
DON'T PALM US OFF

SPEAK UP FOR YOUR RIGHT
TO CHOOSE FOOD PRODUCTS
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There is something in almost half of all supermarket products which is threatening wild orangutans – palm oil. Rainforest is cleared to make way for unsustainable palm oil plantations, providing oil for many supermarket products including shampoos, biscuits, bread and chocolate.

Don't Palm Us Off encourages consumers to ask for palm oil that is clearly labelled and sustainably produced. 100% Certified Sustainable Palm Oil is the palm oil that doesn't threaten wild orangutans.

Why don't we boycott palm oil and use something else?

Oil palm plants produce up to ten times the yield of other oil plants, including canola and soya. This means to produce the same amount of oil, other crops would need ten times the land, potentially making them a bigger problem than palm oil!

Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO) must meet a range of criteria to ensure the environment, people and wildlife are not threatened by its production. We recommend manufacturers use 100% CSPO as a minimum, so that they can feed the world's hungry mouths without threatening wildlife.

So I should choose 100% CSPO at the supermarket?

Ideally yes! However at the moment many products containing palm oil aren't using CSPO, nor do companies have to label palm oil - making it impossible to know which products are contributing to this crisis. What's the answer? We need to level the playing field and push for palm oil to be labelled in Australia. In 2016, ten ministers from Australia and New Zealand will meet to decide once and for all whether palm oil will be labelled on food products.

How can I make a difference?

Head online to www.zoo.org.au/palmoil or check out the Orangutan Sanctuary at Melbourne Zoo to tell the ministers you have the right to choose food products that don't destroy orangutan habitat. Let's help Australia catch up to the European Union, United States and Canada, who already label oil.

This is our year.

Tell them you want the choice.



IMAGES

Front: Orangutans are critically endangered. Photo: Creatas.

Top: Clearing orangutan habitat to make way for palm oil plantations. Photo: Brooke Squires.

Bottom: Palm oil plantations from the air.



Zoos Victoria is a not-for-profit, zoo based conservation organisation. We are Fighting Extinction through our local and global conservation programs, research, projects and community conservation campaigns. For more information on this or any other Zoos Victoria project, visit www.zoo.org.au/conservation

