

Tri Nature statement on Palm Oil

Tri Nature does not use any palm oil and we use very little of emulsifiers that may have a palm oil derivative.

We have reduced the amount as much as we can at this time.

While palm oil derivatives are relatively easy to remove from soaps and cleaning products, the total removal of its derivatives in emulsifiers and various emollient compounds is very difficult and I have some misgivings about many of "palm oil free" claims made by some "eco-friendly" companies.

I believe that most companies that state that all their products are "100% palm free", either have a restricted range of unsophisticated products, are naïve and have not investigated close enough or are not being truthful.

Any palm oil containing compounds we may use are high end ingredients and are sourced from environmentally conscious suppliers (only two) that are members of the Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO).

Newer areas of plantation proliferation such as Amazon forest areas are developed mainly for the bio-diesel fuel industry, which is the sole reason for the burgeoning demand in the oil world-wide.

In recent communications, with our suppliers, I have been informed that the supply of sustainable oil, for cosmetic use, by members of the RSPO is done through a regional hub of old sustainable growth.

It should be noted that the use of palm oil for cleaning and cosmetic purposes goes back thousands of years but, today, accounts for less than 1% of world palm oil yield.

20 years ago this area of usage accounted for around 5% of the palm oil market and no forests were consumed or habitats threatened

If it were not for the rapidly escalating need for oil to satisfy the enormous expansion of the "green" bio-diesel industry, the problem of rain forest destruction, now so devastating, would not exist.

While we all need to do whatever is possible to stem the tide of this destruction, I do not believe that it reasonable to hold the small and traditional cosmetic use of the oil responsible, in any way, for the current rainforest dilemma nor is it reasonable to expect this industry to hold the key for its solution.

I am content and proud of our position in this area and I do not believe that any company, with products as high quality and as sophisticated as ours, can or are doing better.

Brian McLean, Biochemist, TriNature