

1. How much palm oil do you use in your products?

Palm oil is an ingredient in a wide variety of food and non food grocery products. It is extremely difficult to quantify the precise volume of palm oil used by our suppliers, however, Asda's sourcing policy requires that all palm oil in its own label products must be from RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil) certified sources from January 2013 and palm kernel oil is from RSPO certified sources from January 2015, at the latest.

2. How much of that volume is from a sustainable source?

Any palm oil or palm oil derivatives used in Asda own label products must be sourced from plantations that are recognised for not endangering vulnerable native forests and their fauna and flora, particularly areas of high conservation value forest or peat lands.

Asda strongly encourages all its suppliers to use RSPO certified palm oil and palm kernel oil as soon as possible, but at the very latest this must be achieved by January 2013 and January 2015 respectively.

As an interim measure, until January 2013 (for palm oil) and January 2015 (for palm kernel oil), oil with a Green Palm trading certificate may be used (www.greenpalm.org). After this, suppliers must be able to demonstrate that the oil they are using in Asda own label products is from an RSPO certified source.

3. Who do you source your palm oil from?

Asda does not source any palm oil directly.

4. Do you source your palm oil via a middle trader or directly from Palm Oil companies? If you source it through a middle trader, do you know which palm oil companies supply them?

It is a requirement of doing business with Asda that our own label suppliers purchase palm oil from processors that are members of the RSPO.

5. To avoid any confusion, question 5 has not been reproduced here because it contained references to some specific organisations not referenced in Panorama: Dying for a Biscuit

6. What are your plans with regard to the use of sustainable palm oil?

a. Have you set a deadline for when your products will contain only sustainable palm oil?

See above

b. Have you bought any green palm certificates? If so, when did you buy them and how many?

In 2009 one of our suppliers bought Green Palm certificates equating to around 320 tonnes of palm oil on our behalf.

c. Are you a member of the RSPO?

Asda is a direct member of the RSPO. We also sponsor, alongside other British and European retailers, a representative on the Executive board of the RSPO.

d. When was the last time you updated the RSPO about your actions?

We update the RSPO on our actions at every meeting and in addition to this we are in regular contact with the Unilever / Greenpeace Coalition. We also present our views via the representative who we sponsor on the Executive board.

7. Do your products that contain palm oil state that on the label? If not, why not?

We are in compliance with all the legal labelling requirements.

8. Which of your products contain palm oil or palm kernel oil?

Palm oil is widely used in food and non-food products, and can be found in products from margarines to crisps, ready meals, chocolates etc to soaps, candles and cleaning products.