

*I'm interested in growing poppies.*

*What next...?*



TPI Ltd  
**Poppy Grower**  
**Expression of Interest**



## ***The Poppy Industry in Australia***

There are currently three licenced poppy processors based in Australia and TPI Ltd (TPI) is the only Australian owned poppy processor.

We are pleased to be able to share this excellent cropping opportunity to expand our growing capacity. TPI believes this will be an exciting step in expanding an already successful industry and would like to hear from interested farmers.

This expansion is aimed at ensuring security of supply of poppy straw to its extraction and purification facility.

## ***Who is TPI?***

TPI is an Australian, public non-listed company established in 2004, and is one of only nine licenced narcotic facilities in the world.

TPI currently employs 70 full-time staff and has been directly responsible for over \$80 million of investment since 2007. By the end of the 2013 harvest TPI had directly contributed \$36 million to Tasmanian poppy growers since its licence was granted in 2007.

With proven commercial sales of Narcotic Raw Material (Morphine and Thebaine) to blue chip pharmaceutical companies around the world, TPI continues to expand to meet global demand for pain relief.

The basis of TPI's success is the use of an innovative water-based technology for the extraction and purification of Morphine from the poppy variety Papaver Somniferum.

TPI is the only narcotics facility in the world that does not use toxic petroleum-based solvents and as a result, TPI has significant, sustainable health, safety, economic and environmental advantages. This represents true Australian innovation, which TPI continues to develop through its Research and Development program.





*Poppies will provide farmers with a lucrative break crop. Security and compliance are integral to maintaining the reputation of the industry.*

### **Potential Growing Area**

Poppies grow best if they have at least 200mm of top soil into which their root system can grow. Ideal soil types are lightly textured and free draining.

Poppies do not like 'wet feet' therefore heavy clay soils are best avoided.

During the growing season, the amount of water applied needs to be carefully monitored as high rainfall and winds are detrimental to the crop's viability.

Details of previous cropping and residual herbicides is critical in assessing a paddocks suitability to grow poppies.

Activity	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Farmer National Police Check	█	█											
Licence Approval		█	█										
Seed Cleaning/ Coating		█	█										
Seed Bed Preparation			█	█	█								
Sowing				█	█	█							
Crop establishment					█	█	█						
Agronomy						█	█	█	█	█	█		
Crop in flower											█	█	
Harvest												█	█
Testing												█	█
Grower Payment													█





## ***Poppy Growing Season in the Southern Hemisphere***

### **Sowing**

Poppies are sown ideally between April and June into well prepared seed beds, not too firm and with the surface free of turf, straw, weeds and other vegetable matter.

TPI Field Service Officers provide agronomic support throughout the growing season.

### **Harvesting**

Harvesting takes place between December and January depending on sowing date.

Poppies can be harvested with a combine header, however the preferred option is to harvest with a forage harvester containing a specialised front which gathers the capsules while leaving the stem of the plant in the field.

Again, TPI Field Service Officers will provide technical advice on equipment selection and operation in order to maximise yield and therefore revenue to the grower.

### **Crop Security**

TPI takes the security of the poppy crop very seriously. The plant is controlled and all persons involved in the sowing, cultivation, harvesting and cartage of the poppy crop must undergo a National Police Check.

Security measures are required at all stages of sowing, cultivation, harvest and cartage. Physical security measures include: fencing, paddock location (ie. remoteness from busy roads), restricting access of the paddock to only approved persons, and regular inspections by growers and Field Service Officers.

### **Gross Margins**

Poppies should deliver gross margins of between \$2,000 - \$4,000/Ha depending on crop performance. TPI pays growers based on alkaloid content and wholecrop weight





**Grower – Expression of Interest Form**

*page 1 of 2*

If you are interested in becoming a TPI Grower, please complete the below form and either fax, post or e-mail to our office.

All questions are optional and if you have any further enquiries, please contact us.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred contact?**

- Postal address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- State \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_
- E-mail \_\_\_\_\_
- Mobile \_\_\_\_\_
- (please tick if SMS messages are ok to be sent to this mobile number)

1. Where is your farm situated?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the size of your farm?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is your primary activity? cropping, livestock etc?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What crops do you grow on your farm? How do you see poppies fitting into your rotation?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you have irrigation on farm and if so, what type? (please circle)  
centre pivot    hard hose    tape
6. How many hectares of your farm is irrigated?  
\_\_\_\_\_





**Grower – Expression of Interest Form**

*page 2 of 2*

7. How much area could you assign to poppy crops?

---

8. What crops were grown in the paddocks you anticipate assigning to poppies?

---

9. What residual herbicides have you used on these paddocks over the last three years?

---

10. Have you used Treflan on any potential poppy paddocks?

---

If yes how long ago?

---

11. What soil type do these potential paddocks have? pH?

---

12. Are your paddocks fenced?

---

13. Do you have seeders capable of sowing 1 kg/ha, or harvesters and other relevant equipment on farm?

---

---

14. What are your typical gross margins for their current cropping activities?

---

**Contact:**

*Address PO Box 7710, Launceston Australia, 7250*

*Telephone +61 3 6398 5254*

*Fax +61 3 6398 5259*

*E-mail enquiries@tpienterprises.com*

