

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment

#3

From: Marc Chytilo <marc@lomcsb.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:52 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: Hartmann, Joan; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob
Subject: SBCRC to BOS Hemp Package 1-21-22.pdf
Attachments: SBCRC to BOS Hemp Package 1-21-22.pdf



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Clerk of the Board – please accept the attached comment from the Santa Barbara Coalition for Responsible Cannabis concerning item # 3 on Tuesday’s agenda, the proposed hemp cultivation licensing ordinance.

Best regards

Marc

* * * * *

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COALITION
for responsible cannabis

January 21, 2022

Chair Joan Hartmann
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

By Email
sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

RE: Proposed Hemp Cultivation Licensing Ordinance, Tuesday 1/25/22, item # 3

Char Hartmann and Members of the Board of Supervisors

The Santa Barbara Coalition for Responsible Cannabis (Coalition) is a non-profit, community benefit organization seeking to ensure that odor and other impacts from commercial scale cannabis and hemp operations in Santa Barbara County do not significantly and adversely impact surrounding land uses. The Coalition has appealed numerous permits, supported research, testing and implementation of promising odor detection and control technologies, worked with responsible growers who agree that pervasive offsite odors are not acceptable, and appeared before your Board on numerous occasions to seek the imposition of enhanced conditions on projects as well as revisions to the County's cannabis permitting and licensing ordinances.

The Coalition has serious concerns and reservations that the adoption of the proposed hemp cultivation licensing ordinance without concomitant cultivation permitting regulations and compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Our primary concern is the proposed ordinance's potential to cause widespread odor nuisances and jeopardize the ability of the County to enforce odor control requirements against other cannabis cultivation operations. **We ask that your Board take no action on the proposed ordinance, and direct staff to return with a report on the options for regulating hemp cultivation that ensure that the cultivation of highly odorous CBD strains do not impair our region's air quality through the emissions of odor causing compounds during cultivation, harvesting and processing.**

The County has the legal authority to control activities that cause nuisances and discomfort to residents and businesses under its police power and zoning ordinance. The "Right to Farm" ordinances do not allow a farmer to plant hemp and start a new nuisance that impacts neighbors, these protections only protect existing farm operations from complaints by people that move into the area of the nuisance. Proposition 64 specifically authorizes the regulation of hemp. § 3(aa).

The General Plan's Agricultural Element requires consideration of environmental impacts before supporting expansion and intensification of agriculture. Agricultural Element Goal 1. Adopting

the licensing ordinance without a cultivation permitting program represents the County's support for intensification of agriculture. While the Agricultural Element references freedom of crop choice (Policy I.B), such rights and freedoms must be conducted in a manner that do not impact the long term viability of agriculture. Id. Expanded hemp cultivation will increase odors at wineries and tasting areas, increase terpene exposure to grapes, and introduce hemp pollen that will interfere with cannabis cultivation, each of which will impact the long term viability of existing agriculture. These impacts must be considered before taking action and all actions must be consistent with the General Plan.

The proposed ordinance allows hemp cultivation without including a local permitting program, and thus hemp cultivation may proceed and will expand in 2022 upon the adoption of this ordinance.

Adopting this ordinance is a discretionary act, and none of the identified CEQA exemptions apply. Adopting the ordinance will directly cause increased hemp acreage in Santa Barbara County to be planted without control of location or odors. See attachments demonstrating that hemp is as odorous as cannabis, and thus is likely to cause significant adverse impacts.

The Coalition believes that the County is jumping the gun on hemp and should not adopt this licensing ordinance. State agencies are currently developing additional rules and regulations for the cultivation of hemp and the US government is reviewing the State's hemp plan. Hemp cultivation can generate odors just like cannabis. The County must adopt a permit program and require effective odor control. There is no mandate for this ordinance at this time, and the Board of Supervisors should not adopt this ordinance and instead direct staff to regulate hemp to control odors and adopt a tax on hemp cultivation.

The cultivation in 2021 of a small percentage of the County's total permitted cannabis acreage generated significant odor issues in the Santa Ynez Valley and elsewhere. Hemp will exacerbate these impacts, and make enforcement of the Cannabis Ordinance and permit conditions more difficult from the introduction of additional sources of similar odors. See attachments. Without the ordinance, the status quo will persist, and hemp will only be legally produced through licensure with an agricultural research program. Once the ordinance is passed, the County's licensing process will open the door to increased cultivation of hemp, with attendant odor and other impacts.

Two years ago the Board of Supervisors directed the Agricultural Commissioner to develop an "administrative ordinance" to license the cultivation of hemp in Santa Barbara County. Since that time, we have learned a great deal about cannabis, including hemp, and began the development of strategies for controlling odors. Cannabis odors are already experienced in urban areas near cannabis cultivation sites, and odors will become a greater problem in these urban areas if hemp is formally licensed by the County and additional areas are planted.

More work must be done to refine and advance the detection and control of odor causing compounds from hemp and cannabis, and until these controls are developed and made

requirements of cultivation in the County, there will be significant adverse environmental impacts. The County must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act before exercising its discretion in adopting the hemp ordinance.

The Staff's analysis lacks a clear explanation of the current status of hemp regulation, that the Board has discretion to tax and regulate hemp cultivation, and there is no explanation of processing issues, which also generate odors. There has been no public process for the review of hemp permitting and regulations, which is important for such a controversial and impactful issue.

The Coalition asks that the Board of Supervisors refrain from adopting the ordinance or licensing hemp until:

1. State and federal regulatory process are finalized
2. Options for local regulation of hemp cultivation are identified and considered, and a local permitting and taxing structure adopted and in force
3. A public outreach, education and information gathering process is complete
4. An environmental review process is conducted
5. The agricultural industry is consulted and their recommendations considered

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns and acting judiciously on this important topic

Respectfully submitted,

Santa Barbara Coalition for Responsible Cannabis

Home › News › About That "Skunky" Cannabis Smell

About That "Skunky" Cannabis Smell

By Gillian Jalimnson April 6, 2021



Image: [LeniG](#)

Researchers believe they may have identified the chemical primarily responsible for complaints regarding the smell of some marijuana and hemp cultivation operations.

We recently mentioned complaints in connection with the [smell of hemp farms](#) – some of them anyway – are far from being uncommon. But it turns out what has been described as a "skunky-like" odor may have nothing to do with certain terpenes, the aromatic compounds found in many plants previously thought to be responsible.

A research team consisting of Byers Scientific, Iowa State University and Texas-based odor experts used a triangulation approach of analytical chemistry to potentially identify the primary culprit as being 3-methyl-2-butene-1-thiol (321 MBT). This compound is among seven contained in a skunk's spray that give the critter its smelly reputation.

321 MBT is also the same chemical causing the skunk-type aroma and



odd flavour in "light-struck" beer. This occurs when beer is exposed to strong light, which causes certain compounds in hops to degrade. Light-struck beer is also known as "skunked" beer and is one of the reasons beer is usually stored in brown rather than clear or green bottles, as brown glass transmits less visible light.

There's a connection between hops and cannabis – they are in the same plant family (Cannabaceae).

But the 321 MBT discovery isn't the end of the story – the researchers say identifying the chemical is only the first step in addressing the issue, and efforts are continuing to further evaluate the odor and the most appropriate manner of mitigation. [The researchers note](#) other compounds in cannabis's gas-phase emissions and reactions in the atmosphere "may significantly affect the perception and measurement of 321 MBT."

Additionally, it seems not all hemp farms stink – and this may be key in developing varieties that contain the required level of desired chemicals or other attributes and less of the undesirable such as 321 MBT.

Trivia: while the term "skunk" is sometimes used to describe the smell of cannabis, it can also refer to all high-THC strains of marijuana in some parts of the world.





You are here: [Home](#) / [Does Hemp Smell Bad](#) / [What Odours To Expect When Growing Or Processing Hemp](#)

DOES HEMP SMELL BAD – WHAT ODOURS TO EXPECT WHEN GROWING OR PROCESSING HEMP



Hemp has been booming in popularity ever since the farm bill passed in 2018 and it is with good reason, Hemp possess a whole host of Industrial uses and there are a ton of medical benefits associated with marijuana’s friendly cousin.

The question we get a lot is does hemp smell and the answer is that yes it certainly does. Hemp and marijuana are virtually indistinguishable as plants with the only difference being the amount of THC in the plant. Hemp plants are required by law to have under .3% THC but THC is not the part of the plant that is responsible for the smell. The buds of the

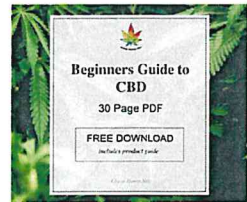
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hemp plant contain terpenes and flavonoids which smell exactly the same as Marijuana in every way and if you don't know what marijuana smells like, it is a strong and pungent smell that some like and some dislike.

LIVING NEXT DOOR TO A HEMP FARM – DOES HEMP SMELL WHEN IT IS GROWING?



A few news stories have been doing the rounds lately about how Hemp Farms in Long Island New York are causing problems for locals who have been having the deal with the smell of the plants which can be quite strong.

It's funny that I saw another news story where a couple said that there was a smell of Skunk in the air and the reporter but in their article that hemp smells like a 'Dead Skunk'. Since this was the first result on Google, I had to correct the record with this article.

The couple in the video had said that it was as if their

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friendly neighbour was smoking skunk which happens to be a famous strain of marijuana and now hemp flower as well.

Hemp definitely smells when it begins to flower and produce those Terpenes and flavonoids that produce the pungent smell and that smell can get even worse when it comes time for harvest and those plants have reached maximum smelling.

DOES HEMP PROCESSING SMELL?



You bet it does. Cutting down the hemp plants will do little to alleviate the strong smells which it excretes. Also when processing the plant, you will be breaking it down into smaller pieces and this can led to more terpenes filling the air and it will actually smell more than when it was growing.

If you have any experience with Marijuana, you will know the smell I am talking about and it is a notoriously difficult one to mask or hide.

[HOW TO MITIGATE THE SMELL OF HEMP](#)

[DO HEMP FLOWERS SMELL LIKE WEED WHEN YOU ARE SMOKING THEM](#)

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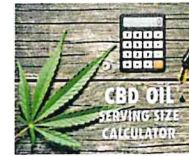
DOES HEMP SMELL BAD?



Hemp probably smelled bad to the local primary school in New York who called the local authorities because of the strong smell that was coming from a nearby hemp farm but in my opinion, hemp doesn't smell bad, I actually love the smell of Hemp.

Maybe it is an acquired taste or maybe it is something that you either love or you hate, but I think anyone who has experience of using Hemp flower or Marijuana will not find the smell bad. All crops that grow will have a smell, regular farms have a smell, various crops have distinctive smells and all animals produce smells that are far worse than hemp so it is certainly not on its own in this category.

Hemp strains will have various different smells depending on which Terpenes are in the plant from Citrusy smells, to Pine Smells to the infamous Skunk Smell.



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HOW FAR DOES THE SMELL OF HEMP TRAVEL



We all know that feeling of driving through the countryside and getting a whiff of cow manure or horse waste and it is not very pleasant. Hemp can produce a similar level of smell but for some the smell of hemp will be a nice one.

We estimate using nothing but Bro Science that the smell of Hemp will not travel further than a couple of miles but when it is blooming it may travel a bit further.

Since Hemp is now legal, those living around hemp farms will probably need to get used to the smell and as I have said, hemp is not as bad as living near a cow farm.

DOES HEMP SMELL DURING HARVEST

Yes, Hemp will smell considerably worse during a

Gummies Review

September 26, 2019 -

12:05 pm



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September 26, 2019 - 10:41 am



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September 21, 2019 - 6:30 am



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September 20, 2019 - 7:30 pm



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September 17, 2019 - 3:44 pm



CBD For Birds – Benefits, Uses & Best

harvest because when you start cutting leaves, the terpenes will be released and the smell will be free to travel unimpeded. Expect a big increase in smell as you begin to harvest.

HOW TO MITIGATE THE SMELL OF HEMP



One great way to reduce the burden of smell during Harvest is to remove the biggest leaves by hand and then hang the whole plant upside down to dry. This can be more time consuming for a big farm and the plants will take a lot longer to dry but it will result in better flowers for smoking or for use in oils, edibles and other products.

If you are worried about smelling during harvest [check out this article:](#)

Product

September 13, 2019 - 6:58 am

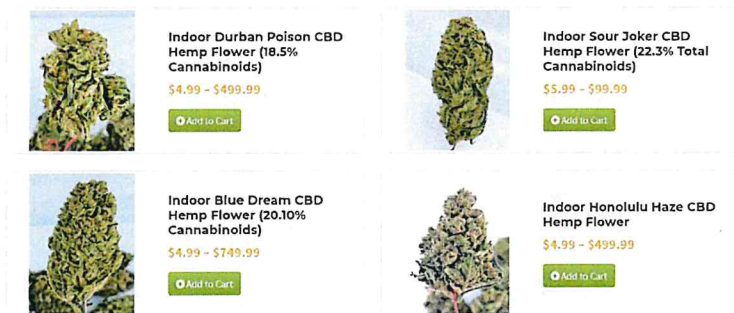
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DO HEMP FLOWERS SMELL LIKE WEED WHEN YOU ARE SMOKING THEM



Yes, Hemp flowers smell exactly the same as weed when you are smoking them. That is because the Cannabis and Hemp are really only distinguishable by the amount of THC in the product. Hemp Buds look, feel and taste the exact same as marijuana except they will not get you high but instead relax you and they have many other positive health benefits.

HOW CAN POLICE TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HEMP FLOWERS & MARIJUANA?

This is a very interesting question because it is almost impossible for police to tell the difference without testing the 2 products to see what is actually in them.

We recommend that you don't flaunt you hemp flower smoking in public or smoke hemp while driving to avoid any problems that may occur because certifiably cannot tell the difference and this is

causing problems all around the USA, The UK and Europe.

THINKING OF TRYING HEMP FLOWERS



If you are thinking about trying hemp flowers then it is best to go with a fully integrated company like Industrial Hemp Farms. They have third party lab testing on every batch and their shipping is free within the US. The shipping is fully integrated so there is no chance of Police seizure.

They have a wide range of buds from Top Shelf to Fire Flower to Budget Strains from \$4 a gram or \$70 an ounce. They offer a full range of Hemp services including Clones, Pre Rolls, CBD Cigarettes and the list goes on and on.

Check out [Industrial Hemp Farms](#) here and you can get 20% of any orders with the coupon: GREATHEMP

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Aidan Lehane

Aidan Lehane is an entrepreneur who has a lifelong



passion for CBD, Hemp and allowing people to find an effective natural remedy to many of their pains and illnesses.

Aidan has been a constant advocate for cbd and hemp legalization for over 2 decades and is often found researching

& creating blogs and videos about CBD, on the Great Hemp Youtube channel while testing and reviewing countless products for quality and effectiveness.

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SCIENCE

'Stink like dead skunks'! Odor from hemp farm dividing Maryland neighbors

Maryland legislators are considering banning hemp farms within two miles of residences, but agriculture supporters cry foul.

Author: Scott Broom
Published: 9:54 PM EST February 26, 2020
Updated: 9:54 PM EST February 26, 2020



ANNAPOLIS, Md. — A surprising side effect of the CBD oil craze has left farmers who grow the oil-producing plant in Baltimore County, MD feuding with their neighbors.

"Hemp fields stink like dead skunks!" claimed one neighbor of a farm that grew hemp outside Baltimore during the summer and fall of 2019.

"Many of my neighbors complained of allergic reactions, eye irritation, headaches and nausea," the woman said to WJZ in Baltimore. "We need to change Maryland law to stop this nightmare."

As a result, Maryland's legislature is now debating a proposed ban on growing industrial hemp -- used in the production of CBD oil -- within two miles of homes.

RELATED: ['CBD has the potential to harm you' FDA warns in new report](#)

Hemp is a cousin to marijuana, but the plant does not contain enough of the psychoactive substance THC to make a person intoxicated. However, hemp does have a strong odor similar to marijuana.

State Senator Shelly Hettleman (D- Baltimore County) proposed the two-mile ban.

"If we go down the road of legalizing marijuana, which also gives off a powerful smell when

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grown, then its really important for policymakers to take into effect these policies on resi
Hettleman told WJZ.

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RELATED: [US finalizing rule to allow farmers to legally grow hemp](#)

At least 20 farms in Maryland grow industrial hemp under a 2018 Maryland law allowing the crop as a pilot program, according to biological science professor Mark Holland of Salisbury University.

The law requires hemp operations to be partnered with a research university.

Other hemp farms are operating in Howard and Anne Arundel County, according to state regulators.

At hearings in Annapolis this week, farmers said a two-mile buffer requirement from homes would kill the business in Maryland.

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ENVIRONMENT

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Odor complaints sparking talk of new ordinances in Colorado

Published July 10, 2020





Colorado officials who have long since settled how to zone marijuana cultivation to address odor complaints are starting to turn their sights to the hemp industry.

Local authorities in Boulder voted this week to limit hemp businesses to three within a 500-foot radius, an attempt to address smell complaints related to the college town's five dozen or so hemp businesses, The (Boulder) Daily Camera [reported](#).

The change would bring hemp businesses in line with the town's existing limits on marijuana businesses. "With respect to odor, we want to encourage these types of businesses, whether they're hemp or marijuana, to be concentrated and closer together because the more they're spread out around town, the more residents and other businesses they're going to impact," Mayor Pro Tem Bob Yates said.

 And in the Colorado mountain county of Pitkin, which does not allow commercial marijuana cultivation, some residents are pushing for limits  hemp production, The Aspen Times [reported](#).

 The county commission discussed hemp smell concerns in May but declined to take action, citing right-to-farm laws in place. The officials decided to monitor complaints through the 2020 growing season and revisit the topic.

 Odors from hemp and marijuana cultivation and processing are often cited by communities that limit or block cannabis businesses. Odor complaints are common across the agriculture sector, especially in the dairy and livestock industries.

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