

RE : Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling – Palm Oil) Bill 2009

I would like to lend my support to the amendment - i want to know if there is Palm Oil in products, and where it is sourced from. I feel this is important thanks to introduced palm plantations in the countries like Borneo and New Guinea (and Malaysia and Indonesia) destroying natural biodiversity and rainforest. By killing rainforests and exposing the peat underneath, it also contributes to the awful fires seen in Indonesia in recent years.

Palm oil contains saturated fat, so causes cardiovascular disease, and is being used by greedy food producers because it's cheaper - it does not belong in food as a substitute for good ingredients, it's bad for people and the environment.

I am particularly concerned over the fate of orang-utans, being pushed to extinction by uncaring multi-nationals like Cadbury, who care nothing for people or the planet, and would put wood shavings in their products if they were allowed to get away with it.

We consumers need information along with protection - we rely on our government to give us that through legal means - please, let's have truth in labelling, and not just for Palm Oil.

Lisa Barry