



My name is Amanda Metzler, the President of F.A.R.M.S. Inc. - a farmer-run, nonprofit organization working every day to protect the rights of craft cannabis farmers in Oregon.

We started F.A.R.M.S. Inc. to represent ourselves and defend our farming rights through organized, professional, and collaborative efforts backed by advocacy, courtroom wins, and community organization.

We ask as you draft rules for a new and emerging hemp industry and consider SB 1561 please do not overlook the pioneers of the legal cannabis industry.

These farms put their faith in the State to craft rules and regulations that would create a thriving industry.

However, now unregulated hemp and unregulated hemp pollen is set to destroy it.

Unregulated hemp pollen will devastate family farms and negatively affect current cannabis tax revenue. A seeded THC crop has zero value. It cannot be sold in dispensaries or made into other cannabis products. And, most importantly, the seeds are not viable to sell.

While we understood the risks of growing a federally illegal crop, it is impossible to comprehend why the State would start issuing thousands of hemp licenses with no guardrails in place for pollen, which is said to travel up to 10 miles. One speck of unregulated hemp pollen could eradicate our entire livelihoods.

To put this in perspective, as of June 2019 there were 149 registered hemp farms within 7.5 miles of my two recreational cannabis farms in Williams, OR. In 2018, this number was zero.

Please stand with those who put their trust in becoming legal businesses under laws established by the people of the State of Oregon. Please instruct the Department of Ag to address the MAJOR issue of cross-pollination in their hemp plan.

The Department of Ag has stated in public testimony they plan to defer to OSU on pollination issues. This is alarming, as Jay Noller from OSU has said in public testimony that he supports open pollination. Also, OSU is studying actual industrial hemp not hemp grown for CBD, which is the only type of hemp that is being grown here in Oregon.

We support NO open pollination and seed breeding done ONLY indoors.

On behalf of the cannabis farmer, we thank you in advance for your consideration.

[www.farmsinc.org](http://www.farmsinc.org)