

We are COSMOS

Together for organic
and natural cosmetics

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Notice of new standard for Sustainable Palm Oil

Due to the growing global concern and urgent need to protect the planet from irresponsible deforestation, COSMOS believes that the organic and natural cosmetics industry needs to do what it can to ensure that the environment is not being harmed. The production of palm oil and palm kernel oil is implicated in this destruction, but sustainable sources are increasingly available.

COSMOS has carried out some research on availability of palm and palm kernel oil derivatives and has decided to introduce a new standard requiring certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO) derivatives. Of course, COSMOS would prefer to have all palm-derived ingredients from organic sources but at present this is not possible due to availability.

From 1st January 2019 new COSMOS certified products must be formulated using the following types of raw materials/ingredients from CSPO using, as a minimum, the mass balance supply chain model:

- Palm oil (Note, must be organic for COSMOS Organic products, must be CSPO for COSMOS Natural)
- Palm kernel oil
- Glycerin
- CAPB and coco betaine
- Fatty acids: stearic acid, palmitic acid, myristic acid, lauric acid
- Fatty alcohols: cetyl alcohol, cetearyl alcohol, stearyl alcohol, lauryl alcohol
- Esters made from fatty acids or fatty alcohols: cetyl palmitate, cetyl phosphate, myristyl myristate, glyceryl (mono-) stearate and glyceryl oleate
- Triglycerides: C8-C10 caprylic/capric triglyceride and C10-C18 triglycerides

If all palm-derived ingredients are from CSPO, then this claim can be made on the packaging.

The COSMOS Raw Materials database will reflect this new requirement and show which ingredients are from CSPO.

Products previously formulated to COSMOS before 1st January 2019 will have to comply with this change by 1st January 2020.

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Please note: When a Commercial Reference/blend contains all ingredients that are from the list above, they have to be from CSPO (eg. a product containing stearic acid and palmitic acid, these have to be from CSPO.) If a product contains one or more ingredients from the above list plus other ingredients not from the list (eg. an extract), none of the ingredients have to be from CSPO), although we do encourage this where possible. If an ingredient from the list has water added to it, then it still has to be from CSPO.

COSMOS will review the raw materials required to be from CSPO regularly to reflect availability with the aim of increasing the range of ingredients from CSPO.

The minimum acceptable sustainable palm oil certification will be to the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) Mass Balance standard. Therefore, Certified Segregated or Identity Preserved (IP) palm oil and palm kernel oil will be accepted. However, palm oil from the Book & Claim system is not acceptable.

Ends.