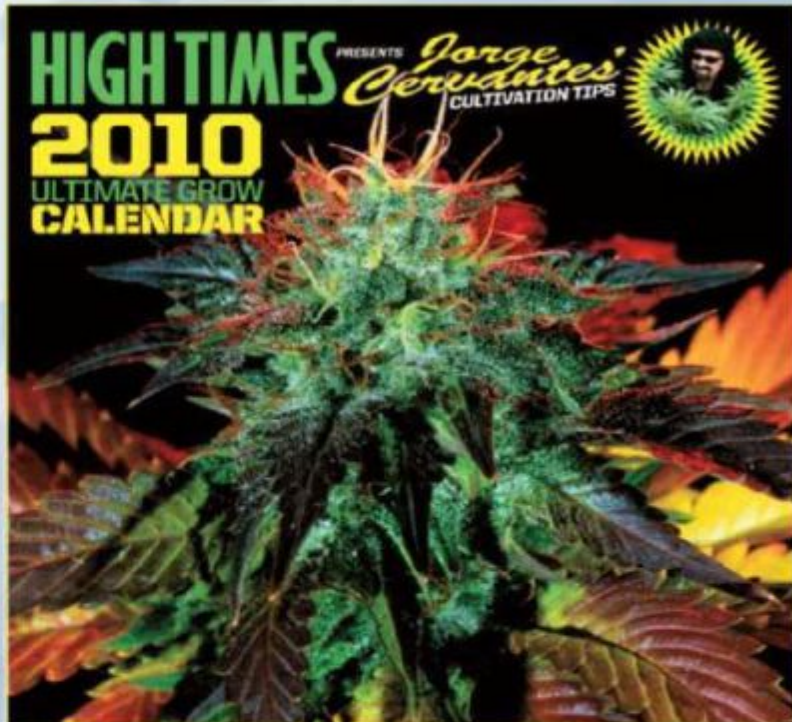


2010 ULTIMATE GROW CALENDAR



**HIGH TIMES
OCTOBER 2010**

INDOORS
Make optimal adjustments and 24/7 light schedules. To allow optimal light control and nutrient management, use multiple light fixtures, grow light to cover multiple plants, and use other outdoor grower tools. Change weather along as needed. Keeping plants healthy and making timely adjustments will help your indoor grow thrive.

OUTDOORS
Remember plants' local buds are almost the end of their lives. If you're growing outdoors, harvest your plants before the weather changes. If you're growing indoors, harvest your plants before the weather changes. If you're growing outdoors, harvest your plants before the weather changes. If you're growing indoors, harvest your plants before the weather changes.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10/1 10/2 10/3 10/4 10/5 10/6 10/7 10/8 10/9	2 10/10 10/11 10/12 10/13 10/14 10/15 10/16 10/17 10/18	3 10/19 10/20 10/21 10/22 10/23 10/24 10/25 10/26 10/27	4 10/28 10/29 10/30 10/31	5 11/1 11/2 11/3 11/4 11/5 11/6 11/7 11/8 11/9	6 11/10 11/11 11/12 11/13 11/14 11/15 11/16 11/17 11/18	7 11/19 11/20 11/21 11/22 11/23 11/24 11/25 11/26 11/27 11/28 11/29 11/30

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OUTDOOR GROW TIP

Stop applying fertilizer 10-14 days before harvest and put your flowering plants on a diet of plain water. This will give them enough time to use up the bulk of the fertilizers already available within the plants and soil. Stop watering three to four days before harvest.

Ever wonder just how easy it might be to grow your own marijuana? Thinking of starting your own private garden this year?

HIGH TIMES is proud to offer our 2010 Ultimate Grow Calendar featuring hot tips from the world's foremost cannabis cultivator, Jorge Cervantes. Packed with monthly summaries and daily grow tips, this calendar aims to keep you on track, whether you are growing inside or out. Covering everything from temperature control to nutrient programs, and featuring simple but timely reminders to look ahead in the season, this Grow Calendar is an indispensable tool for any grow operation.

So whether you're in it for head stash or big cash, you can't go wrong with Jorge as your guide to an Ultimate Grow in 2010. Only \$13.99

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A detailed microscopic image of tissue culture cells, showing a dense network of interconnected, fibrous structures in various colors including green, yellow, orange, and purple. The cells are highly detailed, with many small, rounded protrusions and a complex, branching morphology.

GROWORLD

TISSUE 108
CULTURE 108

DEEZ NUTZ

Trippy, stinky, tasty! Yes, this is about perfect! My Purple Diesel: Cough till your nuts hurt!—Swiftmud

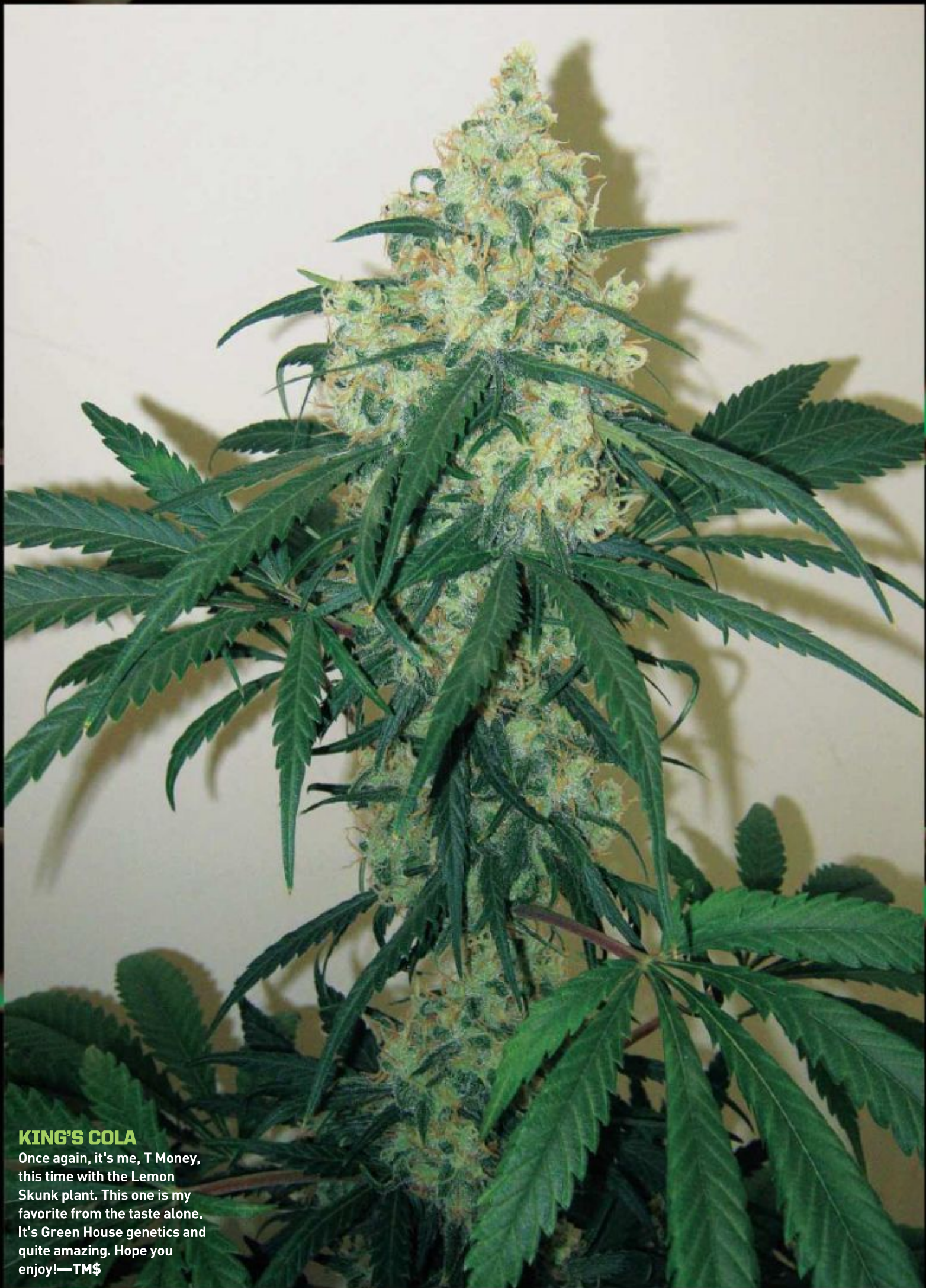


JARS ATTACK

(above) Here's a shot from my medical garden. With a little effort, a spare bedroom and a whole lot of care, we can all grow our own. Stay green from Sunny California!—JTR

CAT'S EYE VIEW

(left) This was a good friend of mine's baby. Thought you guys might enjoy the shot.—Joel MacPherson



KING'S COLA

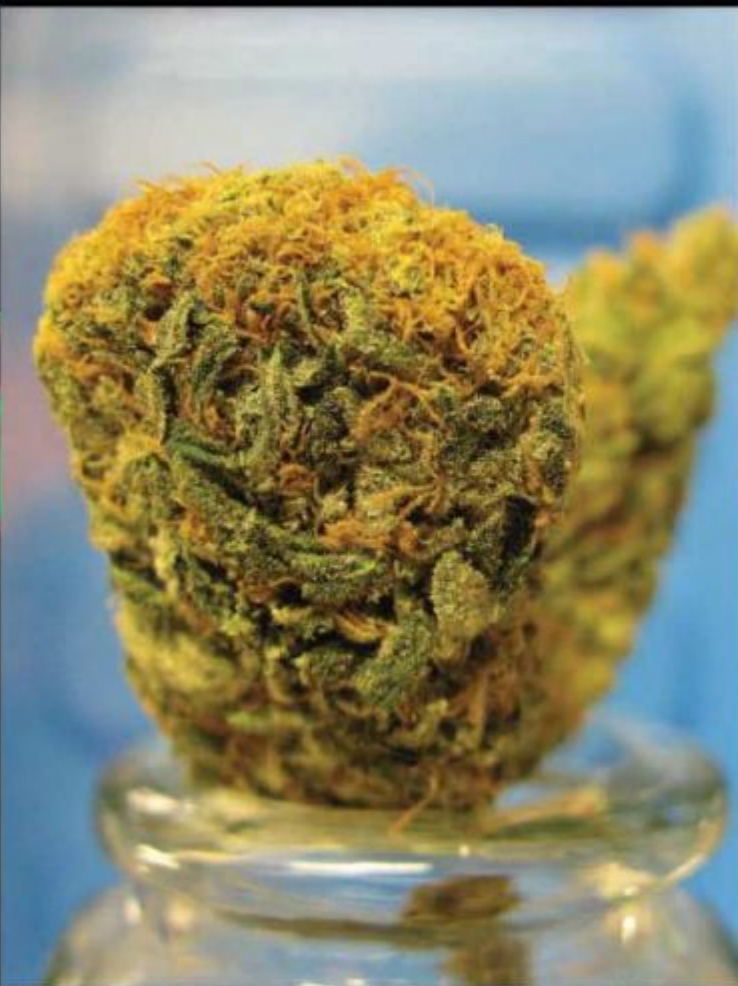
Once again, it's me, T Money, this time with the Lemon Skunk plant. This one is my favorite from the taste alone. It's Green House genetics and quite amazing. Hope you enjoy!—TM\$

A



FUNKY SKUNK

This is some Skunk from my area about to get smoked. Thanks!—Ryan



ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH

(above) This is G-13 x White Widow x Big Bud grown in an Aeroflow garden. The biggest bud was 6 ounces dry.—Denver, CO

GENETIC GIFT

(left) This was a Strawberry Cough mutant that we grew. Tasted so good! Hope you like it as much as we did. Thanks for looking!—M

Pix of the Crop is reader-driven. Your submissions make all the stoners of the world dream of kind nugs. Send pictures (no Polaroids), tips, questions and stories to: HIGH TIMES, 419 Park Avenue South, 16th floor, New York, NY 10016. Digital photos can be e-mailed to maibag@hightimes.com and must be hi-res for publication. Remember, by submitting photograph(s) you thereby grant permission to the publisher to reprint photograph(s) in HIGH TIMES, as well as in any other Trans-High Corp. publication.

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BY NICO ESCONDIDO

EVERYTHING MEDICAL & MORE

Welcome to our mini-section, devoted wholly to medicinal strains, news, uses, developments, activism, politics ... everything and anything, really, that is medically related to marijuana. This is your *Cannabis Clinic!*

Cancer & Medical Marijuana

I'm always hesitant to write on these kinds of topics, since I am not—by any stretch of the imagination—a doctor. But as a journalist and long-time grower, I *can* report on both my research and my own experiences with cannabis as medicine. I have, unfortunately, known (and still know) many people with cancer. Some have survived their battle with this aggressive disease, while others have not been as fortunate. However, aside from the ultimate outcome, the most important aspect of dealing with cancer is how it affects the quality of life during treatment.

Pain can be an excruciating part of any serious ailment. Recovering from surgery, or especially the radiation and chemotherapy treatments used in fighting cancer, can be very trying for the patient, both physically and mentally. In all of these instances, cannabis can provide definite relief. In fact, there are even some studies showing that marijuana can actually help to reduce—and, in some instances, help to prevent—tumor formation. But as I have said, I'm not a doctor, and with every positive report of this kind, there is another, conflicting study that claims to show the opposite. While we all would like to believe in the promise that cannabis has shown in preventing or diminishing serious illnesses such as cancer, the only true fact we can rely on at this point is that it *will* relieve pain and help to lessen many of the other side effects of cancer treatment.

Cannabis indica, one of the three species of the cannabis genus or family, is most effective when used medicinally to alleviate physical pain, nausea and appetite loss. We also know that marijuana usually elevates depressed moods as well. For some patients, *Cannabis sativa* may be preferred in this regard.

A 1997 report by the British

This silky white Afghani will provide some of the strongest *indica* effects on the planet.



MEDICINAL STRAIN OF THE MONTH AFGHANI

The mother of all *indicas*, the pure Afghani is a landrace strain indigenous to the Mazar-i-Sharif region of Afghanistan, though it's also found in northern parts of India and some areas of the Middle East. An absolutely superb strain to work with in breeding, a true "Afghanica" is 100% *indica*, with a pungently raw and skunky odor.

Many hybridization projects try to find the perfect blend of *indica* and *sativa* characteristics, creating a more balanced high. But medically speaking, pure Afghani buds possess a very valuable property in their sedating, pain-killing effects. Used medicinally to fight the pain associated with serious illnesses such as cancer and HIV/AIDS, the pure Afghani provides a very strong body stone. Properly bred, this phenotype can still be expressed while new phenotypes for taste and smell are introduced, making the Afghani's medicinal value even higher for caregivers.

This plant grows short and is best suited for mountain climates, though she'll do just fine indoors. She has a short flowering time and high THC level, making her a great stand-alone plant to populate entire gardens with. (And by the way, see our Letters page for more information on the terms "Afghani" versus "Afghan"!)

Medical Association and a 1999 report by the Institutes of Medicine concluded that cannabis does greatly reduce the side effects associated with chemotherapy treatments, with both reports noting the anti-nausea properties associated with cannabis. And on top of its anti-emetic advan-

tages, cannabis can—as we all know from the typical stoner stereotypes—stimulate appetite (i.e., the munchies). While this is sometimes a source of humor for Hollywood films, I can assure you that for patients having problems eating or in the grip of "wasting syndrome,"

this can be a very valuable tool on the road to recovery.

Still, though I hesitate to claim cancer-preventing or tumor-reducing properties for cannabis, I can attest to its pain-relieving and muscle- and mind-relaxing properties. The trick is to make sure you use the right kind for pain relief. This month's medical strain, Afghani—or any good hybrid thereof—is a perfect example of an excellent strain in this regard; so too are other *indicas* like the various Kushes, Blueberry, and most of the purple varieties (Granddaddy Purple, Purple Urkel, Grape Ape, etc.).

Marijuana Dispensaries Open In Rhode Island

In late August, the Rhode Island State Department of Health announced that medical-marijuana dispensaries will be opening in the state. Lawmakers voted 30-2 to allow *three* non-profit stores (hey, it's a tiny state!) to sell marijuana to chronically ill patients in a state-run program.

Rhode Island has become the third state this year to allow marijuana sales to patients. Although legislators had approved the use of medical marijuana with a doctor's prescription three years ago, no provisions in the law had allowed for dispensaries until now. The dispensaries in Rhode Island will have to install security systems and teach patients how to safely take the drug under new rules proposed by the state.

While marijuana remains illegal under federal law, the Obama administration has said that it won't target marijuana dispensaries complying with state law. In Rhode Island, the only way to get a cannabis prescription is from your private physician. Once you have the application completed, simply return it to the state registry program with your \$75 fee and you're set.

Under state law, eligible medical conditions for a prescription include such "debilitating" diseases as cancer, HIV and AIDS, glaucoma, hepatitis C and cachexia (wasting syndrome), as well as "severe, debilitating, chronic pain; severe nausea; seizures, including but not limited to, those characteristic of epilepsy; severe and persistent muscle spasms, including but not limited to, those characteristic of multiple sclerosis or Crohn's disease; and agitation of Alzheimer's disease." ✨

Got medical questions? Pass 'em over to Nico at nico@hightimes.com.

HIGH TIMES MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY DIRECTORY

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http://www.cdph.state.co.
us/hs/medicalmarijuana/full
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State Registration Program
Medical Cannabis Coordinator
Melissa.milam@state.nm.us
(505) 827-2321

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http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/
ph/ommp/index.shtml

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http://ripatients.org/

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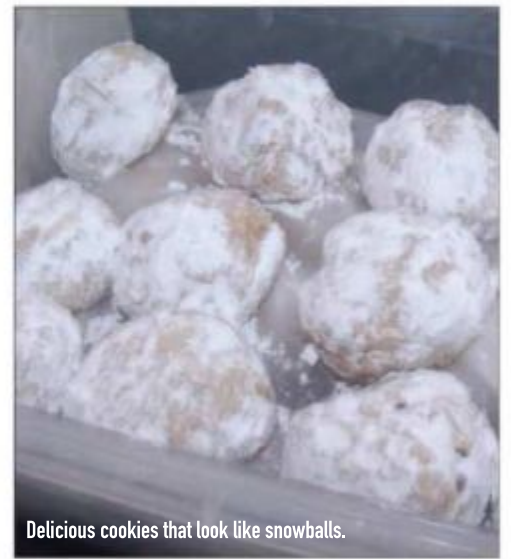
MEDICINAL TEA COOKIES

You can use a cupful of sugar to make this ganja medicine go down. By Ashley Boudreaux

People always ask me how I started writing for HIGH TIMES, and I generally avoid the part of the story where music editor Steve Bloom hissed at me over the phone in the late 90's for being both unprofessional *and* ambitious. I guess pitching a big feature article while smoking a bongload of Dutch hash in my friend's ridiculously large bathroom wasn't exactly following journalistic protocol. So "persistence" is generally what I tell people, although the truth is more complex—because the question shouldn't be *how* did you start writing for HIGH TIMES, but rather *why*?

The answer is that my super-straight-laced adoptive Army-pilot Dad contracted mesothelioma, an aggressive form of lung cancer. He was given five months to live and told to get his affairs in order, but he was stubborn as an old tortoise and stuck around for another nine and a half years. Somewhere about halfway through, though, his anti-nausea medications quit working. One by one they failed him—even the experimental anti-emetics stopped having any effect—and he was faced with a dilemma: Use weed or die.

Now this would be an obvious choice for most of us, but not so for my Dad. Until he tried cannabis, he'd been vehemently opposed to illicit drugs—and worse, when he finally did partake, he was paranoid that he'd be discovered and jailed for what little remained of his life. Think about it: The *one* thing keeping you alive might also very well result in your incarceration, where you would surely die away from all the people you love. That was my Dad's line of reasoning, so for him, using marijuana was a huge risk. But he took that perceived risk anyway, and he slowly came to resent the government that he'd spent his whole life serving for lying to him about marijuana. Nobody should have to make that choice—palliative-care



Delicious cookies that look like snowballs.

decisions are difficult enough without the fear of imprisonment.

My Dad passed away on Halloween Day 2001, but HIGH TIMES continues to give me a voice. And when I write, I always think of him, because I speak for him as well in these pages. He's gone now, but there are far too many people still walking in his shoes today.

One of those people is a woman here in Louisiana with terminal brain cancer. My friend Bill is acting as a compassionate caregiver for her, and he suggested this month's recipe. Four generations of Bill's family have made these Russian tea cookies for Christmas (albeit sans the cannabis). Russian tea cookies date back to the 1700s, but became most popular in the US during the 1950s. They're also known as Mexican wedding cookies, snowballs, polvorones and sandies.

Thanks for sharing your family recipe, Bill—and for keeping up the good fight. ✨

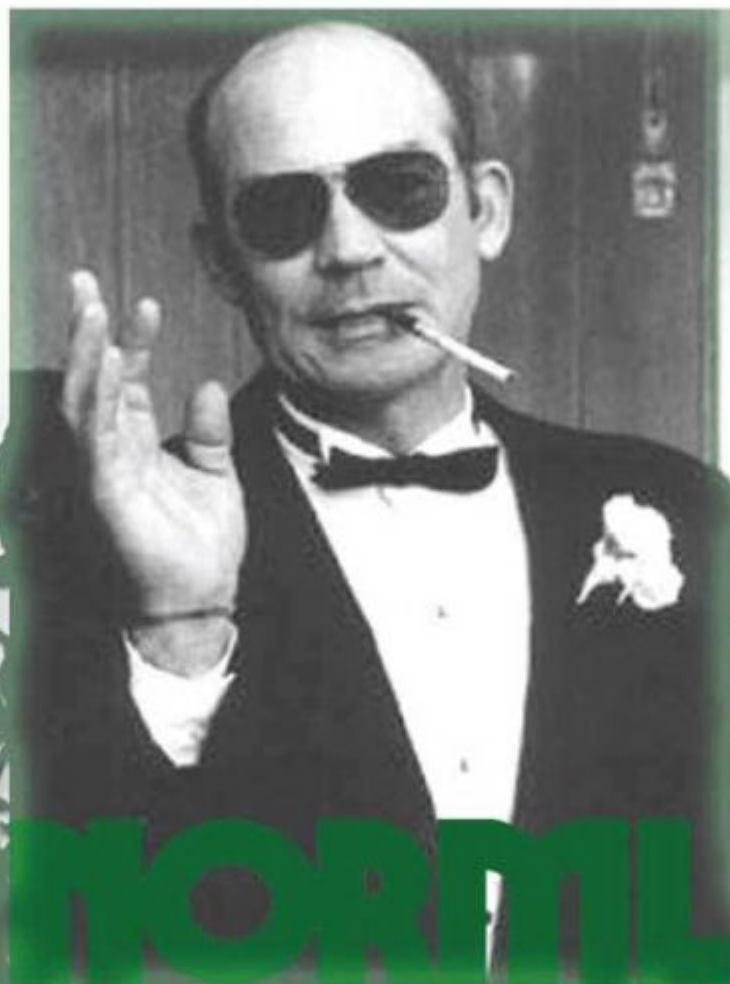
RUSSIAN TEA COOKIES

- 14-28 grams commercial-grade marijuana, cleaned and finely chopped
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter (preferably grade AA or Irish butter)
- 1 1/4 cup sifted confectioner's sugar

- 1 tsp real vanilla extract (imitation extract can leave a bitter taste)
- 2 1/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 cup finely chopped nuts (pecans, walnuts or hazelnuts are best)

This recipe has a lot of room for play, since it uses a hefty amount of butter and makes roughly 24 to 36 cookies, depending on the cookie size. The less cannabis you use, the more cookies you'll need to get high, whereas the more you use, the fewer you'll need to eat—so keep that math in mind as you calculate the individual servings. (My own recommended dosage works out to roughly a gram per serving.) And be warned: These cookies are highly addictive even without the ganja!

In a double-boiler, combine cannabis and butter. Simmer on low for 45 minutes to one hour. Remove from heat and strain well. Add 1/2 cup of sifted confectioner's sugar and set the rest aside. Cream butter and sugar. Add vanilla. In a separate bowl, sift together the flour and salt, then slowly add it to the creamed mixture. Add nuts. Working with floured hands, form the dough into a round ball and refrigerate for at least an hour. Then form the dough into one-inch balls and bake on an ungreased cookie sheet at 325°F until the edges start to brown. Remove from oven, let cool slightly, and then roll into the remaining powdered sugar. Will keep at room temperature for approximately one week. Stones 24-36.



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POT FIGHTS CANCER?

Only if you ask scientists. By Paul Armentano

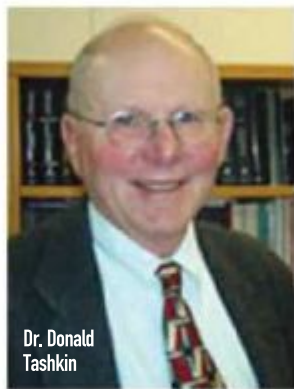
For 35 years, the federal government has been well aware—despite public denials by its own officials—that cannabis possesses potent anti-cancer and anti-tumor properties. Sadly, even under the Obama administration, which promised to “base our public policies on the soundest science,” the myth that pot promotes cancer persists. In fact, the White House’s website, whitehouse.gov, currently warns: “Marijuana has the potential to promote cancer of the lungs and other parts of the respiratory tract.”

Or not.

In a clinical abstract published by the medical journal *Cancer Prevention Research* in July, a team of US investigators reported—with absolutely no fanfare in the mainstream media—that lifetime marijuana use is associated with a “significantly reduced risk” of head and neck squamous-cell carcinomas.

Investigators at Rhode Island’s Brown University, along with researchers at Boston University, Louisiana State University and the University of Minnesota, assessed the lifetime marijuana-use habits of 434 cases compared to 547 matched controls, and reported that, “After adjusting for potential confounders (including smoking and alcohol drinking), 10 to 20 years of marijuana use was associated with a significantly reduced risk of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC).”

Of course, this isn’t the first time that researchers in the US have documented an *inverse* association between pot use and cancer. A separate 2006 popula-



Dr. Donald Tashkin

tion case-control study, funded by the National Institutes of Health and conducted by the University of California at Los Angeles, also reported that lifetime use of cannabis was not positively associated with cancers of the lung or aerodigestive tract, and further noted that certain moderate users of the drug experienced a *reduced* cancer risk compared to non-using controls.

Predictably, the federal government’s goal when green-lighting the UCLA study was to conclusively establish just the opposite result, as recently explained by its lead researcher, Dr. Donald Tashkin.

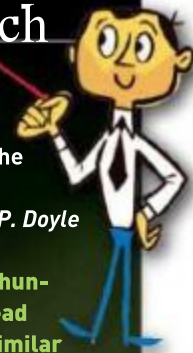
In an interview with the McClatchy newspaper chain in June, Tashkin admitted that he expected the study would find “a positive association between marijuana use and lung cancer What we found instead was no association at all, and even a suggestion of some protective effect.”

Perhaps that explains why mention of Tashkin’s study—the largest of its kind—is curiously absent from the White House website.

Tashkin added: “[A]t this point, I’d be in favor of legalization. I wouldn’t encourage anybody to smoke any substances, because of the potential for harm. But I don’t think it should be stigmatized as an illegal substance. Tobacco smoking causes far more harm. And in terms of an intoxicant, alcohol causes far more harm.” ✦

Paul Armentano is the Deputy Director of NORML and the co-author of Marijuana Is Safer: So Why Are We Driving People to Drink?

Ask Dr. Mitch



Dr. Mitch,
Can marijuana reduce the risk of cancer?

P. Doyle

Hi P.D.,
A new study compared hundreds of people with head and neck cancers to a similar group of people without them. Those who used the plant were less likely to be in the cancer group. We also know that cannabinoids battle tumors. It might be too soon to recommend cannabis use in a cancer-prevention program, but as far as head and neck cancers are concerned, it certainly isn’t increasing the risk.

I’m a bodybuilder. Can smoking pot help me put on the pounds?

Lou Hulkz

Hi Lou,
Although THC is great for enhancing appetite, it’ll only help you increase muscle mass if your munchies comprise lean sources of protein and other healthy foods.

I feel like pot helps me see 3-D movies better. Is that possible?

Howie3

Hi Howie,
Could be! One case study I know involved a guy who had no depth perception until he started using cannabis. And a classic study back in the ’70s found that many people perceived the world as being more vibrantly three-dimensional after several tokes. Hope you enjoyed the flicks!

Is a positive pee-test result possible just from sitting in a room full of folks who are getting high?

Janet K.

Hi Janet,
It’s possible, but not very likely. If the urine screen was within a day of the experience, and the room as smoky as the inside of a bong, then yes; otherwise, it’s just not going to happen. Of course, if your friends decided to vaporize, it would lower the chances to just about zero.

Dr. Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany. He is the author of Understanding Marijuana and The Parents’ Guide to Marijuana. Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at 420research@gmail.com.

FREEDOM FIGHTER

Corina Amato is Baltimore’s new watchdog. By Russ Belville

Freedom lovers everywhere were shocked and saddened by the case of Mayor Cheye Calvo of Berwyn Heights, MD, whose dogs were killed by a drug task force executing a raid on the mayor’s home after a box of marijuana was delivered there. Calvo was innocent (the would-be smugglers actually worked at the shipping company), but that didn’t prevent the police from breaking down his door and then shooting and killing his two black Labrador retrievers—one in the back as it ran away from the commotion.

Since that tragedy over a year ago, NORML’s *Daily Audio Stash* has reported on many additional cases of unnecessary canicide by police serving marijuana warrants. Calvo’s case was extraordinary in that it involved the mayor of a town, but, unfortunately, it wasn’t unique: Dozens of people targeted for marijuana “crimes” have lost their beloved pets to similar acts of police brutality.

One such victim is this month’s Freedom Fighter, Corina Amato. Last June, acting on a tip from a confidential informant, Baltimore police served a warrant at Amato’s home while she and her husband were both at work. The cops knew the home contained a pet, but rather than follow protocol and contact Animal Control, they knocked on the front door to attract the dog, then pointed the barrels of their automatic rifles into the mail slot and fired. The dog, Jasmine, was wounded and ran upstairs to Amato’s bedroom, where the police followed and killed her.

Rest assured, Amato is fighting back, working to build the new Baltimore NORML chapter and creating the website WatchdogBaltimore.org to track police brutality in Charm City. Oh yeah, and in case you’re wondering, absolutely no marijuana was found in the raid.

Corina Amato’s interview can be heard on the Friday, June 19, episode of the Daily Audio Stash, archived on our website, stash.norml.org.



Corina Amato

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Tissue Culture 101

An introduction to advanced cloning techniques. Story & photos by Hue Gelder

After 3 weeks, a tiny tissue sample grows inside a jar and begins to show signs of its marijuana genetics. (See page 110 for the earlier developmental sequence.)

Introduction to Tissue Culture

“Tissue culture” is a method for replicating plant genetics using very small cuttings. Rather than maintaining a roomful of mother plants from which clones are made, tissue-culture labs use racks of sealed vessels, each containing one or more miniature “plantlets.” The plants are chemically induced to either multiply or root, depending on the hormones used in the gel in which they are suspended; once rooted, they can be transplanted as usual. Although tissue culture is just beginning to catch on within the cannabis community, there are a great many advantages to the method.

Why Tissue Culture?

Assuming that a grower can master so-called “sterile-culture techniques” (discussed in the following sections), tissue-culture micro-propagation offers some excellent advantages over mother-plant cloning. First, absolutely ridiculous numbers of plants (in the hundreds of thousands!) can be propagated within closets and small rooms with very minimal power requirements, as compared to those necessary for maintaining mother plants and racks of clones. Unlike cloning, which is limited by the amount of available space and electrical power, tissue culture’s capabilities are limited more by available man-hours and propagation vessels (i.e., sterile jars and lids).

Another advantage to tissue culture is that, depending on where the cutting is taken from the plant, it is possible to generate plant starts that are completely free of diseases and pests. This is because plants tend to grow faster than diseases and pests can colonize on fresh new growth. What this means for growers is that, if properly done, they can set up a pest- and disease-free operation even when working with clones of uncertain history and origin. To put it another way, tissue culture offers the potential of reliably starting with a clean slate of familiar genetics, even when taking cuttings from plants that are sickly or pest-ridden.

A third advantage worth mentioning pertains to the way these plants look and grow. Compared to a mother-plant cutting, the tissue-culture plant will

initially grow squat, branching into a miniature version of the adult plant and growing to a size that is determined by its environment. Assuming the grower transplants it into an ideal environment, there is a higher potential for nicer yields with more compact buds as compared to conventional propagation methods.

On the downside, however, is the issue of contamination. Anybody who has worked with mushroom cultivation can tell you that mastering sterile-culture techniques is akin to training in the martial arts—both require discipline and dedication. The problem is that you cannot see your enemy: Contamination caused by grower mistakes takes time to manifest, and by the time you can see it, it may be difficult to go back and determine just how it occurred. In general, meticulous note-takers tend to make better laboratory technicians.

A tricky source of contamination can rapidly take down an entire facility. To make matters worse, many sources of contamination can prove frustratingly elusive—experienced mushroom cultivators will tell you that you never quite stop learning all the possible sources of contamination. For this reason, tissue culture is the kind of method you’d want to try out as a hobby long before you intended to depend upon it for populating your grow space (or making a living as a grower). You have to be patient—and don’t expect to succeed on your very first try. Read as much as you can find on the subject of sterile-culture techniques and take plenty of notes, and you might eventually become so proficient in tissue-culture propagation that you can count your plant starts in the thousands—or even tens of thousands—per month.

If that sounds intriguing, consider this: A baby-food jar with gel and rooted plantlets inside can be turned upside-down or even dropped to the floor without significant fear of the gel or plantlets loosening or becoming damaged. In sharp contrast to all the precautions necessary when handling trays of delicate clones, baby-food jars filled with plantlets in a gelling agent are not only comparatively indestructible, but also far more compact: They can be thrown loosely into a backpack or packed tightly into a cardboard box—and even plucked from a shelf without disturbing their neighbors.



A typical starter kit for making "plant starts". Included are hormones, preservatives, tissue vessels and instructions.

The Cannabis Laboratory

The underlying idea behind tissue culture is simple, and so are the steps involved:

First, you need to create an enclosure with a grow space, and also a gel medium containing nutrients, sugar and hormones. The gelling agent provides a stable structure to hold these chemicals and gives the roots something to dig into. Using the proper plastic lids, baby-food jars are ideal for this purpose.

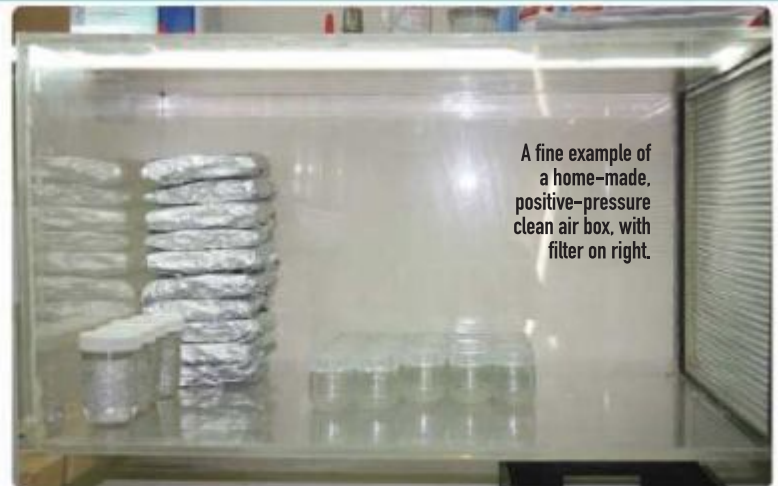
Next, you need to eliminate all contaminants by sterilizing your grow vessels (i.e., jars) using a standard kitchen pressure cooker.

A piece of the plant is then cut, and a regimen of semi-sterile tap-water, isopropyl and bleach washes are performed on the cutting in order to eliminate contaminants.

Next, make a sterile transfer of this semi-sterile plant cutting into its new home. This requires the use of a clean-air box. Hobbyists might avoid having to purchase or construct a clean-air box for a while, but professionals intent on efficient work will not want to do without one. Laboratory-grade clean-air boxes are actually surprisingly simple to make and can be constructed for less than \$500 in parts. Growers who wish to spare no expense can purchase more expensive laminar flow hoods on mycology websites.

Lit by T5 fluorescent bulbs, these micro-plants multiply inside the baby-food jars over the course of the next few weeks. As they do, the individual plantlets can be pulled apart within a sterile environment (i.e., the clean-air box) and transplanted into new jars. An incredible number of clones can be generated and cultured by repeating this process, with minimal lighting requirements—racks of T5's are all that is needed.

When it's time to turn the plantlets into actual plants in soil or hydro, new baby-food jars are prepared with extra rooting hormone in the gel, and a number of the plantlets are transferred into these new jars. The remainder of the plantlets are recycled back into the tissue-culture laboratory, where the process starts all over again. Once roots are established, the plants can be removed from the jars and transplanted into their new home.



A fine example of a home-made, positive-pressure clean air box, with filter on right.

Sterility & Clean-Air Boxes

Although we can't see them or feel them, we live in an ocean of microorganisms. They are in every cubic centimeter of the air you breathe, as well as all over your skin, embedded within your clothes and multiplying in countless environments around us. Some of the organisms eat dead skin for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and if you didn't know that they are microscopic, you might even be scared if you saw a picture of them.

Luckily, Nature has figured out ways for humans and plants to exist—and even thrive—while immersed in all of these creatures. But in many cases, Nature's ways aren't enough, and so scientists have developed a number of methods to defend against these contaminating microorganisms. For example, the creation of computer chips and laboratory-grown mushrooms, as well as the care of prematurely born babies, are all examples of special cases in which science has had to create thorough defenses against the natural population of contaminating microorganisms that we take for granted every day.

Tissue Culture 101



Dragon Tree (*Dracaena*) plant starts propagated from miniscule tissue samples in sealed jar using hormones and gel.

In all three cases, the concept of sterility is crucial. There is nothing about sterile-culture technique that is experimental or new: The same equipment and strategies successfully deployed for decades by indoor mushroom cultivators will also work for cannabis growers. Sterile-culture technique can do for plants what a protective bubble does for a premature baby: In both cases, we want to provide food, water and air so that the newborn can grow—but without also introducing dangerous, disease-carrying agents. Sterile-culture technique, at its essence, is simply the art of methodically defending against mi-



A cannabis tissue culture after 48 hours...

croscopic enemies by employing a strategy for eliminating contaminants. This is done using procedures for manipulating the flow of clean air (in a clean-air box, for instance), as well as effective techniques for introducing our baby into its new bubble home without bringing along unwanted microorganisms.

Some starter kits, such as the Super Starts micro-propagation kit (available from planttc.com), come with a very effective preservative. This allows for easy semi-sterile transfers—because even if contaminants do make it into the vessel during the transfer, the preservative will typically kill them. For enthusiasts and hobbyists, this makes a clean-air box much less necessary.

However, a clean-air box provides a means of ensuring that samples will not become contaminated as you work with them over time, which is very important for the purpose of creating a genetic library. In a clean-air box, air is blown at a quick rate through a professional 6-inch-thick HEPA filter. (Whether or not the design includes an enclosure for capturing this fresh air at the filter output is somewhat optional.)

A decent-sized enclosure, such as an acrylic fish tank, can be used for holding large amounts of sterilized items—tools, water, baby-food jars, napkins—without fear of contamination. It isn't necessary to use gloves or have armholes in your clean-air box's design, since both tend to reduce maneuverability and thus accuracy. Instead, the important thing is to pay close attention to your sample, hands and filter—in general, your hands should never be placed between the filter and the sample. It also helps to shower, wear a lab coat, and frequently apply hand sanitizer to your arms and hands while working. Serious-minded clean freaks who don't own a lab coat will just work naked, fresh out of the shower!

In brief, one end of a clean-air box houses a fan that pushes air through a filter and over the workspace. The other end of the box is left open for the air to exhaust. The constant flow of clean air over the workspace creates what is called a "positive-pressure system," where contaminated air is constantly pushed out of the box, which is constantly refreshed with purified air. HEPA filters can also be used in the same manner to keep an entire genetic library sterile.

The Future of Cloning

It is not inconceivable that, in the future, the cannabis-clone industry could be rapidly overtaken by a handful of relatively small home laboratories—or large, warehouse-sized genetic banks, for that matter.

Historically speaking, some of the best-known cannabis strains became popular in part because their seeds were sent all over the world via mail order by seed banks. The ease of seed or clone dissemination is what ultimately governs the spread of a particular strain.

So imagine if growers were set up to both create and propagate from tiny bits of plant tissue. What would that do for the trade in cannabis genes? Essentially, entrepreneurs who managed to perfect the tissue-culture technique could, in theory, have a new method at their disposal for rapidly spreading superior plants with high-quality genetics, effectively one-upping seed and clone manufacturers. After all, it's a lot easier to store, send or travel with a few tiny plant cells versus packages of



... and the same jar sample after 8 days. (See 21 days on page 108.)

seeds or rooted clones. And growers might even be happy to pay a premium for this new means of genetic packaging, because the plants are already hardened and could be guaranteed to be female, compact, and free of pests and diseases.

Bill Graham, the founder of PlantTC.com, is one of the masterminds behind adapting the tissue-culture technique from the laboratory to the home. Although Bill's Super Starts kit wasn't designed with the cannabis industry in mind, these techniques work extremely well with marijuana. Listening to experts like Graham speak about their own success with tissue-culture micro-propagation—as well as the sheer scale of the numbers they've been able to produce—is overwhelming. Working with geraniums, and starting with a mere six mother plants, Graham and a couple of assistants were able to generate (in a surprisingly small facility) a staggering 650,000 rooted geraniums over the course of just *eight months*. Substitute the words "Kush plantlets" for "geraniums" and the picture starts to become clear, doesn't it?

Welcome to the future of cloning. ✨

For more information or materials, visit planttc.com, email kit@planttc.com or call 650-346-8009.

For more info or materials regarding clean-air boxes and sterile-culture techniques, check out these sites: fungiperfecti.com and <http://www2.mailordercentral.com/fungi/departments.asp?dept=36>.

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It Ain't Over Till It's Over

By Chris Simunek

“We should stop using the metaphor about the War on Drugs. People look at it as a war on *them*, and frankly, we’re not at war with the people of this country.”

—Gil Kerlikowske, head of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, June 2009.

There seems to be a lot of optimism in the air regarding an imminent softening of cannabis laws by the nascent Obama administration. We hope that the above statement by the new Drug Czar represents a change in policy rather than a simple shift in rhetoric. But in the same speech that provided the above quote, Kerlikowske ruled out legalization. So what exactly can we expect regarding reform? Your guess is as good as mine.

Without a doubt, the war is still going on right at this very minute. And here are a few recent cases that we, the anti-prohibitionists, should be conscious of before we start picking out what outfits we’re going to wear to the big victory parade. All have occurred on Obama’s watch.

There are the high-profile federal cases in California, such as Eddy Lepp, who was sentenced in May to 10 years for growing pot in Lake County for medical and religious purposes, and Charles Lynch, who, while avoiding the five-year mandatory minimum the Feds wanted to give him for running a medical dispensary in Morro, was still sentenced to a year in federal prison in June.

Another case that didn’t grab too many headlines is the sentencing of Andrew N. Cox, a Georgia native, to life without parole in Gainesville, FL, last March. Cox was convicted twice before on trafficking marijuana. Remember “three strikes, you’re out”? Well, Cox is now as out as out can be. He was using a landscaping business as a cover for his operation, and when the cops caught up with him, he had 724 seedlings getting started on a property owned by his father and another 594 plants in grow spots in the Chattahoochee National Forest in Georgia. When he was indicted back in January of 2005, he fled. For three years, he

Drug Czar Gil Kerlikowske: Reformer, or Satan in a Sunday suit?



remained a fugitive until the Feds tracked him down in Florida. At his sentencing, US Attorney David E. Nahmias had this to say:

“This defendant was a twice-convicted drug trafficker who has now received his third and final strike. His life sentence is just punishment for a career in the illegal drug trade, which most recently led him to exploit and degrade national forest land. He will have no more chances to poison our communities with illegal drugs, and his sentence should send a message that our national forests are not a safe haven for crime. The U.S. Forest Service is to be commended for its hard work in this difficult prosecution, made even more challenging by the passage of time while this defendant was a fugitive.”

Nahmias’s anger toward Andrew Cox seems to come not from the fact that he grew weed, but because he “exploited and degraded” our national park land. I wonder if the former owners, the Creek and Cherokee Indians, sleep any better now that they know the land robbed from them is being so well protected by the Feds.

Last May, a 22-year-old man

named Tracy Howard was sentenced to 20 years in the Texas Department of Corrections—the maximum sentence allowed—after he was caught with 50 pounds. Howard did not go to trial; instead, he pled guilty and threw himself on the mercy of the court.

Commenting on the sentence, District Attorney David Sheffield noted that “a strong message is being sent about drug crimes in Hardin County.” I like to imagine that after Sheffield made this announcement, he tipped his cowboy hat to the assembled crowd and snarled, “Don’t mess with Texas, y’all.”

The last case I want to bring to your attention concerns a man who is no stranger to judicial gang rape. You might be familiar with Will Foster, the man from Tulsa, OK, who was sentenced to 93 years for growing pot back in 1995. If not, his case went as follows: Foster, then a 36-year-old computer programmer with three kids, had a 25-square-foot garden in which he grew the marijuana that he used to ease the chronic pain of his rheumatoid arthritis. The cops came to his door with a warrant, based on a tip from an anonymous informant, to search

for methamphetamines, which they did not find. They did, however, locate the garden in a locked basement. Convinced that the warrant was bad, Foster refused a plea deal. Despite no evidence that he sold any of the marijuana, a jury convicted him of cultivation with the intent to distribute, and he was sentenced—in part because he had an 11-year-old daughter on the premises—to 93 years. On appeal, a jury found that the verdict “shocks our conscience” and reduced the term to 20 years. Foster was released in 2001 on the condition that he serve out his parole in another state. Soon after, he relocated to California.

In California, Foster completed three years of parole, however, Oklahoma said that this was not long enough and have continuously issued warrants in efforts to get him back to finish out six more years of parole there. Foster has fought extradition before, due to Oklahoma warrants, and won by writ of habeas corpus.

Foster lived in Santa Rosa with his daughter, now a college student. There he grew a small medical garden under the guidelines of Proposition 215. A jealous ex dropped a dime on him and when the DEA raided his house, they found the garden and small amounts of ecstasy and methamphetamine that he claimed were not his and he knew nothing about. Foster’s girlfriend, who was present with her young daughter, refused to give up other growers they said she knew. The state arrested and charged her the same as Foster and placed her daughter in Child Protective Services custody. After many months and several court appearances the local DA dropped charges against Foster and his girlfriend. However, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a warrant from Oklahoma demanding Foster be returned to that state to serve out the rest of his 20-year sentence on a parole violation—the parole that he completed to California’s satisfaction, but not to Oklahoma’s. Foster has been in jail in California since April 13, 2008, fighting extradition with another writ of habeas corpus.

Will Foster lost his family over the years, his life has been all but destroyed, and today he sits in jail in California because of a five-by-five-foot marijuana garden that the cops found him with 14 years ago. If you think the war is over, guess again. ✨

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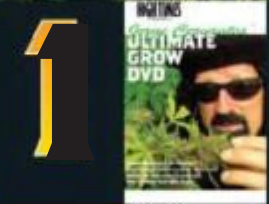
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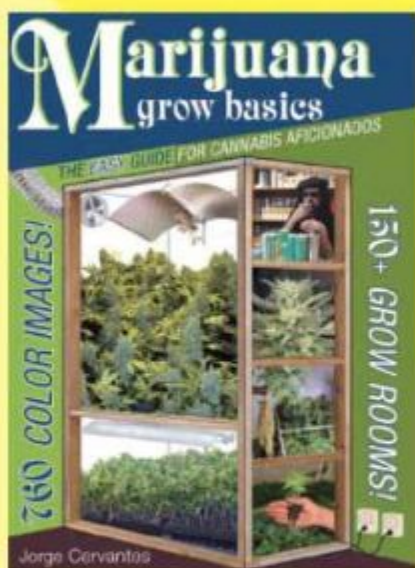
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DEAR DANKO

ANSWERS BY DANNY DANKO

We figure Jorge's earned at least a gram of bud for every ganja growing project he's inspired or helped salvage. Be sure to gift him some next time you see him in a garden near you!

JORGE'S FAREWELL

Dear loyal readers,

It's been 10 years since I started this monthly column. I've decided to stop writing it for a number of reasons. First and foremost, I'm completely burned out from answering questions. I feel that it's time to pass the joint on to another qualified columnist so you can inhale fresh new ideas, feelings and directions. Ten years is long enough—I have answered many new (as well as loads of old and/or similar) questions month after month. The new guy will provide you with a bright new outlook and perspective, as well as plenty of ideas that will help you in your growing endeavors.

You're probably wondering what I'll be doing next. Well, I'm going to take it easy for a while—think, meditate and move forward on some new growing projects. Writing this column has been inspiring, fun and demanding, but now it's time to take a break and remember that change is good. Even I need a sabbatical every decade or so!

I don't like long, smoky, red-eyed goodbyes, so this is it for now. I'm passing the spliff to Danny Danko, my handpicked choice as my successor for this column. I have the utmost confidence in his ability to help the growers of the world.

¡Viva la planta!
Jorge Cervantes

HIGH HONOR

It's truly humbling and quite an honor to take over the Q&A column from the esteemed Jorge Cervantes, who taught me to grow all those years ago. My new section, "Dear Danko," debuts here and now in the December 2009 issue, with brand-new questions and answers as well as photographs illustrating various plant maladies and the solutions to grow problems.

The whole HIGH TIMES family wishes to extend our love and respect to Jorge. We know his wonderful work will appear in our pages soon in the form of feature articles and eye-popping photographs from future travels and experiences.

Adios, Jorge!

Your friend,
Danny Danko

CLONING A FLOWERING PLANT

I have an exceptional plant flowering, but I neglected to take a cutting during the vegetative stage in order to make a mother plant. Can I take a clone now and keep this incredible variety alive? I'm in week five of the flowering stage. Thanks for any advice!

Clone Free

Dear Clone Free,
While it is possible to clone a plant at any stage in

its life, cloning during flowering can be a difficult and frustrating process. The cutting will need weeks—perhaps even months—to recover, make vegetative shoots and give off new clones. I've tried this process myself and wouldn't recommend it except under the direst circumstances.

Here's what to do: Simply take the cutting as you would any other, put it under 18 to 24 hours of light in a warm, humid environment, and then wait—for quite a while. Eventually, long after the clone has rooted, you'll see shoots emerge from the bud. I recommend taking another cutting from one of those shoots if you intend to make a mother plant, since the cloned flower will forever be suffering from the stress of transitioning back and forth from flowering to vegging. Good luck!

COLD COMFORT

I live in Canada, and believe it or not, I have a heat problem. My grow space is a 2' x 4' x 6' closet. I use two can-style fans at 150 cfm each. One is to bring in fresh air only, and it runs on an off-and-on cycle of 10 minutes every half hour. The other sucks the internal air out through a charcoal filter, then through a cool tube with a 600-watt high-pressure sodium



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DEAR DANKO



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(HPS) light inside, then directly outside. I also have two 6-inch fans mounted on my cool tube that circulate the internal air constantly. But my temps are still in the high 80's, sometimes even in the 90's. Although the heat is high, the humidity stays at 55% to 65%. Any advice on lowering temps would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Overheated in the Great White North

Dear Overheated,
Sounds like you need an air conditioner. You seem to have plenty of air movement, so I'd recommend either a window unit in the room that the closet is in or a stand-alone AC blowing directly into the grow space.

THRIPPING OUT

I have a problem with thrips and I don't know what to do. I've tried spraying with pesticides and they still come back. I've tried insect bombs and they still come back. Nothing I do seems to work—how can I rid myself of these crazy critters?

Weedless in Wyoming

Dear Weedless,
Thrips—the tiny, cigar-shaped insect species from the order *Thysanoptera*—are a plague on cannabis plants second only to spider mites. They pierce the cell walls of leaves and drain them of the essential fluids needed to maintain healthy growth. They also leave behind a shiny trail on leaf tops as if they were tiny slugs. In addition to sucking out valuable juices inside the plant, thrips carry and transmit diseases known as *tospoviruses* that cause necrotic spots and can

Thrips like to travel along the spines of leaves.



eventually destroy a whole garden.

Thrips are very difficult to eradicate completely, but it isn't hard to control them and keep their damage to a minimum. There are natural predators you can use, but I'd like to share a personal recipe. Put three drops of Einstein Oil into a quart of warm water along with two drops of dish soap. Shake it up and spray it all over the leaves, top and bottom. Also be sure to dip a cotton swab into this solution and use it to get in between the

pletely, but it isn't hard to control them and keep their damage to a minimum. There are natural predators you can use, but I'd like to share a personal recipe. Put three drops of Einstein Oil into a quart of warm water along with two drops of dish soap. Shake it up and spray it all over the leaves, top and bottom. Also be sure to dip a cotton swab into this solution and use it to get in between the leaf ribs and the hard-to-reach spots where mature thrips will hide, such as where the leaf meets the stem.

This won't kill them right away; instead, it makes them infertile and interrupts the breeding cycle. Spray this solution once a week to keep their population in check. Then be patient, and you won't be Weedless much longer.

POPPING OLD SEEDS

First off, thank you, HT, for being around all this time. I'm an old reader from back in the '70s and miss reading about reefer and the life related to it.

I haven't indulged in well over a decade, but prior to that I was an avid user and saved various seeds from different stock (at least eight or nine types, including some sensimilla from my time). They've been in a sealed container and appear to be in good shape even after 20-plus years.

My question is: Are these worth growing at all? At age 50 and out of the loop as a purchaser, it's hard to get into it again. Would these still produce a good crop for personal needs? I know this is very little info to go on, but any suggestions you have would be great.

Thanks in advance and best regards,

Ed

Dear Ed,

Very intriguing! The truth is, you'll never know how good the genetics are until you pop the seeds and grow them out. I love to hear stories like this, because many strains that were thought to be extinct have been revived under similar circumstances. You just may be sitting on a treasure trove of cannabis DNA.

Your best bet once the seeds are popped and grown out is to take a cutting of each and flower out the clones. You'll be able to determine the sex of the plants as well as the quality of the bud they produce. The original seedlings can then be used as mother plants to produce as many copies of your favorite strain as you need, for as long as you wish.

Or you could always send the beans along to the HIGH TIMES testing facility. Just kidding—now get growing!

TOXIC INJECTION

I've heard that at harvest time, injecting potassium into the buds while they're hanging upside down will make them crystallize more. Is this true?

DDC

Dear DDC,

By no means should you do anything of the sort. Like the wonderful Walt "Clyde" Frazier would say, "That's ill advised!" Not only will it damage the harvested bud, but I have no idea how one would go about doing this to begin with. The amount of crystals depends entirely on genetics and how well you grow, and nothing you do at harvest time can alter this.

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UNDERAGE SEX

How can I tell the sex of my plants when they're young?

Chuckyray

Dear Chuckyray,
 This has got to be among the top five questions we get. The fact of the matter is that pot plants don't truly show their sex until they begin flowering. Pre-flowers do start to show earlier, usually below the fourth or fifth node on a vegetative plant, but a beginner will have a hard time determining sex accurately from those early, tiny indicators.

There's no getting around the fact that pot growing is for the patient. There aren't many valid shortcuts to cut down on the sheer amount of time you will spend in the growroom. You should plan on growing your plants vegetatively for at least a few weeks, then switch to a 12/12-hour day/night light cycle for flowering and monitor them closely. Within a couple of weeks, you should be able to determine their sex and rid yourself of the males. Females will form flowers that initially resemble tiny cotton balls with white hairs emerging, while males will look like small yellow bunches of bananas. Be sure to remove and destroy the males before they mature and drop their pollen, unless you want a harvest full of seeds.

Of course, you could always grow out feminized seeds or take clones from a known female plant in your garden, but these are things you'll pick up on once you stop trying to outwit nature.

BIGGER YIELDS

What strain or strains yield the most under a 250-watt HPS? I have two Aerogardens under it and will eventually add another 400- to 1,000-watt light. I have a connect overseas for seeds but don't know what strain would be best to grow. Thanks for your help!

Tim

Dear Tim,

Typically, plants that are mostly *indica* will yield a bit more than *sativa*-dominant varieties. These would include such stalwarts as Sensi Star, God Bud, MK-Ultra and Mazar-i-Sharif. The size of your harvest is also determined by the amount of time you choose to keep your plants in the vegetative stage, as well as your skills as a gardener.

Always remember, however, that growing isn't about quantity over quality, but rather the opposite. Some of the tastiest and stoniest strains take a bit longer to flower and grow wispier than others. Bigger isn't always better, so be sure to choose strains that you and your friends enjoy smoking and, if need be, add a week or two of vegetative time in order to bulk them up a bit.

WAITING GAME

How fast can I make my plants bud?

Odyssey

Dear Odyssey,

There's nothing you can do to speed up the flowering process. This is a basic genetic trait of the seed or clone you're growing from; typically, most plants take anywhere from six to 10 weeks to complete the process once it has begun.

Growing pot requires patience. I've been asked many times about speeding up the process, but I find this a flawed way of approaching the subject. Plants have a natural cycle, and interrupting it or messing with it too much seems inherently unnatural and just plain wrong. If you really want a quick-flowering plant, get yourself an *indica*-dominant strain that stays short and stocky and typically matures within eight weeks or less. Good luck!

PLANT LIMITS

Hi—just a quick question. I have a large shed with heaps of height, but I only want to grow a maximum of two plants for legal reasons over here in Australia. I'd like to produce the maximum poundage per cycle. I'll be growing Power Plant from Dutch Passion, and my question is what light

or lights should I use? Any help you can give would be great.

MR in JP

Dear MR,

I would suggest growing your two plants under either one 1,000-watt or two 600-watt HPS or MH (metal halide) lights. In order to yield the amount you're looking for, the planting containers must be large enough to support a massive root system, and you'll need to grow your plants out in the vegetative stage for anywhere from several weeks to a month.

As for containers, don't grow them in anything smaller than a 5-gallon bucket. I would recommend going even bigger, say with Rubbermaid-type tubs that can hold up to 25 gallons of soilless mix. This provides room for the roots to thrive, thus making them able to support a much larger plant aboveground.

Assuming that you're growing from seed, you'll need to keep your plants under at least 18 hours of light per day until you feel the time is right to lower the amount of light to 12 hours in order to induce flowering. Depending on the size of your containers and the ultimate height you want for your plants, this could entail over a month of vegetative growth. I take it that you want monster plants, but keep in mind that they'll continue to stretch after flowering is induced. Good luck!

PAIN RELIEF STRAIN

What kind of medical marijuana would be best to grow for pain? To be more specific, I've had three back surgeries since 1996, and with each one, the pain just seems to get worse. The doctors don't seem to want to do anything for the pain, and I can't take it anymore. I'm only 44 years old, and I've been on Social Security disability since the first surgery. I now suffer from depression and panic attacks in addition to the constant pain, which keeps me from functioning most days. I don't want to eat or even get out of bed. I'm 6 feet tall and down to 150 pounds. I hope you can help me out—if I get an answer, I'm sure I'll have more questions about growing later on. And thanks!

D. Clegg

Dear D.,

What a heartbreaking story—and one we see repeated over and over around the world as weary patients wait for compassion from doctors more interested in peddling pills and politicians too scared to support medical marijuana, all knowing full well that it works.

As for the best strain to use for pain, I recommend something *indica*-dominant like Cheese, Sensi Star, MK-Ultra or LA Confidential. *Indicas* provide much more of a body high that seems to work best for pain relief; *sativas* tend to be the headier high, with more of an "up" feeling, which is why they generally work better for patients suffering from nausea or depression. Some extreme *sativas* can even induce panic attacks, which you're suffering from as well. So stick with an *indica* if pain relief is your greatest concern.

Good luck, and please do what you can to help enact a medical-marijuana law in your area (if there isn't one already). Too many people like you are still suffering! 🌿

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GROW QUIZ

HIGH TIMES MONTHLY GROW QUIZ

Calculate your cultivation HIGH-Q with our monthly grow quiz, featuring highly educational questions for beginners and experts alike.

- After a successful harvest, marijuana growers can use otherwise discarded ____ to make homemade hashish.
 - stems
 - fan leaves
 - roots
 - seeds
- Marijuana plants begin to flower when they receive less than ____ hours per day of light.
 - 18
 - 16
 - 12
 - 8
- Insufficiently watered plants will _____.
 - turn bright orange
 - curl up at the tips of the leaves
 - become rigid
 - grow bigger roots
- A healthy root system appears ____ in color.
 - brown
 - black
 - gray
 - white
- The ideal humidity level for drying cannabis is _____.
 - 20% to 30%
 - 45% to 55%
 - 65% to 75%
 - 80% to 90%



- 5-POINT BONUS**
Identify this growing medium.
- rockwool
 - coco peat
 - expanded clay pellets
 - compost pile
 - bat guano



- 5-POINT BONUS**
Identify this strain.
- Northern Lights
 - Island Sweet Skunk
 - Blueberry
 - Cheese
 - NYC Diesel



- 5-POINT BONUS**
This growroom is an example of _____.
 - hydroponics
 - super cropping
 - FIM technique
 - none of the above

For the answers to this month's grow quiz, to calculate your HIGH-Q, and to take even more grow quizzes online, visit hightimes.com/growquiz/.

DECEMBER GARDEN CALENDAR

INDOORS

What a wonderful time of year to grow plants—provided that you're indoors, working in your "home office." But beware: On the coldest nights of winter, the humidity can skyrocket. Letting the temperature drop or the humidity rise, even briefly, can seriously stress your plants, so check the temperature and relative humidity rates in your garden frequently. Measure both temp and humidity an hour after the lights go out for an accurate reading of what's really happening in your room. Also, check the temperature of your nutrient solution to make sure you're not giving your precious herb plants a cold bath!



Tightly sealed jars work best for storage.

grow clones, make sure you'll have them on hand and ready to plant the first day that weather permits.

Meanwhile, if you've got a bunch of stored buds left over from last fall's harvest, check them too, lest they develop mold that will methodically eat away at your hard-earned stash. Make sure the buds are properly dried and cured, and use a magnifying glass to check for early signs of moldy trouble.

OUTDOORS

Spend the winter months getting prepared for next season. Start by checking your stored seeds, making sure they're in a cool, dry, dark location. In the refrigerator, pack seeds in an airtight container with moisture-absorbing silicon crystals. If you're planning to

TIP OF THE MONTH

Check it out: Make a detailed checklist of all your daily and weekly tasks in the growroom and post it prominently inside the garden. This will help you stay highly organized and in tune with your plants' needs, which is key to properly caring for your garden and avoiding problems before they start.



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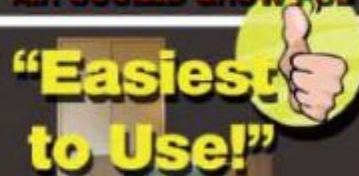


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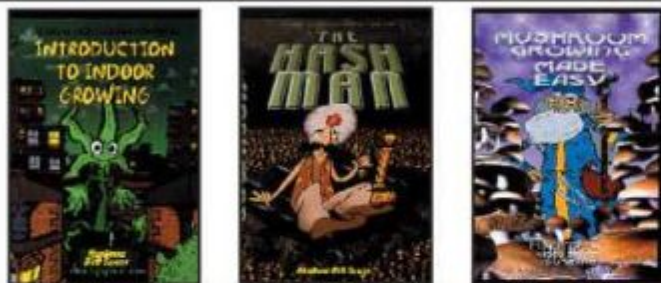


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NEXT MONTH IN HIGH TIMES



FREEBIE

NEW YEAR'S INDOOR GROW SPECIAL

It's almost January 1. Make a resolution now! Let 2010 be the year you save a bundle by growing pounds of your own great pot!

NOW'S THE TIME!

As the weather turns colder, crafty cannabis growers are turning their attention indoors, where high-intensity lights power highly productive cultivation operations that yield big buds with incredible potency. Next month, HIGH TIMES' resident grow experts offer up a detailed overview of everything you'll need to set up your own indoor grow. Find seeds and clones, construct your grow space, set up your lights, decide between soil and hydro, feed your plants—and then harvest in high style!

THE MOTHERSHIP CONNECTION

Environmental perfection is the aim of these growers: They called in professional contractors, plumbers, electricians and HVAC guys to build one of the most perfectly designed growrooms we've ever seen. Loaded with rows of Grape Ape, Blackberry Kush and Chocolope, the Mothership is a stoner Garden of Eden.

ALANIS MORISSETTE'S WORLD

The career of superstar songbird Alanis Morissette has been an epic ride. For many artists, meteoric success like hers usually comes with a freight-carload of personal angst. But Alanis is a decidedly different soul. Check her out in a candid conversation about living with superstardom and what special ingredient contributes to her healthy lifestyle.

CHU VALLEY REVEALED

For pot smokers in the Russian-speaking world, there is no more hallowed ground than the rolling, arid plains of the Chu Valley, a sprawling steppe where cannabis grows wild across 540 square miles. Next month, tour this exotic pot paradise.

PSYCHEDELIC TOAD ADVENTURE

In the Sonoran Desert, a strange toad lives. The venom of *Bufo alvarius* contains the natural entheogen 5-MeO-DMT, similar to DMT. Drying and smoking it brings on an intense psychedelic experience that can change the user's reality forever. Go toading in the desert with James Oroc, author of the new book *Tryptamine Palace*, and learn about his transformative adventure, which encompassed quantum physics, the human soul, the Akashic Field, shamans and experiential mystic spirituality.

PLUS: Mounting evidence shows that pot actually enhances the powers of concentration; and our 2009 Stony Award winners!

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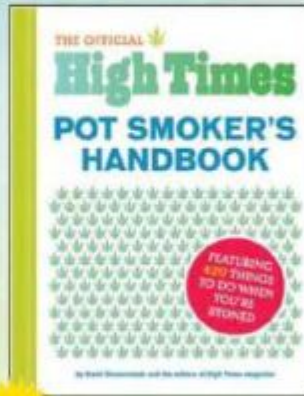
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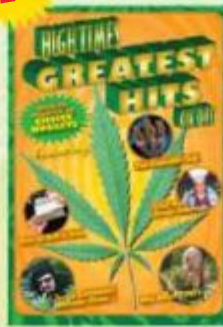
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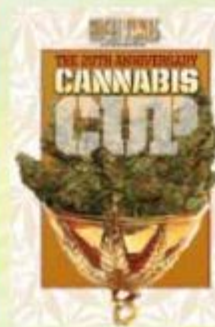
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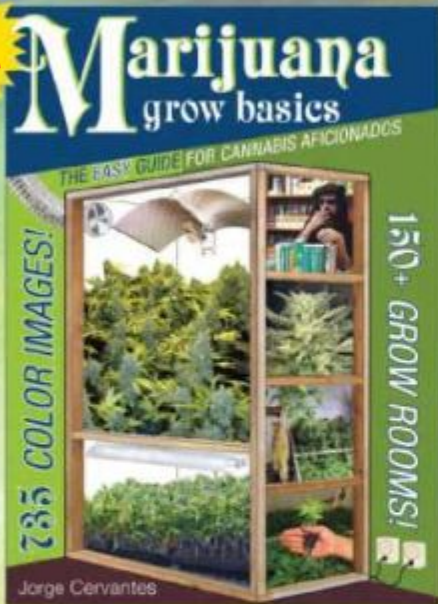
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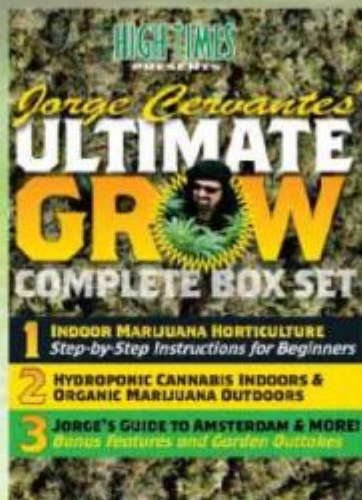
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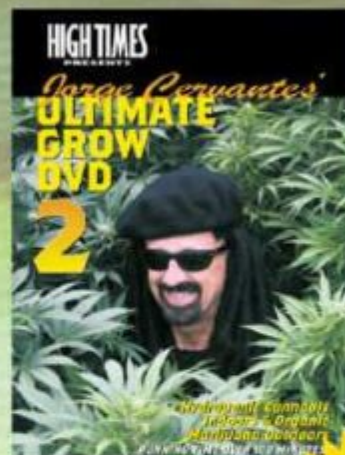


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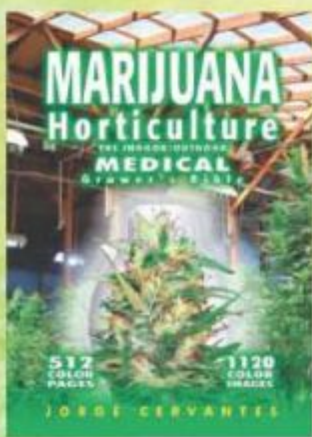


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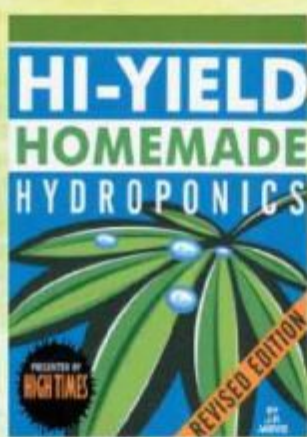


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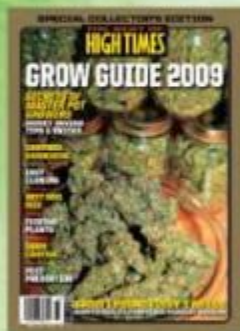
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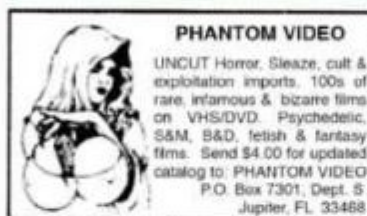


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1 **WayHorse**

2 **BONG TV**

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4 **RIP MARCUS the DOG**
FROM HIS MANY FRIENDS AND FAMILY THE BEARD

5 **UHS RECORDS**
AKA "THE LABEL WITH THE BONG"

6 **OVERGROW THE WORLD**
AND OUTGROW BIGBRO.ORG HELPS SPREAD THAT MESSAGE!

7 **THE EYE**

8 **POSTHEADS ON A MISSION**
THE 1ST TO END PROHIBITION!

9 **Boogie Kush**
IN MEMORY OF SASHA RIP

10 **STEM**
The song says it all: HIGH TIMES LIVIN'

11 **DESTIN JOURDAN**
www.myspace.com/destinjordan

12 **WAKE UP**
every day... for health

13 **HANK III**
WELLBILLY RESPECTS

14 **THE GLASS EYE**

15 **SWINGING**
CUZ 1+1 IS 2, BUT 2+2 IS A LOT MORE FUN!

16 I LOST MY ENTIRE CROP IN THE FLOOD ON 5/6/09 IN EAGLE, ARKANSAS! NOT TO MENTION MY ENTIRE GROW ROOM: 33 VEGETATING PLANTS, 32 BUDDING PLANTS, WHITE WIDOW, NORTHERN LIGHTS, CO BLUEBERRY RIP, LITTLE BUDDIES... (MEM)

17 **FREE EDDY**

18 **PIZZA**

19 **Pinky the ELDER**
ROMAN SCIENTIST & POTHEAD

20 **The Bonkey**
www.thebonkey.com

21 **SMOKED MYSELF SILLY**
not so PARANOID
I had to quit: artificial sweetener, alcohol, sugar, prescription shit

22 **Chef Vin Jov's MAGIC WEED COOKIES**

23 **WIFE SPANKING!**
CUZ SHE LOVES IT!

24 I ONLY TOKE ON DOGS ENDING WITH "Y"

25 **SWINGING**
CUZ 1+1 IS 2, BUT 2+2 IS A LOT MORE FUN!

26 **WITH BOOZE U LOSE! WITH DOPE THERE'S HOPE!**
Here's Denny!

27 YOU NEVER COPULATE ON THE FIRST DATE?
THEN IT'LL BE BACK IN 20 MINUTES FOR OUR SECOND ONE!

28 **Major Stoner says:**
ROLL UP YOUR CAR WINDOWS AND CREATE A CUMULUS CLOUD OF CANNABIS SATIVA

29 **A GEOCENTRIC MODEL OF THE UNIVERSE**
(GALILEO WAS A INFORMATION AGENT)

30 I LIKE MARIJUANA. YOU LIKE MARIJUANA. WE LIKE MARIJUANA TOO!!
DAVID PEEL

31 **THOR**
www.thorcentral.com

32 STEPHEN KING DOESN'T HAVE A CLUE JUST HOW WEIRD THE WORLD REALLY IS !!!

33 MARIJUANA AND ME ARE GOOD BUDDIES. WE ARE DEPENDENT ON EACH OTHER.

34 **REV. JOSHUA CASTANEDA, A.K.A. ELIJAH**
THE FOUNDER OF WWW.SALVATIONANDINRED.COM

35 **Blonder**
Prefer GENTLEMEN!!

36 I POKED SHOT AND I LIKE IT A LOT!

37 400,000 FOLKS DIE EVERY YEAR DUE TO DRUNK DRIVING... MIND IF I CRASH ON YOUR COUCH INSTEAD OF THE HIGHWAY?

38 BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT'S ILLEGAL TO SMOKE POT - IT IS ONLY ILLEGAL TO GROW, SELL OR POSSESS ANY AMOUNT OF POT IN THE U.S.A. REPORT VETERANS HOSPITALS, WHERE IT'S A \$30 FINE TO POSSESS ANY AMOUNT OF POT. VETERANS SMOKE POT AND WE LIKE IT A LOT!

39 can GOD make a rock so big not even He can lift it...?

40 **GEORGE CARLIN:**
"IT'S OK TO PRICK YOUR FINGER, BUT IT'S NOT OK TO FINGER YOUR PRICK!"

VOTE TWITTER/420 OR POT40 @ hightimes.com

THE MOST VOTES WE RECEIVE FOR AND THEN YOU MIGHT JUST FIND YOURSELF NO. 1 ON THE POT40 LIST. TOP OF THE TOP!

EVERY EMAIL, POSTCARD, BALLOT OR TWITTER YOU SEND IN FOR YOUR IDEA COUNTS AS A VOTE! SEND IN LOTS OF 'EM!

WANT TO SEE YOUR IDEA IN THE TOP SPOT, NUMBER 1 ON THE POT40 PAGE??

POT40 COMPILED BY John Holmstrom

420 HOOPS BY Cosmo

OFFICIAL BALLOT

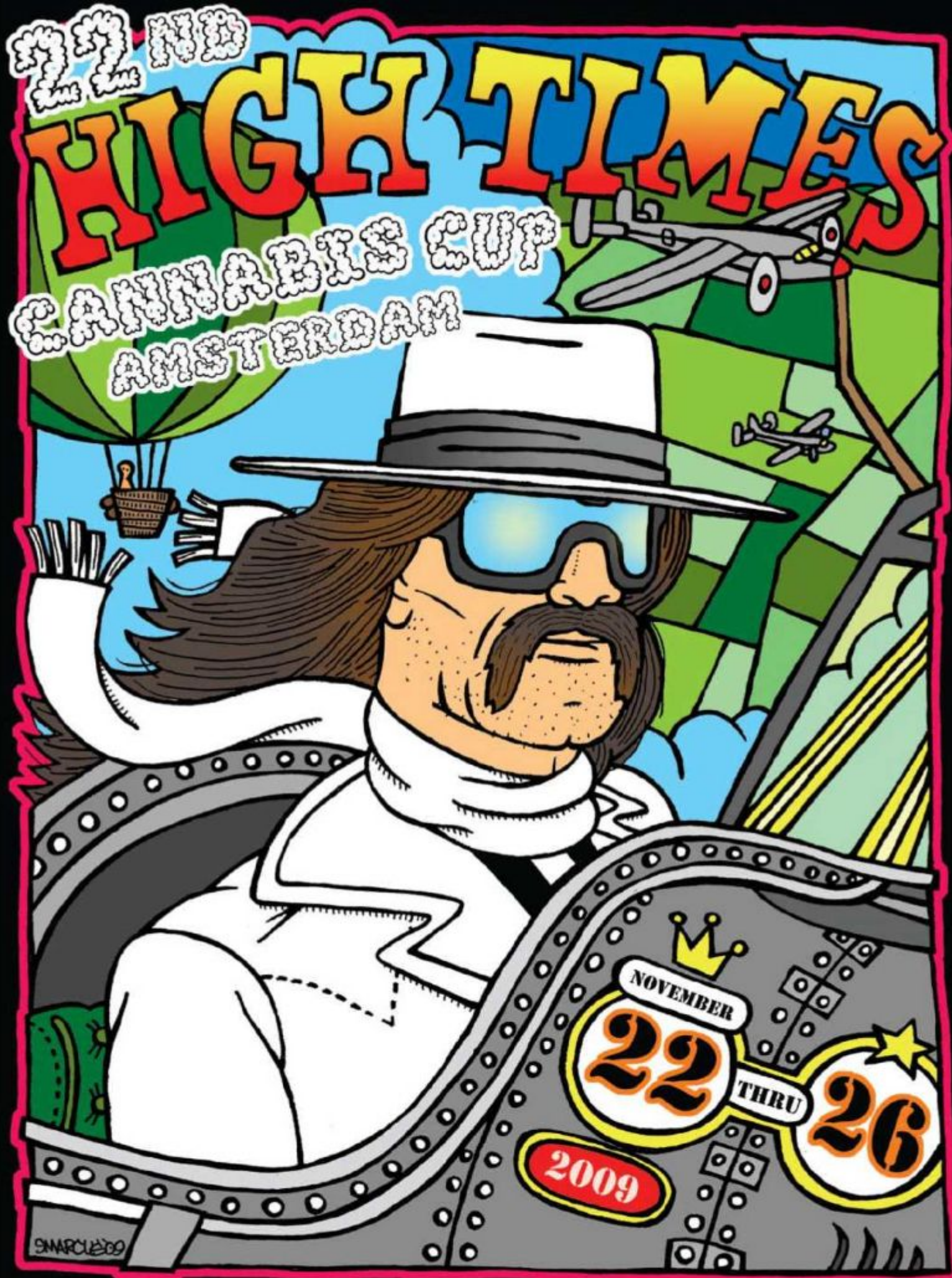
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