
NEWSLETTER

Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community

Wow! It's been a great month for talking to people about the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community (known as DSPOC at Efeca)! Here in Dorset this month, we have had another 3 fabulous champions pledge to only use sustainable palm oil, whilst further afield, we have talked to people in both Tiburon in San Francisco and Chippenham in Wiltshire as they are interested in launching their own sustainable palm oil community! Whether or not these particular communities actually come about is yet to be seen, but the feeling amongst us and the six other communities (Chester, Newquay, Oxford, Plymouth, Saltash and Mochdre) is the Sustainable Palm Oil Communities campaign is really snowballing!



MONTHLY UPDATE

Olives et AI, the original British olive artisans, has two delis – one in Poundbury, Dorchester and one in Sturminster Newton – and an online shop. Supplying everyone from delicatessens to farm shops, butchers to pubs, restaurants, hotels, airlines, hamper companies and more with their wide range of products, they have become the first pledged champion in Sturminster Newton to join DSPOC.

I am very excited to announce that our very first sports club, Dorchester Athletic Club, has pledged to only use sustainable palm oil – although they do not regularly serve food, they will ensure that the food provided at their AGM will be 100% SPO.



Our amazing Ambassador, The Chatterboxes, gave me the best surprise by deciding to sign up as a pledged champion, so that all their food in the community fridge will be only certified sustainable palm oil.

Our pledged champion, Forerunner, has become a fully-fledged champion! They asked all their suppliers what products contain palm oil and whether it was conventional or sustainable, they then made one change, and put their [policy up on their website](#) (scroll down)! Go Forerunner!

St Mary's Catholic First School also became a fully-fledged champion – they asked their PTA to check that all the products they purchase for school fairs and events only contain 100% SPO, and wrote about the campaign, and why they have got involved in their school newsletter!

MONTHLY UPDATE

The other fully-fledged champion is Coconut and Cotton in Shaftesbury who not only looked at palm oil but also asked their suppliers about palm oil and palm kernel oil derivatives as they wanted to ensure that all of their products: food, cosmetics and cleaning products only contained SPO.

Last weekend, I was delighted to be invited to have a stall at the very first Dorchester Earth Day event. We battled with the wind, but that didn't deter lots of people from attending. I talked for over 4 hours to about 200 people all about the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community. Thank you Tamara and the Dorchester Town Council for inviting DSPOC!



We are presenting at two brilliant events in May – at the “[Choosing our Future](#)” event at Shaftesbury School, organised by Planet Shaftesbury on May 19th, and then at [Sustainability in Hospitality event](#) hosted by Barclays Eagle Labs on May 24th at the Green House Hotel – one of our champions! Hopefully see some of you there (check out the registration links to both in the hyperlinks)!



NUMBER OF THE MONTH

Number of the month: 71%. This is the % of certified sustainable palm and palm kernel oil out of the 465,000 metric tonnes that the UK imported in 2020. In total, over 75 million metric tonnes of palm oil was used around the world in 2020. Although the UK is insignificant as a demand-side market, it carries important influence through major companies and brands operating on a global scale, and the capacity to collaborate and share learnings with others to amplify impact.

If you have any questions about joining our campaign and [becoming a Champion](#) or an Ambassador, please email me.

