



CannaXpress

cannabis expressions accross daily lives...



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HIGHS & LOWS ALONG THE LEGALISATION CORRIDORS

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HOW TO REACH US



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Beyond, Weeding & Dealing

BY: Ganjahman Samora

In the company of stalkers, mockers, talkers, jokers, day walkers and all of us isolators; pretense lives off the tree of the fruits we promise to bear as there remains no lasting manifestation of bud from the plant. Maybe in confusion the budding bloom is a male dominant hermaphrodite, i

mean we can all see the curbs and the absence of pebbles in a process of substitution by elimination that seeks to point seekers to the solution. If substitution is the model of solving how do we shift the energies of reduction and allow for addition to overtake a man-made culture of subtraction from seed, germination, vegetating and One should get the picture.

Like so many of nature's gifts, cannabis trees strengthen as they dance in the wind, the swings and the twists tell the stalk to step up and stiffen to carry more. What winds they are that blow along the journey to the formulation of a working cannabis document for a beautiful plant. Maybe the only documentation desired by the plant is on its facets and attributes and how it interacts with the rest of creation. Unlike so many universal matters that carry a defined golden thread in the seam of the policies, most nations liberating cannabis seem to be hitting tangent points in comparison to other states as they pursue customisation that has mapped the cannabis consumer demographics in different states.

So as the discussions takes shape the mould of the masses must be the framework that informs the dough which ends to crust. There however remains a significant gathering that prefers not pancakes and rather looks towards live cannabis. The bias is evident in that never in modern prohibition times has the elite and the industrialists been pinned in primary policy framing an operation, so the call is ever for the under resourced and the

primary interested parties to be catered for in a large degree. The recreational users made bold steps to affiliate and stand with cannabis in the face of incrimination almost all pioneering cannabis people have a story of a standup with the law at one time or another.

As the law gathers from the knees to stand for the nations of Africa it needs to remember those it has stood against and still keeps behind iron gates for their affiliation with cannabis. The policy document and the official decision in principle is debated and signed along the journey to becoming law by man in branded cotton in the exclusion of those that the anti-cannabis laws in reformation brandished. Exclusion primarily from participation on policy formulation means that everything else that is secondary stands on those icons; the participation, the pardon, the practice on the cannabis plant matter must need to be cannabis people based primarily.

This people based approach is why the framework governing cannabis differs from one state to another. From Bobby Green Hash coffee shop in Richards Bay to a Barcelona tourist lounge

the standards to operate are all cannabis but they hit on different nerves. Yes we cannot reinvent the wheel and with the same wheels run rotor engines that wheel the boats at sea and wash with the jets in the sky, may be in time we will see the cannabis plant beyond wheeling and dealing as the prisoners become the patients and the dealers' plant donors. Love, Light and Life in the Gregorian 2022.



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THE HIGHS & LOWS ALONG THE LEGALISATION CORRIDOR

Samora M.

KING KHOISAN SA ARREST

A DISPLAY OF LEGALISATION DISPARITY IN S. AFRICA

From sitting in a discussion with cannabis people propelling the realities of section 21 cannabis to witnessing the subsequent violations of never mind values coopted into the Bill of Rights we are witnessing a global demise in the trashing of what would formulate the backbone in the universal human rights enshrined by the United Nations. The highs and lows remain a startling contrast along the journey towards liberating not just the cannabis plant but the people of cannabis too. The arrest and subsequent detention of King Khoisan SA is a realistic reminder of how far along we have not come from that which plant trial termed as the last remaining apartheid law.

As the battle grounds were drawn on differing perceptions on a cannabis plant, the encounter was not a peaceful one as an unarmed squadron of law Enforcers stood on one side and prepared to enter the garden of the Khoisan community who stood on one end voicing their disgruntlement with the intentions of the state officials. King Khoisan SA had earlier in the day circulated a video clip from their settlement at the Union Buildings garden stating that "I have just got the word that they are going to arrest me for planting of dacha (Khoekhoe native word for cannabis)".

The Khoisan families have been stationed at the Union Buildings in the Capital of South Africa for close to three years and as would be the culture of has sprouted around their residence and so has cannabis been germinated after the group had mounted greenhouses for the particular purpose. Whilst the primase in demands from the tribal unit that has not been shy of media headlines is to be recognized as the first and original inhabitants of the plains known today as South Africa this confrontation was mentioning none of those matters but rather the presence of cannabis plants asserting intent mentioned in the circulated video of King Khoisan SA mentioning his imminent arrest.

The SAPS official who led the squadron issued a directive to his subordinates to enter the garden of the community stating "come in let's look around, you will find some resistance that is why we are here". An earlier engagement between the King Khoisan SA and SAPS officials has reached a clear line of differences as the King Khoisan SA voiced out "I am standing by this tree, this tree will not be removed"

Thabo Makwela the Director of the Marijuana Board of South Africa stated that "Khoisan are the people whose culture uses cannabis, instead of dealing with the Khoisan culture antagonism is being used, as people who stand for cannabis we should open a case with the CRL (Cultural, Religious and Linguistic) Rights commission these are serious issues the police and the government think that people who use cannabis can be lowered to the lowest levels'.

The arrest of the Khoisan King brought to the fore everyday lows faced by the cannabis people, the dragging of the King Khoisan holding on to a cannabis plant was all in days' work as the state officials seemed not deterred by any "obstacle" that stood between them and cannabis. King Khoisan SA was dragged by an armed police official who at one moment centers in between his hand and the King with his counterpart on the ground a sunflower plant and in realisation of a wrong plant in his midst quickly lets go of the dacha herb rounding his hand past the sunflower plant to grasp the dacha plant again. A truth evidenced in Ras Gareth Prince remark to CannaXpress noting that "this demonstrates how the South African government ignore the Bill of Right and work against the interest of its own people and environment. The ganja trees were not a threat to anyone and the plants have a right of existence". A true indication of the stigma that the plant continues to face on one end of the legalization journey. King Khoisan SA has led the resistance settlement at the Union building for over two years and only now in his affiliation with cannabis is he being dragged on the floor and yet the primal demands prompting their settlement have dragged the legal floors in the very government discussions. "To deprive someone of his freedom for planting trees is a disproportionate exercise of power. This shows that South Africa is still a police state when it comes to dagga and that the government refuse to reasonably accommodate the dagga and the indigenous communities" a truth echoed by Ras Gareth Prince. King Khoisan South Africa was detained with two other members of the Khoisan settlers who made up the community that could be heard shouting "it's our medicine" as the SAPS officials uprooted the ganja. This happens in the heart beat of the Gauteng province where David Makhura the Premier of the province relays his desires in a bid to turn Gauteng into the cannabis hub of South Africa.



King Khoisan SA Dragged by Police Officials Photo Alet Pretorius

Route 2 Getting High on Legal Cannabis



The moments of walking into schedule 6 and below facilitating its cannabis gatherings, grow inclusion and consideration as a tents and massive cannabis medicine. The application process commences with a medical needs assessment document consenting to prechecks and retelling of health aspects that need to be administered with cannabis. The spark for Samora the weeditor was how the medical range in the diseases that cannabis is proven to address. The inclusion of the metaphysical space of emotions and state of mind is one unit that promises to thrive. The first document is normally followed after by an extensive document granting consent to a prescribing medical practitioner. This is followed by a virtual consultation where the prescribed specialist weighs on the gravity and the medical relevance to forward the application to SAHPRA. The application process commences with a medical needs assessment document consenting to prechecks and retelling of health aspects that need to be administered with cannabis. The spark for Samora the weeditor was how the medical range in the diseases that cannabis is proven to address. The inclusion of the metaphysical space of emotions and state of mind is one unit that promises to thrive. The first document is normally followed after by an extensive document granting consent to a prescribing medical practitioner. This is followed by a virtual consultation where the prescribed specialist weighs on the gravity and the medical relevance to forward the application to SAHPRA.

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CBD: THE MIRACLE OF EARTH'S HEALING

Newcastle, the Home of TruLeaf

CBD - an impactful positive influence on the human body to use its own cannabinoids more effectively



Sid Ameen recommends Tru Leaf Healing. 6h · 🌐

Helped my brother with the severity of his seizures. Quality product that works

WHAT IS CBD

Cannabidiol (CBD) is a type of Cannabinoid, which is a chemical found naturally in Cannabis (both Marijuana & Hemp).

The human body has an endocannabinoid system (ECS) that receives and translates signals from cannabinoids.

Your endocannabinoid system (ECS) produces some cannabinoids of its own, which are called endocannabinoids, which helps regulate functions like sleep, immune-system responses & pain.

CBD does not produce a "high" & does not impair a person's functioning.

CBD has an influence on the body to use its own endocannabinoids more effectively, which is amazing!

CBD HEALING FOR INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY COVID

When someone has contracted the coronavirus, their body responds by a process known as a cytokine storm that causes the body to go into a 'fight mode'. This causes breathing related difficulties & over saturation of cytokines secreted within the body from the cells that respond to the virus. Cytokines allow for the body's defense, known as the immune system, to retaliate.

- Studies conducted at the University of Chicago suggests daily use of CBD **reduces cytokines & inflammation pathways** which lead to lung fibrosis. It also boosts interferons in the body to help stop virus replication, proving that taking CBD daily helps reduce the disease burden upon the body.
- CBD has been known to help with severe muscle aches & pains, headaches & sore throat - thus **alleviating the symptoms** experienced with the coronavirus.
- By increasing serotonin & reducing cortisol in the body, CBD helps with **pain relief & reducing anxiety** which is often experienced by those infected by the coronavirus.

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REVOLUTIONARY RASTA WAS A MAN ON A MISSION

ROUTE TO LEGAL CANNABIS

continued from page 3



(Left) The Late Lebo Malepa;
(right) Lebo Malepa and Maria Malepa nee Westlund



SAHPRA carries the regulatory mandate of rubber stamping sectionalised medicines application and when that greenlight is flashed it's time to celebrate as only the token of licencing now remains. What follows in access to not just a tag to keep the authorities at bay but a glamorous bud menu that makes a remarkable smoke; in the moment the centre is still issuing green flower as the medical option and they look to transitioning into cannabis oil space within the next few months. That process that boils to a close the application for the licence is the ordering of the bud and thereafter a procedural virtual visit to the medical practitioner every six months to renew the licence and regular restocking with the licencing facilitator. Now that is a simple looking process that has been streamlined by the Prof. BD De Beer Education and Research facility on a journey that has never been smooth sailing. An introductory statement spelling the history of the organisation states that "As South-Africa never had a template for this type of business, the company business plan changed multiple times to accommodate and create, what is now, the optimum operation for the growing, cultivation of Cannabis and the production of its products and bi-products". Licenced cannabis presents a growing opportunity for mind-set change as access and reach continue to grow on the medical prowess of the cannabis plant. The coupling of the cannabis dispensary with the educational and research facility is key in breaking propaganda policies that live in the minds carrying mainstream information on cannabis. After the paperwork and the books we are delighted as we hear Kyle stating that the medical assessment and the purchasing of cannabis can be accessed virtually on their website. The centres dispensary section branded THC Clinic has cannabis packed in eight gram and fourteen gram packages across a range of fourteen strains grown indoor and outdoor. Sad news is that in the moment the clinic is not allowed to dispense medical grade cannabis on the same day. In the wake of the diversity that cannabis alone possess in functionality and seemingly immeasurable strain count. This section 21 pathway paves yet another route along the corridor of legalisation with a thrust on the breaking of stereotypes of association from the general masses to the state official's continually making messes. Nick concludes speaking to the CannaXpress as he states that the primary vision of Prof BD de Beer Education and Research facility is in the name we are here to educate the people with the right information on cannabis to find out more on applying for a smoking licence the do visit www.thc.africa.

From the humble roots of craft and cannabis emerged the trail blazer Lebo stationed outside the then Hector Pieterse Memorial Exhibit in the late 90's. Lebo Malepa transitioned on Rasmus precisely two weeks after hosting the Mzansi Reggae Festival an event at the Lebo Backpackers grounds in Soweto. An event that Lebo could not attend inbody due to the state of his health at the time of the event. Maria Malepa nee Westlund spoke to the CannaXpress about her late husband stating that "Lebo was always on a mission and he had a vision and a personal affiliation with the cannabis plant, he was always raving to go even when he was severely ill". That drive and that desire was again reflected when after the Reggae Festival Maria showed his some video footage of the event to which when seeing Lebo remarked "take me there now".

Thamsanqa Pinana (Thami) a longtime friend of Lebo states that they met whilst selling art craft in Soweto and giggles as he states that "Lebo was Rasta to the core, we used to call ourselves Rastapantsula and people used to laugh at us stating that we joined Rasta because we could not afford clothes and meat. That was not the case for me and Lebo, we became Rasta because we identified with the values of love, respect and dignity. The values of Rasta formulated the framework on which Lebo founded his business in Soweto in the midst of the everyday challenges he was facing. "Lebo

had an ideology formulated around Rastafari, he was an entrepreneur and a humanitarian who together with the Rastafari community facilitated the podiums of communication discussion through awareness and information exchange initiatives that provided a place of safety, recreation and economic empowerment for the local community".

As CannaXpress further engages with Thami he states that "Lebo loved and respected his Ganja and rolling a joint was an art he undertook with pure cannabis with no tobacco mix stating that 'amagwala ayavika' (cowards dodge) the ganja". Speaking on the meditative vision that Lebo acquired as he blazed on the herb and basked in the African sun Thami states that when Lebo started planting trees at the park no one had a sight of what he was birthing. Some of the trees planted by Lebo now formulate the leafy canopy that characterises Lebo Back Packers.

In the view of cannabis and the breaking stereotypes of insanity with unproductiveness Thami relates to CannaXpress stating that "people used to laugh at us because we were always burning ganja, but when the social and community integration programs started rolling out, the perceptions began to change when people started coming in". Lebo Malepa obituary echoed the special embodiment that walked this land stating that: "In the late 1990's, with tourism still a fledgling industry in Soweto, Lebo saw an opportunity to tap into the

market. Soon he discovered that he could offer more than selling souvenirs and he saw that the tourism industry was lacking authentic experiences. He fought for the right of Sowetans to tell their own stories away from the bus window.

His passion for authentic storytelling and his activism to create opportunities on the ground developed into a backpacker, offering accommodation, bicycle, walking and tuk tuk tours around Soweto – all were first of their kind. His vision for a greener and more prosperous township resulted in rehabilitated waste lands being turned into a beautiful park, vegetable gardens and a camp site. His entrepreneurial journey was characterised by using the recourses available to him at the time and his business grew organically to the well-established award-winning enterprise it is today".

Lebo broke ground and opened new opportunities for the community of Soweto and South African tourism as a Rasta who looked beyond the simple lining of affairs as he revolutionised not just his community but the stereotypes on misfit cannabis people in the African community. His walk on these planes was a pathway that aligned his journey as one of "not just a businessman but a man on a mission" the words of Maria the wife of the late Soweto Soul of Tourism who remains as an anchor for their three children in the daughter Lesego and their two sons Leano and Lehumo.

SOUTHERN MAGNETISM

Humbleness from the Roots



PIC courtesy of @Tiggyzols

DEFOLIATING CANNABIS PLANTS

PART 2/2 Sponsored by Southern Magnetism

The key to properly defoliating cannabis plants is, of course, knowing what foliage to remove.

At the same time, it's also key to know when to defoliate. Ideally, we recommend defoliating your plants once during veg and once during flower.

If you're an inexperienced grower, only defoliate once during veg. If you are more experienced, you may want to try defoliating multiple times (given your grow schedule allows enough time for plants to recover after each defoliation).

Vegetative phase

We recommend defoliating vegging plants just before you switch them to bloom:

Start by removing big, hand-sized fan leaves first. These tend to overshadow almost anything below them, making it hard for light to properly penetrate your plant's canopy.

Next, remove any leaves that grow towards the inside of your cannabis plant. These also tend to overshadow important bud sites.

Finally, remove any old, yellowing foliage.

If this is your first time, we recommend defoliating only the bottom half of your plant. If there's any doubt about removing a particular leaf, play it safe and leave it in place. Don't remove more than 10–15% of a single plant's foliage.

If you're more experienced, however, we recommend defoliating from the bottom of your plant up to 3–4 nodes from the top of the canopy. Healthy plants should be able to handle having 20–25% of their foliage removed (given that you're not removing anything vital to your plant's development). For even better results, combine

defoliation with lollipopping and pruning to really help your plant make the most of its limited energy. Finally, once you've finished defoliating your vegging plants, give those 2–3 days of rest before switching their lights to 12/12.

Flowering phase

For best results, we recommend defoliating your plants a second time, roughly 3 weeks into the flowering phase. Follow the same steps listed above, but be a bit more prudent about the foliage you remove. Again, if you're a beginner, play it safe and only remove big fan leaves. Also, remember to be extra careful when handling your plants to avoid disturbing any of their young buds.

After this light defoliation, simply feed and water according to your regular schedule, giving your plants time to develop their flowers.

Knowing what foliage (and how much) to remove

Defoliation is an art form, if only in the sense that there are no definitive guidelines on how to do it. With time, however, you'll automatically know what leaves to remove from your plants and how much cutting they can handle.

If you've never defoliated before, we recommend you always play it safe and stick to removing only the foliage that very obviously impedes bud production. In particular, focus on big fan leaves and interior foliage that's already covering bud sites.

Quick tips to optimise defoliation

The key to getting big harvests indoors is to grow low, flat, and wide. Your plants need a solid canopy to power their growth.

Start low. Most of a plant's bottom foliage is pretty safe to remove.

Start slow. It can be easy to get lost in the rhythm of defoliating; then, before you

know it, you've stripped your plant of half its leaves. Stay focused and move slowly to avoid removing too much. First-timers should aim to remove no more than 10–15% of total foliage at a time.

Use sharp scissors. Our curved trimming scissors are great for making precise cuts when defoliating and trimming post-harvest. Remember to always keep your scissors clean to minimise the risk of disease and infection.

Different strains can handle different amounts of defoliation. Bushy indicas, for example, tend to cope particularly well with defoliation, whereas sativas tend to naturally produce fewer leaves, and thus can't handle as much.

Defoliation vs pruning —

understanding the differences Pruning is a separate HST technique that many growers confuse with defoliation. The former is much more aggressive and involves removing entire branches and nodes in addition to leaves. While it might seem counterintuitive, pruning is actually very effective. It helps your plant focus its energy exclusively on the nodes that receive the best light. After that's done, ideally, it'll produce the biggest, densest, and most potent flowers possible.

Defoliation, on the other hand, only involves removing the leaves. That said, many cultivators use defoliation alongside pruning to optimise production, or they'll use it alongside lollipopping, which we explained in more detail above.

SCAMMER RED FLAGS



The Collective

Our present world is one where the cannabis plant has in general been found to be swimming against the tide. Nothing new in that in a present future seemingly so far from the old the pursuit of the real remains an actual task in waters filled with fakes fish. The scammers are also in the water as they race with the cannabis plant past the gates of honesty into the murky waters of scams. The sad reality that faces the cannabis people in a grey world sealing doors of legitimacy in encrypted discussions behind closed doors.

For many cannabis people with InI in the midst our fingers have been torched by the flaming scammers doubling by the digits as the journey to legalisation grows. In the thousands that have been scammed with millions lost we reached out the season stoners to give us a guide and pin point the red flags that stoners should look out for when securing their stash in the underground.

To the pages enters the firebrand and cannabis creative Mo-Sativa and the collected Wiehan with some guides on how to run exchange operational affairs with flag colour detectors.

"Most of the time when we're buying cannabis online we are talking to a complete stranger. We don't know if we are going to be

giving our money to a scammer or someone who's genuinely in the cannabis industry. Here are a few red flags to look out for to make sure you don't fall victim of scammers in the cannabis industry. We poor or non-existent reviews and testimonials. Anyone who sells cannabis and takes their product seriously is definitely going to be posting the good things their customers are saying about their products. Sometimes you even get happy customers who willingly post about their experience as well as dissatisfied customers too. Nonetheless people are talking which means they have bought and consumed. However one also has to look out for scammers who make up your own reviews to trick people. So it's advisable to always make sure the homework is thoroughly undertaken; that means looking out for other people who are talking about their products and make sure that these accounts are accounts of real people.

Wiehan on another hand flips our attention to the retail menu from the cannabis retailer stating that weed buyers must "watch out for ridiculous menus like 40+ strains on the menu, most suppliers keep a handful of strains". If the menu is too large and at times "with unheard of exotic names of strains, this too is another crimson cloth on the probable retailer.

Continued on next page...

SCAMMER RED FLAGS

from previous page

The idea is always to be looking out for this indicators Mo-Sativa states that "when looking at acquiring bud be on the lookout for unreasonable pricing. So in the cannabis industry when you speak of unreasonable pricing we are speaking of two things mainly the price is way too high or the price is way too low. There are in principle two classes of people in this framework. There are those who price a greenhouse train with indoor pricing or in some cases they will send you pictures of beautiful Triple-A strains but the pricing will be ridiculously low".

Mo-Sativa continues to highlight her first hand experiences stating that "I have personally come across multiple times are pushy sales people. Now here is someone who does not take no for an answer they keep bugging one to purchase as they keep lowering the price of whatever they are offering as they keep giving you these supposed deals. If they do not take no for an answer that is also a red flag because a person who is confident in their product might be a bit persuasive but they will seldom be pushy".

Another red flag that people don't really consider is the absence of product details any good budtender should include all the details of the

product so the customer knows exactly what they are buying and also considerably what it is they are putting into their bodies. Now in most cases these online scammers will only put minimum information when they are posting about their product with little or no information on the product they are selling. Such information also comes to the aid of a customer as they are positioned with the ability to identify strains for specific outcomes from partaking in the plant. Wiehan knuckles the scammers with a front jab stating to never make any upfront payments; "most bud exchange transactions are relationship based, never pay for bud upfront, if someone asks for an upfront payment they either want to run off with your money or they are just starting up.

As purchasing cannabis becomes digitised we are restocking online from Instagram accounts or Twitter accounts another red flag I am extending to you is a poorly maintained social Media account or a poorly maintained website. If a cannabis brand has a website they need to make sure that the website looks as professional as possible it is a website after all it. Also poor maintenance of your social media accounts, inconsistency of content

with the same consistency of images coupled with not replying to people in the DM is one of the XX red flags.

Mo Sativa and Wiehan put forward these pointers in the hope that these tips will save fellow stoners from ashing trash as they steer clear of scammers in the cannabis community. Don't be lazy to do your research in terms of looking at reviews and what people are saying with regards to whatever particular seller you are in contact with. An anti-scammers WhatsApp gathering has been formulated as patrol police in an effort to call out the fake, the false and the unsanctified takers.



CANNABIS COUNTERING AND CURBING COVID



Internal Affairs

As the cannabis people on the frontline jostled in our native Africa with claims of the plant fighting the plight lodged by Covid-19 the sentiments were those similarly directed to weed head.

Massive resistance was met by meaningful recovery on patients facing an offensive from the flue after the intake of a variation of marijuana in some way.

Dr. Regina Hurley a General Anaesthesia at Mediclinic spoke to the 7Leaf on the healing power of cannabis highlighting that as a frontline worker she had been in ICU daily working on covid patient shying away for just two days in the

over an extensive period of almost one year. Over that tenure Dr. Hurley holds high cannabis as the seal that saved her from infection with any of the Covid variants.

Studies coming out of Oregon State University are now echoing scientifically the cause that has been whispered in the ganja circles. The research was published on US National Library of Medicine clearly states that the cannabis variant used in the Affinity selection-mass spectrometry assay was Cannabis Sativa.

The report states that "Cannabinoid acids from hemp (Cannabis Sativa)

were found to be allosteric as well as orthosteric ligands with micromolar affinity for the spike protein. In follow-up virus neutralization assays, cannabigerolic acid and cannabidiolic acid prevented infection of human epithelial cells by a pseudo virus expressing the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein and prevented entry of live SARS-CoV-2 into cells. Importantly, cannabigerolic acid and cannabidiolic acid were equally effective against the SARS-CoV-2 alpha variant B.1.1.7 and the beta variant B.1.351".

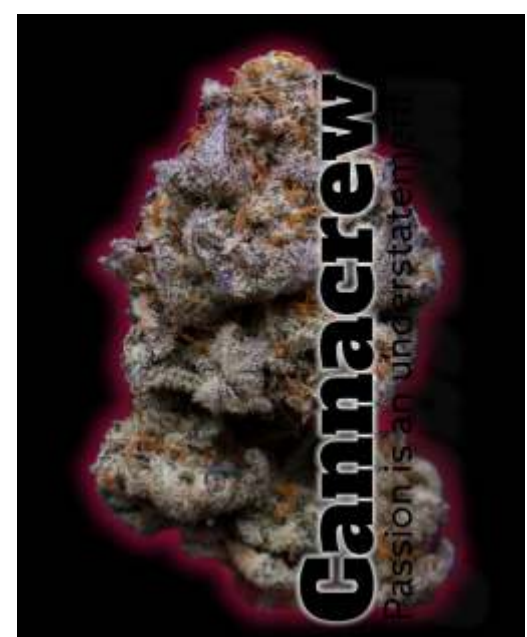
The ability of cannabis to destabilise existing bonds through neutralisation and to prevent entry positions cannabis as both a remedy to treat and a preventative method to curb possible infection.

The official report from the research team led by Richard van Breemen, a researcher with Oregon State's Global Hemp Innovation Centre, College of Pharmacy and Linus Pauling Institute speaks to the working and specifics of the cannabinoids that indicated the desired outcome noting: "The compounds are cannabigerolic acid, or CBGA, and cannabidiolic acid, CBDA, and the spike protein is the same drug target used in COVID-19 vaccines and antibody therapy. A drug target is any molecule critical to the process a disease follows, meaning its disruption can thwart infection or disease progression.

"These cannabinoid acids are abundant

in hemp and in many hemp extracts," van Breemen said. "They are not controlled substances like THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, and have a good safety profile in humans. And our research showed the hemp compounds were equally effective against variants of SARS-CoV-2, including variant B.1.1.7, which was first detected in the United Kingdom, and variant B.1.351, first detected in South Africa."

In reference to possible intake methods and the safety of cannabis as a medicine it is important to note that cannabis is orally bioavailable and with a long history of safe human use, these cannabinoids, isolated or in hemp extracts, have the potential to prevent as well as treat even the Omicron infection.





Canna Xpress

cannabis expressions accross daily lives...

WALK INTO AFRICA



WITS STUDNETS PIONNER DAGGA GROW SOLUTIONS



Tulani Ngwenya

Constant Beckerling and Anlo van Wyk both Masters students at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) founded a startup called AgriSmart Engineering, with a focus on closed-loop hydroponics and aquaponics. AgriSmart specializes in the design and implementation of automated smart growing systems. The two academics; Beckerling and Van Wyk specifically focus on dagga farming as an engineering problem. They use their grower experience including their research with engineering and technical expertise in rolling out the startup.

Beckerling and Van Wyk, "Are developing organic nutrients," the anonymous source said. She went on to say that, "Beckerling and Van Wyk have produced an organic nutes that will not (ferment), clog up pipes and have pH swings in a hydro system," a Capetown based dagga researcher who wanted to stay anonymous indicated.

"There are so many players currently in the LED grow lights. No one will run hectares of dagga indoors under HPS if they can help it...they will just do outdoor, or greenhouse on that scale," She went on to point out adding that "as for nutrients...they use organic in that article, and organic and hydroponic does not ready gel well...hydro people use salts. People do run biophonic systems, but that just sounds like a lot of work and as far as I know, in aquaponics have a whole lot of shortcomings in the 'Fish-water' for when the plants go into flower. The water will need to be heavily supplemented with fish friendly additives if it is a recirculating system," she concluded.

To strike 'green gold' early, Beckerling and Van Wyk entered a blueprint for a cannabis cultivation research facility they designed in the GAP competition. Their entry into the GAP competition included two main agro-processing offerings, namely dagga specific light emitting diode (LED) grow lights in an automated Internet of Things (IoT) environment, customized for the research facility to accommodate the photobiology of the cannabis plants.

It also included proprietary organic hydroponic nutrient, which Beckerling and Van Wyk formulate based on the respective hormonal growth cycles of the dagga plants. In a statement issued dated April last year, the University of the Witwatersrand notes that "even though they are both passionate cannabis growers," Beckerling and Van Wyk's focus remains on developing agri-tech for the sector.

Constant Beckerling pointed out that, "There is a matrix of factors for cannabis cultivation that we consider. As an engineering startup we are developing cultivation technologies for the African climate." He went on to say that, "For cannabis cultivation, South Africa faces shortcomings such as water stress and irregular electricity supply at a high cost. But the country also has strengths such as superior solar radiation and being one of the first countries that is in the process of commercializing cannabis."

Beckerling went on to explain that, "Our LED lighting tech runs 2.5 times more efficient on electricity than High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lights and even more so compared to Metal Halide (MH) fixtures." As he further added stating that "the lifetime of our LED fixtures is also significantly longer than that of HID lighting about

15 times at the upper-end. This translates to about 80 000 hours of light compared to about 5 000 hours lifetime for the HID leading to significantly lower maintenance costs. We could implement an artificial intelligence algorithm that takes in environmental input and based on those inputs it controls what the lighting output should be in that specific moment. This leads to optimization of power consumption which brings down electricity costs."

For the competition Beckerling and Van Wyk had to do financial projections around their fixtures and the potential benefits of their disruptive tech. The bottom line is that over five years the cultivator stands to save R25 million a hectare in electricity costs just on the lighting alone, compared to industry standard HID fixtures.

The two engineers are also formulating their own organic hydroponic nutrients for cannabis. "Besides electricity, your biggest running cost in your facility is going to be your nutrient cost which increases with scale. It's therefore crucial to get the right nutrients that tailor to your plants' specific hormonal growth phases," Beckerling said.

Cannabis plants require different nutrients in different stages of their development and require these nutrients in different concentrations as they mature. "We are doing a cannabis-specific hydroponic nutrient that we formulate completely organically, and we are planning to register it as a type 2 organic fertilizer in line with the regulations of South African law," Beckerling pointed out.

However, securing funding to develop and commercialize this nutrient, while producing it more than 10 times cheaper than the current direct market competition, is one of their

biggest stumbling blocks. Beckerling and Van Wyk's next aim is to build a demonstration facility to show how their technologies are working on the ground. Anlo Van Wyk said that, "Our novel LED lighting is a technology which is set to disrupt the cannabis industry. This technology is brought about by combining one of South Africa's unique strengths, which is solar radiation, with engineering disciplines like artificial intelligence, electronic and mechanical engineering."

He pointed out that, "The current growing technology is very archaic, so if one party does decide to use this new tech, it will force the rest of the industry to follow suite if they want to compete on price." Beckerling added saying, "We believe the market will settle at who can produce the most consistently at the cheapest price and at the highest quality."

The research facility will also provide an immense scope of research, particularly in engineering (chemical, electrical, mechanical and civil); computer science (machine learning, AI, big data, bioinformatics, robotics, software development and others); plant and biological sciences; physical sciences; and pharmacology, psychology and medicine. They estimate that many companies can spawn from this facility through the commercialization of new technologies. Biopark, a division of The Innovation Hub, recently offered AgriSmart a contract to help incubate the startup an offer they grasped with both hands.

Prof de Beer Education | THC Africa



FROSTED APRICOT.



FACTS

Frosted Apricot inherited many of the traits that Slurricane has become well known for, these include:

- ◇ Swollen Calyxes
- ◇ Dense Trichomes
- ◇ Encrusted Flowers with amazing healing properties
- ◇ Purple Hues

BENEFITS

- ◇ Anxiety Relief
- ◇ Chronic Pain Relief
- ◇ PTSD Relief
- ◇ Assists with ADD/ADHD
- ◇ Assists with Insomnia
- ◇ Alleviates Inflammation
- ◇ Depression Relief

*THC can reach up to 22%.
CBD can reach up to 2%.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

420 FOLK
Valentines Day
MIXER '22
THE VDAY EVENT FOR EVERYONE
SAT 12 FEB
2:00PM TILL LATE
THUMPERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB
42 BENSON RD. MONTCLAIR

SOLO TICKET - R150
INCLUDES 3 GIFTS + SNACK

COUPLES TICKET - R300
INCLUDES 5 GIFTS + SNACK PER PERSON

DOOR TICKET - R100
INCLUDES A GIFT

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - 071 358 0285

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BONG PONG
COMPETITION

HIGH QLTY

ENTRY R150 | 29TH JAN | TIME 1H30^{PM} | COFFEE AVAILABLE

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KWANZAA & GANJA KICK OFF THE YEAR

Cannabis is used on many several spiritual fronts and whilst the Rastafari movement is the flagship spiritual gathering mainly associated with Ganja it is paramount to that Marijuana shows up on several spiritual fronts. In Hinduism Shiva celebrations are highlighted by groups of dreadlocked Hindu ascetics sit around small smoky fires puffing on clay pipes at Pashupati, one of Nepal's holiest Hindu. Canterng back home the community of African gathered within the Greenhouse compound at Joubert Park to rejuvenate the powerful legacy of Afrikan History, in alignment to the theme of the year, "Our Story", that embodies the transformative journey of Kwanzaa which spans 20 years of living the legacy, walking the footsteps, and unlocking the doors of Pan-Afrikan self-determination. Kwanzaa, which is observed from December 26 through January 1, is a seven-day celebration of African roots, observed by people of all faith

backgrounds, since it's not tied to any religion. Instead, the African American and Pan African holiday is anchored by seven principles known as the Nguzo Saba which aims to inspire Black people to be united, self-determined, accountable for their communities, financially invested in Black-owned businesses, purposeful with their lives, creative and full of faith. Ras Thau Thau Haramanuba led the days libations and the opening prayer ceremony which included the burning of the Ganja herb to the sounds of Black Liberation led by Ras Thau Thau spoke to the masses in the tent affirming that the Rastafari community has been in the fight for liberating the black man and is not deterred as the continued fight to even inequalities. The gathering front lined by Ebukhosini Solutions together was attended by the notable officials from the conscious Afrikan community who have flown the flag of Kwanzaa over decades. The 2021 to 2022

gathering is the 20th year that Africans are brought together across divisions of language, nationality, religion and political affiliation. KWANZAA's uniqueness lies in its' triple objective: To celebrate Afrika, to create a platform for constructive dialogue and to inspire practical work for transformation.

