



Jeff Kostuik
Hemp Genetics International
Director of Operations, Central Canada, US & International

Jeff's career path has naturally evolved from a love of agriculture and the 'family farm.' Called upon for his knowledge gained from the farm along with his applied research background in the hemp industry, Jeff has an innate ability of relating with producers, colleagues and fellow professionals alike. Jeff is known for his 'real life' experience in the field. Equally renowned as having a strong applied research background providing bench marks in the hemp industry which has assisted in the success of producers and colleagues in the burgeoning hemp industry. Jeff is passionate about hemp and the opportunities that are available whether it be through the use of the fiber, grain, oil or as a nutraceutical.

In 2015, Jeff began a new career with Hemp Genetics International where he takes a lead role in sharing his agronomy knowledge to the HGI client base. Hemp research continues to be a focus for Jeff, both in Canada and abroad, determining what varieties will perform in varying conditions and climates. The company joins the global stage in working with producers and research affiliates to provide quality products as the benefits of hemp become more recognized. Jeff takes great pride in developing business relationships on a local, national and international level. Along with his work with HGI, Jeff is an enthusiastic hemp farmer working with his brother in law on the family farm producing pedigreed hemp seed.

Past experience includes being the Manitoba provincial contact regarding hemp agronomy as he was the project lead for hemp research trials in Manitoba. Employed as a Diversification Specialist with Manitoba Agriculture, Food & Rural Development while working alongside the Parkland Crop Diversification Foundation, Jeff has been involved in hemp research since it was legalized in 1998. Past projects have included working on national variety trials funded through the CHTA as well as working on minor use herbicide projects.

Jeff studied Agriculture at the University of Manitoba and in 2012 obtained a BGS from Athabasca University where he graduated with distinction. He is a Certified Crop Advisor and is a member of the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists. Jeff is a director of the Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance where he holds the position of chair of the Research committee. Currently, he is collaborating with Dr. David Williams from the University of Kentucky providing a chapter on hemp agronomy for an upcoming publication on Industrial Hemp.

 **20 YEARS AND GROWING**

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