

Birds Eye:

Overall statement:

“Our palm oil use is less than 5% of our total oil use and we do not use palm oil for frying. Where we do use palm oil it is because it has properties that we are unable to recreate with other types of oil. We work with our suppliers to encourage responsible sourcing and have made a commitment to only source palm oil that is certified sustainable under the RSPO Book and Claim method by 2011.”

Questionnaire Answers:

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

Our palm oil use is less than 5% of our total oil use and we do not use palm oil for frying. Where we use palm oil it is as a component of other ingredients as it has properties that we are unable to recreate with other types of oil.

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

In the instances where we do still use palm oil as an ingredient, we work with our suppliers to encourage responsible sourcing. We have made a commitment to only source palm oil that is certified sustainable under the RSPO Book and Claim method by 2011.

3. Who do you source your palm oil from?

Our palm oil is sourced from Malaysia and Indonesia but for reasons of commercial confidentiality, we cannot divulge the names of our suppliers.

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?

We source our palm oil from a third party and we have knowledge of the companies involved in the supply chain.

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 regards to the use of sustainable palm oil?

Despite the small amount of palm oil contained within our ingredients, we have volunteered to become a member of the RSPO in order to encourage the adoption of responsible sourcing practices. This is in line with our wider commitments to sustainable development.

Where we may use palm oil as an ingredient in the future, we have made a commitment to only source palm oil that is certified sustainable under the RSPO Book and Claim method by 2011.

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

Yes, Birds Eye has committed to only source palm oil that is certified sustainable under the RSPO Book and Claim method by 2011.

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

Our suppliers are accountable for this and we work with them to encourage the adoption of responsible sourcing practices.

- b. **Are you a member of the RSPO?**

Birds Eye applied to become a member of the RSPO in December 2009.

- c. **When was the last time you updated the RSPO about your actions?**

We are in regular contact with the RSPO and our last update took place in December 2009.

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

We use palm oil as a component of other ingredients as it has properties that we are unable to recreate with other types of oil. As it is used alongside other oils, it is listed under the umbrella 'vegetable oil' in order to keep the ingredients as straight forward as possible.

9. **Which of your products contain palm oil or palm kernel oil?**

We use palm oil as a component of other ingredients as it has properties that we are unable to recreate with other types of oil, for instance as a glazing agent and as part of margarine for pastry products. Our palm oil use is less than 5% of our total oil use and we have committed to only source palm oil that is certified sustainable under the RSPO Book and Claim method by 2011.