
NEWSLETTER

Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community

Every month I say it, but oh my goodness, we have had a magnificent March the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community! The campaign to make Dorset the world's first sustainable palm oil county is really snowballing now, and I am delighted to announce that in this month alone, we have had another 4 champions pledge to only use sustainable palm oil!

In case you are wondering 'what exactly IS sustainable palm oil?', scroll down to the bottom of this newsletter for a brief explanation. For a more detailed one, reply to this email, and set up a call with the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community (DSPOC) team.



MONTHLY UPDATE

So what happened in March for the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community campaign?

The RNLI College in Poole – where lifeboat crews and seasonal lifeguards are trained – pledged to be a sustainable palm oil champion. They have a hotel, restaurant, bar and shop, and they act as a conference venue too

SW Coast Refills in Weymouth became our 3rd zero waste shop to join the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community, so now we have SW Coast Refills, Coconut and Cotton in Shaftesbury and Just1Swap in Bournemouth. Just need a zero waste shop in Bridport, Charmouth or Lyme Regis to join and we will cover the county!

We had our 8th Dorset school pledge to only use sustainable palm oil not only within their school lunches, but also within the items that the PTA might buy for school fairs and for the students. Welcome Frome Valley First School in Crossways – our very first pledged champion from there!

Additionally, Baboo Gelato, an artisanal ice cream maker in Bridport joined our Community. Now if that isn't a brilliant reason for me to try their ice cream, I don't know what is!



MONTHLY UPDATE

Stir! Events, an events management company based in BCP, not only became our first March sign up as an Ambassador, but also told the whole of Dorset in this [article by Dorset View](#). What a fantastic way to support to the campaign, thank you Mandy.

We presented the campaign at the National One Health conference at Kingston Maurward on 10th March, hosted by the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership. I was delighted to talk in person to over 60 people from academia, industry and government about the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community.



We were invited to talk to the Bridport Local Food Group, a committee of volunteers who are totally dedicated to supporting and promoting the areas food and drink businesses, both local producers and those in the hospitality business.

Every year they run the Bridport Food Festival in June. Attracting over 3000 visitors it has become a much loved fixture in Bridport's food calendar.

We had lots of other meetings, including talking to the team at Green House Hotel (one of our pledged champions), David from Upton Beach, a Bournemouth based consultancy focussing on supporting SMEs, and Barclays Eagle Labs also based in Bournemouth. We are delighted to announce that we will be talking at one of the sustainability events hosted by Barclays Eagle Labs in May. Hopefully see some of you there!

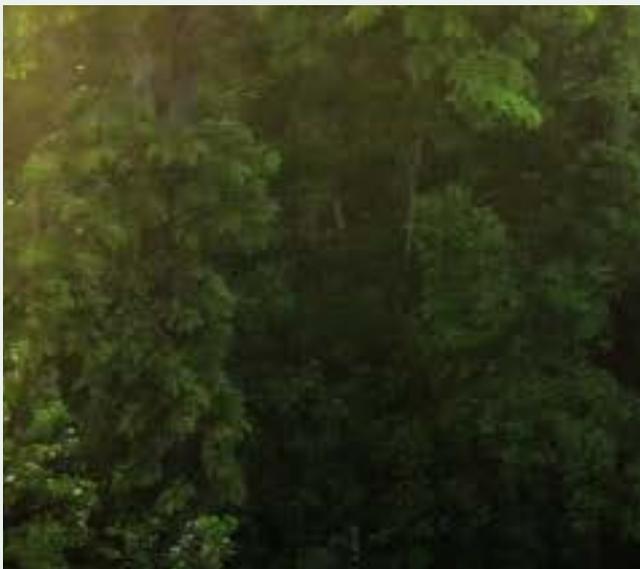
NUMBER OF THE MONTH

Number of the month: 0.7%. The UK uses 0.7% of the total global palm oil usage volume. In contrast, Indonesia, the world's largest producer, is also the world's largest user, accounting for 20% of total global palm oil usage.

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

What exactly is sustainable palm oil?

After some of my meetings and chats with people, one of the questions that comes up again and again is what exactly is sustainable palm oil.



Palm oil is an edible vegetable oil that comes from the fruit of oil palm trees. It is cheap and the highest yielding of all vegetable oils, making it the world's most widely used vegetable oil and essential to meeting global demand. Palm oil is used in the production of foods such as cake, chocolate, biscuits, margarine and frying fats. It is also found in cosmetics, soap, shampoo, toilet paper and cleaning products. Up to 50% of packaged products in an average UK supermarket now contain palm oil.

Sustainable palm oil has been grown in a way that minimises impact on biodiversity and the environment and adheres to high standards of human rights. Malaysia and Indonesia have mandatory standards in-country, but the most widely recognised international scheme is a voluntary certification scheme regulated by the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)

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It comes in three main forms:

- Identity preserved: certified sustainable palm oil fully traceable back to a single source
- Segregated: certified sustainable palm oil from multiple different sources
- Mass balance: certified sustainable oil mixed with non-certified oil (but only the portion of sustainable oil put in is sold as sustainable)

