

Deforestation is a MAJOR THREAT to wildlife around the world

13 million hectares of rainforest are **cut down** every year for human activities such as agriculture, and clearing land for growing oil palm trees.

Deforestation is harming a HUGE amount of species including:



Bornean rock frog



Bornean orangutan



Indian leafwing



Painted batagor turtle



Visayan hornbill

Unsustainable palm oil threatens wildlife survival

It's an important edible vegetable oil used in many food products and during manufacturing. It's also vital for some countries' economies. But when it's produced unsustainably it's causing forests and wildlife to disappear.

It puts humans at risk too

Forests get burnt to make room for oil palm plantations. These are planted on drained peat swamps. Burning and draining swamps releases carbon and pollutes the atmosphere. So we're more vulnerable to big threats like climate change and global warming.

BUT we should continue using

sustainable palm oil

Many of the problems associated with it come from unsustainably produced palm oil. That's when plantations aren't regulated, certified or consider the environment.

Unsustainable palm oil contributes to climate change

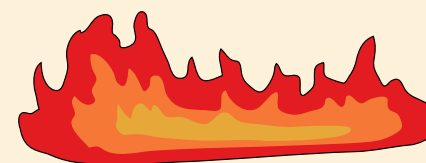
Palm oil that is grown on peat lands can be a **major** contributor to climate change.

When this happens, large amounts of carbon and other greenhouse gases are **released into the atmosphere**.



Peatlands are wet ecosystems that contain high amounts of **carbon**. Peatlands can be **burnt** to clear land for planting oil palm trees.

The carbon footprint of palm oil grown on peat soils is **6 times greater** than normal palm oil that is grown on other soil.

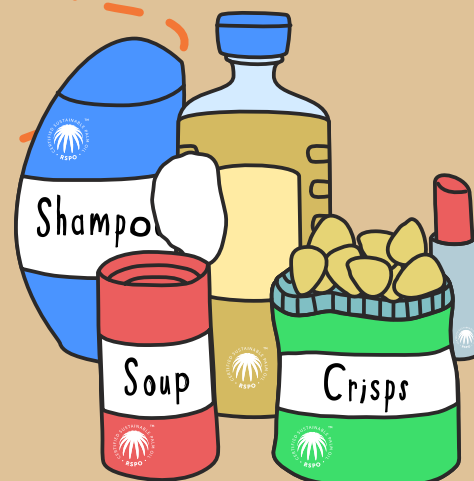


We can **all** take action by making sure the palm oil in the products we buy is certified sustainable

Check your food packaging for the RSPO logo or by looking for sustainable palm oil in the ingredients list.



You can also *check our website*. We've taken the hard work out of it by making a list of products that we know contain sustainable palm oil. Visit actforwildlife.org.uk/palmoil



We need palm oil but NOT when it's threatening rainforests, wildlife or local people's wellbeing

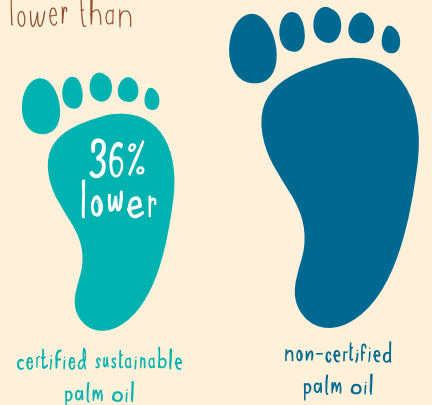
So we need to make sure the palm oil in the products we all use is sustainable.

Sustainable palm oil is accredited. Organisations like the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) show which products are sustainable. Certified members of the RSPO are bound by their standards.



Sustainable palm oil has a lower carbon footprint than unsustainable palm oil

The average carbon footprint of certified sustainable palm oil is 36% lower than for non-certified palm oil.



Look for the RSPO logo

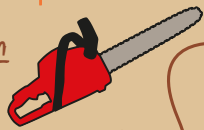
Sustainably produced palm oil must meet certain criteria

Rainforests aren't cut down for new plantations

Plantation owners follow best practice to make the plantation efficient and reduce the impact on the environment

Workers are cared for and given proper wages and rights

No new planting on peatlands and all peatlands are managed responsibly



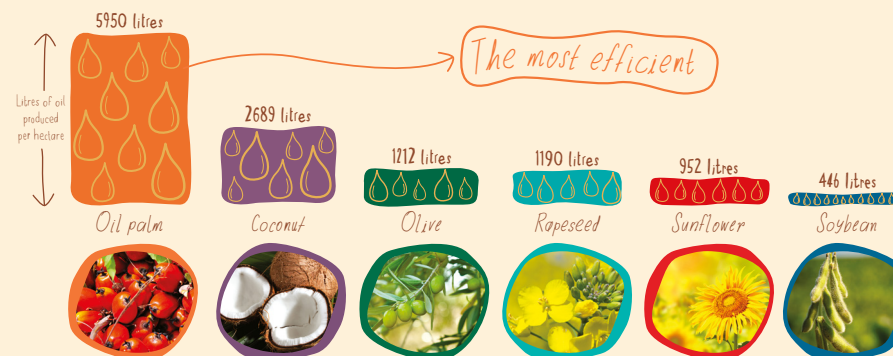
Wildlife corridors are kept to connect fragmented species



Oil palms produce more vegetable oil per land area than any other oil crop

So less land is needed to create the same quantities than other oil crops. Sustainable palm oil practice means FEWER rainforests are at risk from being destroyed to make more plantations.

Have a look at the comparison of how many litres of oil is produced per hectare for the most common vegetable oils...



YOU can make a difference to make sure ALL palm oil is produced sustainably

We can ALL put pressure on companies and demand they use only sustainable palm oil. This will force the whole industry to commit to becoming totally sustainable. And help save wildlife and their habitats.

YOU can check the packaging of your products to make sure you only buy those with sustainable palm oil

If palm oil is in the food products you buy, it's legally required to be stated in the ingredients list. But they're not currently required to state if this is sustainably sourced or not.



Look for the RSPO logo or Rainforest Alliance logo on the packaging

If it doesn't have these logos or mention sustainable, you can use our handy online shopping list of food products that we know are RSPO certified. You can find this list at actforwildlife.org.uk/palmoil

If you aren't sure about a product, send us a photo on Facebook or Twitter. We'll find out if it's sustainable and add it to our approved list if it is.



When grown sustainably, the carbon footprint of oil palm is not higher than other crops. It has a lower footprint than soybean and groundnut oil.

