

Hemp farmer gets high crop at high altitude

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
EO Media Group

JOSEPH — In his third year of growing hemp in Wallowa County, Shane Kimball is getting high — a high yield and high profits with a high-elevation crop.

But the crop doesn't give the kind of high that its intoxicating cousin, marijuana, does. He is one of about 1,650 Oregon farmers who have pioneered production of hemp since the crop was permitted by Oregon in 2015 and legalized nationally in the 2018 USDA Farm Bill. "I've been researching hemp for over 25 years and I'm very familiar with the things that it can do," Kimball said at his Joseph-area farm.

Kimball raises the 6-foot-high plants for their buds and flowers, from which he produces cannabidiol (CBD) oil.

Marijuana and hemp are both plants in the genus *Cannabis*. Many modern botanists, including the USDA, classify the genus *Cannabis* as having only one species, *sativa*, with varieties consisting of *indica* (Indian hemp — with a subvariation called *Gigantea* or giant hemp), *ruderalis* (wild hemp), and *vulgaris* (cultivated hemp). However, most food and fiber comes from *C. sativa*. Marijuana and hemp are



EO Media Group Photo/Bill Bradshaw

Hemp farmer Shane Kimball, of Joseph, examines drying hemp buds in a Quonset hut at his farm east of Joseph. He says to look at them, you can't tell hemp from marijuana; it's only with a chemical test that the difference can be determined.

varieties of the same plant — with one very important distinction.

Although both contain THC and CBD, plants classified as hemp must contain less than 0.3% of the mind-altering substance tetrahydrocannabinol (THC.) But hemp usually contains higher levels of the medicinal substance CBD than its psychoactive cousin.

CBD does appear to produce significant changes in the body and some research suggests that it has medical benefits, including reducing anxiety, preventing seizures and reducing inflammation. The increasingly prevalent use of hemp is for the CBD oil used in medicinal and

cosmetic applications.

"I make a salve and a tincture," Kimball said. "I make one that if you take internally it's really good for anxiety, concussion."

He recently suffered concussion and is finding CBD helpful in his recovery. He learned of CBD oil's purported value to heal concussions from a former NFL quarterback at a convention of the Hemp Industries Association. He said many in the NFL use CBD oil because of all the concussions suffered in the game. Kimball was a member of the association, which is one of the oldest hemp promoters in the U.S., and he considers himself a hemp pioneer.

This year, Kimball planted 7 acres in his fields in Joseph and Lostine.

"Last year I grew 5 acres and this year I grew 7 but I got a bumper crop this year," Kimball said. Kimball's Lostine crop did well, producing almost four times as much as the previous year. He is certain his farm east of Joseph is the highest-elevation hemp farm in the state.

He estimates he's harvested what will amount to about 3,000 pounds of hemp flowers. He has plants hanging to dry in one Quonset hut, three greenhouses, a shop full "and then I have another undisclosed location that's probably all that combined. I've got about three times as much as I had last year. I'm just getting better at growing it, honestly. I've just learned a few things."

As with any farmer, profit — and staying in business — depends on the market.

Kimball said he removes the buds from the plants to process them.

"I'm mostly in the flower market. I sell the flower to different folks and the leftovers I turn into the oil," he said. "Last year, I got probably \$50,000 an acre gross. But the oil prices have dropped."

"Now there's 40-some thousand acres in Oregon, so the economy's a scale."

Torrefaction: improving forest health, economy

By **RUDY DIAZ**
EO Media Group

JOHN DAY — New jobs are on the horizon with the completion of the torrefaction plant expected at the end of the year.

Matt Krumenauer, CEO of Restoration Fuels, said the plant that will turn forest biomass into a product that can be burned for fuel plans to be in production in 2020.

All of the equipment is in place. The boiler system will begin running by mid-November, Krumenauer said, and the rest of the system will be in production at the start of 2020.

The first three months of 2020 will focus on startup in preparation for the plant to work at one-third capacity for the rest of the year, a common process that assures production goes well when the plant works at full capacity in 2021, he said.

At full capacity, the plant is expected to produce 80,000-90,000 tons of torrefied wood in a year.

The plant will provide 15-17 new positions, and seven people have already been hired. The pay ranges from \$15-\$25 per hour for the five job types avail-

able. Some of the positions require expertise, but some training will be offered.

The torrefaction plant was built at the Malheur Lumber mill in John Day. The two separate businesses now share some of the same machinery, Krumenauer said, and the wood the mill cannot use to produce high-value, dimensional lumber will be used by the torrefaction plant.

"These guys (Malheur Lumber) can get a more consistent supply of the logs that they need to keep the mill running, and we (Restoration Fuels) get to find another market outlet for the waste that traditionally hasn't had a market and has not allowed local contractors to plan and effectively invest in their own operations," Krumenauer said.

The plant will turn biomass, such as small-diameter trees that have little economic value, into torrefied wood that can be sold. With additional value from the biomass, restoration projects on the forest cost less and are more efficient.

The torrefaction plant can also use other forms of biomass.

Forecast for Pendleton Area

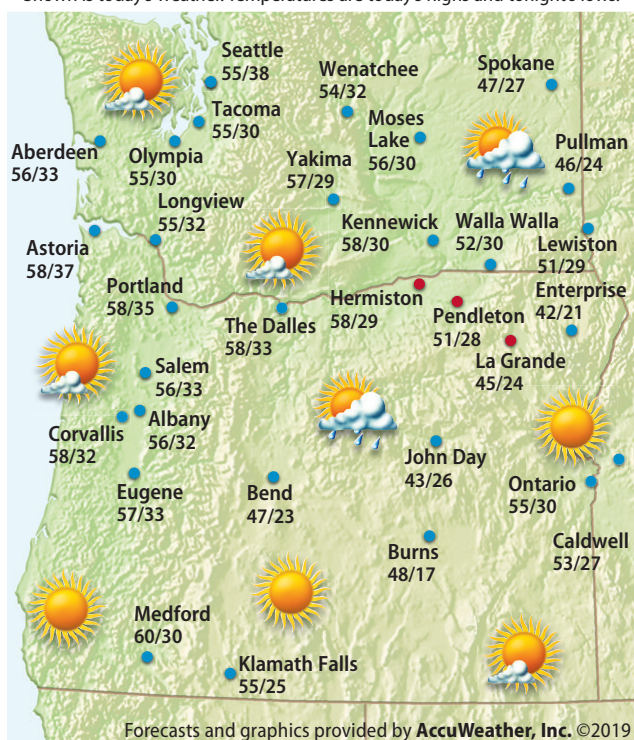
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TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly sunny, a shower; cooler	Plenty of sun, but chilly	Partly sunny	Sunny and colder	Mostly sunny and chilly

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
51°	28°	49°	27°	52°
22°	42°	19°	47°	27°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
58°	29°	55°	26°	56°
27°	46°	20°	50°	28°

OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	72°	44°
Normals	60°	37°
Records	86° (1924)	25° (1919)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.46"
Normal month to date 0.83"
Year to date 11.31"
Last year to date 7.91"
Normal year to date 9.77"

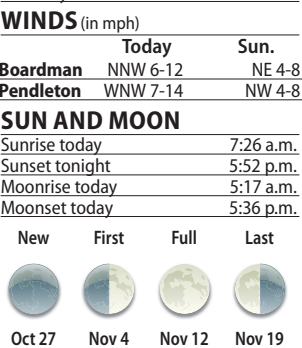
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	74°	37°
Normals	61°	37°
Records	80° (1959)	20° (2002)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.18"
Normal month to date 0.51"
Year to date 4.94"
Last year to date 6.29"
Normal year to date 7.07"

WINDS (in mph)
Today Sun.
Boardman NNW 6-12 NE 4-8
Pendleton WNW 7-14 NW 4-8

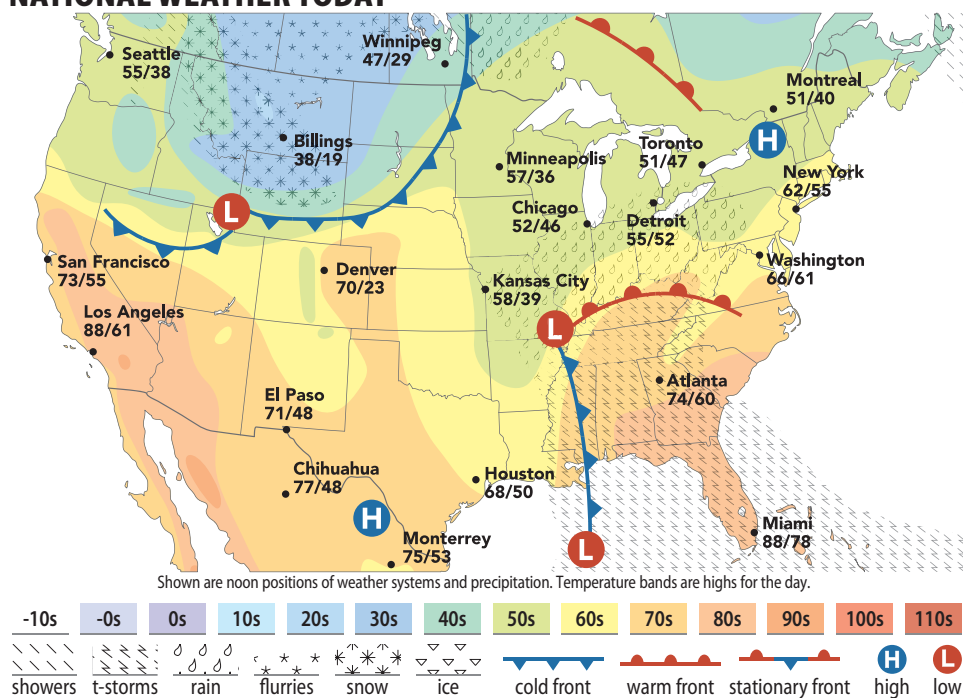
SUN AND MOON
Sunrise today 7:26 a.m.
Sunset tonight 5:52 p.m.
Moonrise today 5:17 a.m.
Moonset today 5:36 p.m.



NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 98° in Camarillo, Calif. Low -3° in Angel Fire, N.M.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



BRIEFLY

Man shot, killed by Hillsboro police in parking lot ID'd

HILLSBORO — Police have released the name of a man shot and killed by a Hillsboro officer Monday in their West Precinct parking lot.

The Hillsboro Police Department said Thursday that Officer Bobby Voth fatally shot 39-year-old Jason Livengood of Camas.

Police say officers were in the parking lot investigating suspicious behavior between two men who were standing outside their cars in the parking lot just after 6 p.m. Monday.

One of the drivers was armed with a handgun and refused to drop it during the encounter, police said, and shots were fired.

KATU-TV reports the other driver was not detained

or arrested, and police are still trying to determine his involvement and why both of them came to the parking lot.

Human remains found near trail west of Bend

BEND — Authorities say human remains were discovered near a trailhead west of Bend.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office received a report of possible human remains on Oct. 18 in a heavily wooded area near the Separation Lake Trailhead.

Sheriff's office deputies and search and rescue responded and found a deceased male who appeared to have been there for years.

Additional investigation will be done to confirm the person's identity before it's released to the public.

3 teens arrested in fatal shooting of Portland man

PORTLAND — Police have arrested three teenagers in connection with the death of a man who was found shot outside a North Portland home last week.

KATU-TV reports Ricky Malone Sr., 65, was found at about 6:15 a.m. Oct. 14 with a gunshot wound outside of a home after a neighbor had called police for a welfare check.

Malone later died of the injury.

On Thursday, police arrested two 15-year-olds and a 14-year-old in connection with his death.

All three youths were booked into a juvenile detention center on murder charges.

— Associated Press

CORRECTIONS: The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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