

PALM KERNEL OIL DERIVATIVES IN DETERGENTS

The industry's commitment to sustainable sourcing

A.I.S.E. Fact sheet • January 2020



PALM TREE

PALM FRUITS →

ONE KERNEL
PER FRUIT

Palm oil & palm kernel oil represent **38%**
of global vegetable oil production

• **Pulp** ► **Palm oil ("long-chain fats")**: Directly usable as oil ► most widely used vegetable oil in world, especially in food sector, e.g. pastries

• **Kernel** ► **Palm kernel oil ("short-chain fats")**: usable after processing into fat-based derivatives ► by-product of palm oil production mostly used in non-food applications, e.g. surfactant and soap production

How palm kernel oil derivatives are used in a detergent product

Palm kernel oil derivatives are used as surfactants in detergents. Surfactants are essential to ensure an adequate cleaning functionality as they attack and remove the dirt.

Processing palm kernels to surfactants

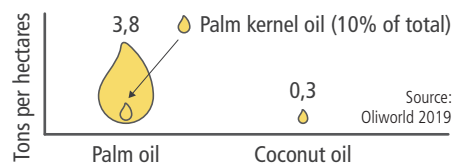


Why palm kernel oil is used by the detergents industry

The detergents industry is investing in optimising palm kernel oil as a bio-based raw material. Only two vegetable feedstocks i.e. coconut and palm oil have the chemical structure equivalent to petrochemicals for the manufacture of surfactants for detergents.

Advantages of palm oil plantations:

- Highest yield per hectare of any vegetable oil
- Existing sustainability certification schemes
- Palm fruit kernel "short-chain fats" can be used in non-food applications



Detergent manufacturers committed to sustainable sourcing

An increasing number of detergent manufacturers source palm kernel oil from suppliers that adhere to recognised certification schemes that ensure the sustainability of their supply chain, e.g. RSPO.

A.I.S.E. Charter
for Sustainable
Cleaning: industry
flagship sustainability
initiative



In 2018, approx. **70%** of the members
of the A.I.S.E. Charter (European detergent,
cleaning and maintenance products
manufacturers) were also committed to
sustainable sourcing by joining RSPO.



Roundtable
on Sustainable
Palm Oil

For further details on the use of palm kernel oil in detergents, go to www.forum-waschen.de/materialien.html

For more information on the industry's vision on the use of bio-based materials in detergents, go to www.aise.eu/biobased

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