

Hemp in Thailand: Current status and the coming of medical hemp

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Since 1979, Cannabis is claimed as drugs and illegal in Thailand. The knowledge of hemp cultivation had been preserved by the mountainous tribe called Hmong for fiber uses. The Queen Sirikit of Thailand found the Hmong people used fiber as their tradition cloth. Hence the beginning of hemp research has started in 2011. Then hemp fiber uses legalized in 2013 under permission of contact farming and research institute. The remain parts of this plant remain prohibited. While marijuana or cannabis for medical and/or recreational use is illegal. It was the ingredient for some formulation of traditional Thai medicine, secreted used by privately traditional medical master. Then, cannabis new laws are announce on February 18th, 2019 for medical used and research purpose. The first phase of medical cannabis is going under research of the institute for the first 5 years. Then the evaluation of how to manage the plant and medical cannabis will be revealed. The medical cannabis in traditional Thai medicine as cannabis oil and the ingredient in Traditional Thai medicine will provide less expensive treatment for cancer, pain killer, neurotrauma and skin problem of patient. The awareness and ethics in human and animal need to be concern. The correct information and awareness need to be provided for people. While hemp oil and hemp grain remain illegal and may be used by asking the permission. The time of research phase on Cannabis is open from now. This allow scientist can research from basic science of the *Cannabis* diversity and genome to applications in human and animal. Transparency should be prioritized in Thailand.