

Why?

# Read Your Palm Oil

Palm oil is found in many of the food, beauty, cleaning and other products we buy and use on a daily basis. The production of palm oil is known to have a number of negative effects on many animal species, habitats and local communities, most notably South East Asia, and increasingly in West Africa.

However, it is now possible to source palm oil where steps have been taken to minimise the negative impacts of production, with an increasing number of schemes supporting certified sustainable palm oil.

Ensuring you are using sustainable palm oil gives you a chance to help protect the habitats and species represented across BIAZA members and red devastating implications of unsustainable palm oil.



## Who Are We?

The British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA) is the professional organization representing the zoo and aquarium community in Britain and Ireland. Founded in 1966, it is a conservation, education and scientific wildlife charity.

Today, over 100 significant zoos and aquariums are members of BIAZA, who pride themselves on their excellent animal welfare, education and conservation work.

[www.biaza.org.uk](http://www.biaza.org.uk)  
[facebook.com/biazaofficial](https://facebook.com/biazaofficial)  
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# Your guide to sustainable palm oil

## What is palm oil?

- Palm oil is an edible vegetable oil taken from the pulp of the fruits that grow on oil palms. This oil is extracted through the fruits being pressed in palm oil

## Why do we use palm oil?

- Palm oil is the highest-yielding vegetable oil crop, which makes it very efficient
- It is found in many products, including food stuffs, beauty products and more
- It is the least expensive vegetable oil in the world

## What is the impact of palm oil farming?

- Deforestation and loss of habitat, which housed protected species and biodiversity
- Forcibly displacing local communities from their land

## Should we ban palm oil?

- Although this is an option, we must consider that replacing palm oil could create similar negative problems elsewhere.
- The palm oil industry also provides thousands of jobs in developing countries.

## What can WE do?

- Understand the difference between Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO) and unsustainable palm oil
- Show our support for Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)-certified and approved producers, which minimize negative impacts to the environment and communities
- Find out more about the benefits of supporting sustainable palm oil



Find out more at  
[www.biaza.org.uk](http://www.biaza.org.uk)  
[www.betterpalmoil.org](http://www.betterpalmoil.org)



## What can I do today?

From December 2014, manufacturers will no longer be able to hide the presence of palm oil on **food product** labels across Europe.

There are three very simple methods to read your palm oil:

1) **Check your labels!** From December you will be able to read whether there is palm oil present in the food you buy.

*If there is palm oil...*

2) **Investigate that palm oil!**

We can typically expect palm oil to be declared as sustainable or CSPO, as identified by the RSPO trademark.

