

27 February 2019

ASX Announcement

Wide Open Agriculture Granted Industrial Hemp Licence

- Industrial hemp to be grown in WOA's existing R&D shade house facility
- R&D program will support identification of commercially attractive industrial hemp varieties for southern Wheatbelt
- Potential for large-scale commercial expansion

Regenerative food and agriculture group Wide Open Agriculture Ltd (ASX: WOA) (WOA or “the Company”) is pleased to announce it has been granted an Industrial Hemp Licence by the Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, to cultivate and harvest industrial hemp at its pilot shade house site, located near Arthur River in Western Australia.

Work will begin immediately on sourcing suitable varieties for a Research & Development (R&D) Program to trial and assess industrial hemp production under both protected cropping and open field conditions.

WOA Managing Director, Dr Ben Cole said: “Following a rigorous assessment of different crop options for the pilot shade house, industrial hemp was identified as an ideal opportunity as it matches our growing conditions and does not require cold storage.”



Image 1: Wide Open Agriculture's R&D shade house in southern Wheatbelt

The R&D Program will measure seed yield, growth rates and root penetration outputs at WOA's automated shade house and in adjacent open field conditions.

"This information will allow us to pinpoint the industrial hemp varieties that respond best to various growing conditions and will be vital to developing a business case for large-scale production," Dr Cole said.

Industrial hemp yields a high-protein seed containing omega-3 which can be used in food, non-dairy milk and oil production. Fibre may also be extracted for textiles and building products.

Dr Cole said: "Not only is industrial hemp an exciting crop with great potential for production in the Wheatbelt, it has the capacity to play a role in improving soil health.

"The Wheatbelt has some of the world's most efficient and innovative broadacre farmers, so there is real opportunity to scale-up if open field trials are successful," he said.

The licence was granted by the Registrar of the *Industrial Hemp Act 2004* and expires on 21 February 2022. The licence is renewable assuming WOA complies with the conditions of the licence and the *Industrial Hemp Act 2004*. The licence applies to the Wedgecarrup R&D site and requires a minimal licencing payment to the Regulator.

About Wide Open Agriculture Ltd

Wide Open Agriculture (WOA) is a regenerative food and agriculture group based in the Wheatbelt region of Western Australia. The Company's vertically integrated food and agriculture business comprises farmland assets, protected cropping and a food brand, Food for Reasons™.

WOA operates under a '4 Returns' framework and seeks to deliver measurable outcomes on financial, natural, social and inspirational returns. The Company manages its farmland under the principle of identifying 3 zones (economic, combined and natural zones) and investing over a 20-year timeframe.

WOA is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (code: WOA) and the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (code: 2WO) and is the world's first '4 Returns' publicly listed company.

www.wideopenagriculture.com.au

About Food for Reasons™

Food for Reasons™ is Wide Open Agriculture's food brand. FFR is developing authentic food products with key ingredients sourced from Western Australian regenerative farmers.

With a focus on the healthy snacking and fresh categories, FFR seeks to shorten the value chain between WA farmers and consumers. Products are focused on simplicity, minimal processing, natural ingredients and nutritional balance. Our vision is to become a globally-trusted food brand that delivers 4 Returns.

[@foodforreasons](https://www.instagram.com/foodforreasons)

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