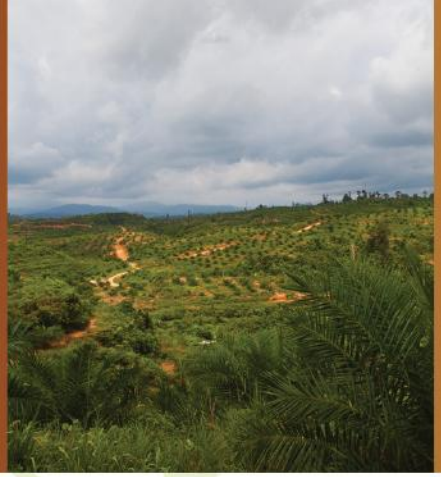


Common Names for Palm Oil and Palm Oil Derivatives

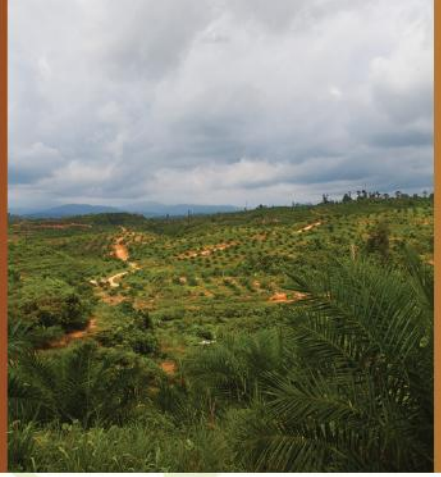
Palm oil is typically found in foods, body products, cosmetics and cleaning agents. Unfortunately, determining whether or not a product contains palm oil is easier said than done because it can be identified in a variety of ways.

The following is a list of common names* to look for on product labels that may indicate palm oil is an ingredient. In some cases, it will be obvious that palm oil or a palm derivative is being used, in other cases it is more a possibly than a certainty.

*This list is not all-inclusive.

These ingredients are definitely palm oil or derived from palm oil.

Cetyl Palmitate
Elaeis Guineensis
Epoxidized Palm Oil (UV cured coatings)
Ethylhexyl Palmitate
Hydrated Palm Glycerides
Octyl Palmitate
Palm Oil
Palm Fruit Oil
Palm Kernel
Palm Kernel Oil
Palm Stearine
Palmate
Palmitate
Palmitic Acid
Palmityl Alcohol
Palmitoyl Oxostearamide
Palmitoyl Tetrapeptide-3
Palmolein
Saponified Elaeis Guineensis
Sodium Kernelate
Sodium Palm Kernelate
Sodium Palmate



These ingredients are either derived from palm oil or coconut oil.

Cetyl Alcohol
Fatty alcohol sulphates
Isopropyl or Isopropyl Palmitate
Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate (SDS or NaDS)
Sodium Isostearoyl Lactylaye
Sodium Laureth Sulfate (in almost everything that foams)
Sodium Lauryl Sulfate
Sodium Lauryl Sulfoacetate

These ingredients are often derived from palm oil, but could be derived from other vegetable oils.

“Other vegetable oils” (palm oil may be included under this term)
Cocoa Butter Equivalent (CBE)
Cocoa Butter Substitute (CBE)
Emulsifiers (some can be palm oil derived)
Glyceryl Stearate
Sodium Lauryl Lactylate
Steareth -2
Steareth -20
Steareth-21
Stearic Acid