EIGHT SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS THAT HAVE COME DOWN TO US THROUGH MANY SOLAR TRADITIONS ARE CLEARLY MARKING THE SOLSTICES AND EQUINOXES. WINTER SOLSTICE MARKS THE SHORTEST DAYS BETWEEN DEC 20 AND 22, WHEN THE SUN APPEARS TO "STAND STILL" IN THE SKY AND ALSO BEGINS THE SUN MAKING LONGER DAYS AT ITS PIVOT POINT."**

during the warmth of summer. Great stone megaliths such as Newgrange in Ireland were erected 5,000 years ago to honor this moment of the year, the return and rebirth of the Sun!

The Midwinter Solstice holiday is festive and fun for all ages and can bring together community with lights, food, music, ritual, and storytelling. I appreciate so much the ongoing tradition of the Winter Solstice Ceremony that we began so many years ago in our hometown. It appears that this connection to the sacred is wanted by all ages of humans, as we see families and youngsters come looking for something deep and meaningful in the winter season of religious Holidays. I believe it's filling a huge need for community members, as the sense of the sacred is missing from our lives, and we long for it.

We are all related, interconnected and cannot kill or harm another without harming ourselves. Seasonal ceremonies remind us of our inter-relationships to life. Ceremonies by Earth Stewards are needed! My experience with the Legacy Cannabis Community is that of good stewardship. Cannabis farmers and gardeners know this; it is what we have been experiencing for our whole lives. Caring for the Sacred Plant requires living naturally with the land and the seasons. Stewardship for the soil, and water, the land around. Long-term, loving the land you live upon, leaving it better for your descendants. Canna-folks have great experience and understanding to share with others and live in harmony with Earth - when to plant and harvest, how to care for the harvest and share it with others in seasonal rhythms. Community Centers around the world are built to bring

communities together so every community around the country may have a place to gather and celebrate in winter, cold, and weather.

I hope that you are inspired to get together with family, friends, and the larger community - to drum, sing, dance, make music, and share food at Midwinter. Invite outward and celebration develops easily because we all want it.

Let's share special ceremonial time with our waiting communities! 🌿





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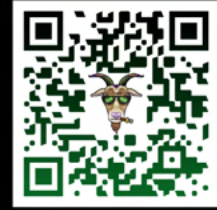
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# Kaneh-Bosm in the Hebrew Bible: EXPLORING THE POSSIBLE CANNABIS CONNECTION

WORDS & PHOTOS | KELLEEN PETERS

**T**his paper examines the potential connection between cannabis and the term “kaneh-bosm” mentioned in the Hebrew Bible, specifically in the Old Testament.

While cannabis is not explicitly named in the Bible, some researchers speculate that “kaneh-bosm” might refer to cannabis. The term appears in the original Hebrew text, particularly in the Book of Exodus, describing an ingredient used in anointing oil. However, this interpretation remains a subject of scholarly debate and requires careful examination.

The Hebrew Bible, a foundational text of Judaism and Christianity, does not explicitly mention cannabis. However, there are theories suggesting a potential link between certain terms in the original Hebrew text, such as “kaneh-bosm” and cannabis.

## KANEH-BOSM IN THE HEBREW BIBLE

### Linguistic Analysis:

The term “kaneh-bosm” appears in the original Hebrew text of the Old Testament, specifically in the Book of Exodus (Exodus 30:23), as an ingredient used in the anointing oil. “Kaneh” refers to a reed or cane, and “bosm” denotes aromatic or fragrant plant material.

**“SOME RESEARCHERS AND SCHOLARS PROPOSE THAT “KANEH-BOSM” MIGHT REFER TO CANNABIS, GIVEN THE PLANT’S AROMATIC AND PSYCHOACTIVE PROPERTIES. THEY SUGGEST THAT CANNABIS COULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE INGREDIENTS USED IN THE ANOINTING OIL.”**

### HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT:

Scholars highlight that “kaneh-bosm” could potentially refer to a plant that was aromatic and had spiritual significance, considering the anointing oil’s ritualistic and sacred use in ancient times.

### INTERPRETATIONS AND SPECULATIONS:

#### Cannabis as Kaneh-Bosm:

Some researchers and scholars propose that “kaneh-bosm” might refer to cannabis, given the plant’s aromatic and psychoactive

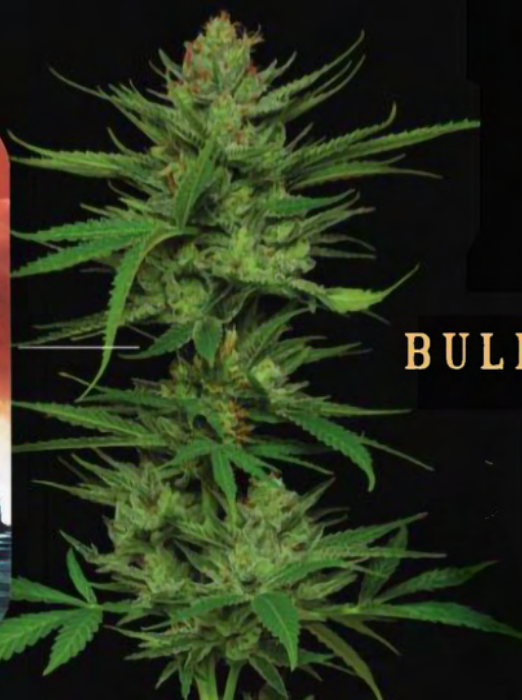
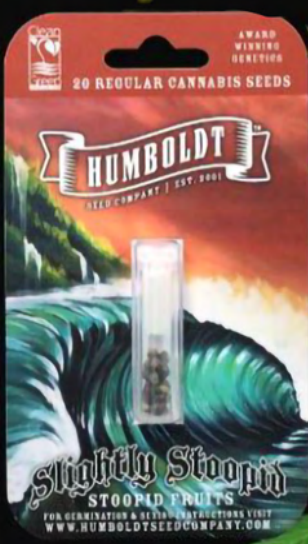
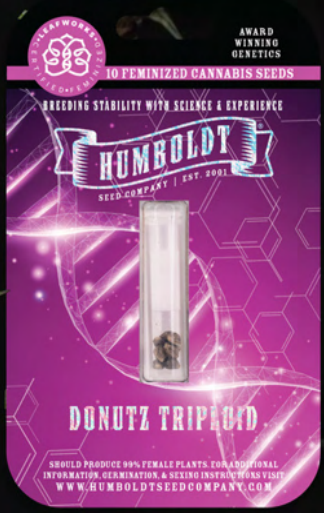
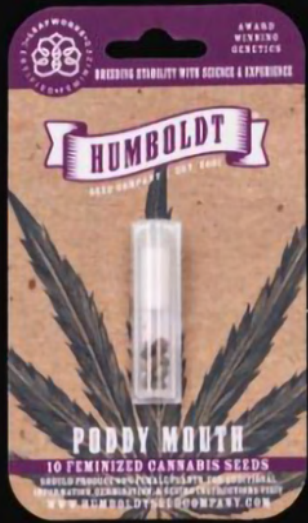
properties. They suggest that cannabis could have been one of the ingredients used in the anointing oil.

### ALTERNATIVE INTERPRETATIONS:

Others argue that “kaneh-bosm” may refer to aromatic plants like calamus, cinnamon, or other fragrant materials common in the region. They propose that cannabis might not align with the intended meaning of the term.

While the Bible does not explicitly mention cannabis, the potential connection between “kaneh-bosm” and cannabis remains a matter of interpretation. Various scholars have presented contrasting viewpoints based on linguistic, historical, and cultural analyses. Understanding the linguistic nuances and historical context is crucial in interpreting ancient texts accurately. Further interdisciplinary research is needed to establish a more definitive understanding of whether “kaneh-bosm” indeed refers to cannabis or other aromatic plants used in ancient rituals.🌿





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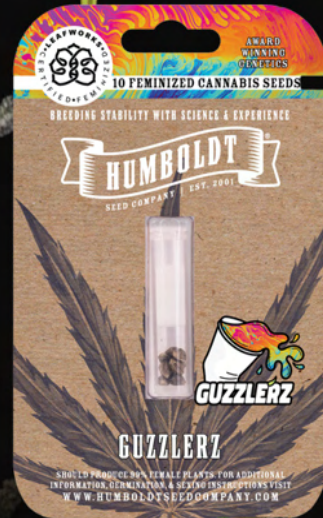
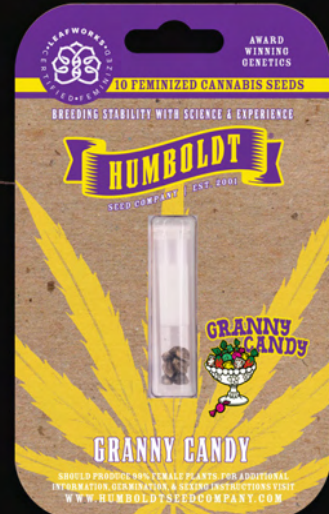


Featured Photo:  
CARAMEL CREAM AUTOFLOR STRAINS



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STRAINS  
AT THE TOP  
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OREGON,  
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