



April 2011

**Submission from the Dietitians Association of Australia  
to Food Standards Australia New Zealand**

**A1039 – Low THC Hemp as a Food**

The Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) is the national association of the dietetic profession with over 4000 members, and branches in each state and territory. DAA is a leader in nutrition and advocates for better food, better health, and better living for all.

Contact person: Bree Murray  
Position: Project Officer Dietitian  
Organisation: Dietitians Association of Australia  
Address: 1/8 Phipps Close, Deakin ACT 2600  
Telephone: 02 6163 5200  
Facsimile: 02 6282 9888  
Email: [bmurray@daa.asn.au](mailto:bmurray@daa.asn.au)

The DAA understands this application is to amend Standard 1.4.4 – Prohibited and Restricted Plants and Fungi of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) to permit the use of products from *Cannabis sativa*, with low levels of THC, as food.

The DAA supports option 2 - approval of low THC hemp foods. The DAA:

- Acknowledges there is concern of the potential risk that high THC varieties of *Cannabis* could enter the food supply if low THC hemp foods are approved and therefore recommends a maximum THC limit be set for foods derived from *Cannabis*.
- Supports the use of hempseed (and oil) for its nutritional merit i.e. the seed contains protein and many vitamins and minerals. The oil has a high omega 3 fatty acid content.
- Recommends adequate labelling and advertising of hemp foods to provide consumers with information to allay concerns regarding psychoactive properties relating to the consumption of those foods.