



Orangutans are endangered due to a demand for palm oil. Palm oil is an ingredient in many products, and can be found in 50% of packaged grocery store merchandise. As palm oil demand increases, new palm oil

plantations are formed. To make room for palm trees to grow, plantations need new and nutrient-rich soil, so workers chop down the rainforest and burn the stumps. The more common unsustainable products become, the more people buy them, and palm oil demand increases again. Today, more than 300 football fields of rainforest are destroyed every hour.

This process destroys the habitat of many rainforest species, including the critically endangered orangutan.



Orangutans are innocent-but native Borneans and Sumatrans are too. Many workers are not aware of rainforest protection laws, and almost 20,000 would lose their jobs if palm oil plantations were abolished. However, orangutans are highly endangered, and will soon be extinct- that is, without your help.



## The Orangutan Gang

For more information about orangutans, the palm oil issue, and taking action, visit our website at [www.orangutengang.org](http://www.orangutengang.org). Thank you for helping the orangutans and the rainforest by learning about this issue.



## The Palm Oil Problem



## Orangutans

Orangutans are a species of great ape that are very closely related to humans. They live in the rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra, two islands in East Asia. Please continue reading to learn how you can help orangutans and many other animals that also live in the Bornean rainforest.



# The Solution to Palm Oil

Although the rainforest's issue may seem a problem too big to tackle, there are many ways that you can domestically fight the palm oil industry. Here are a few:

## **Boycott companies that use palm oil.**

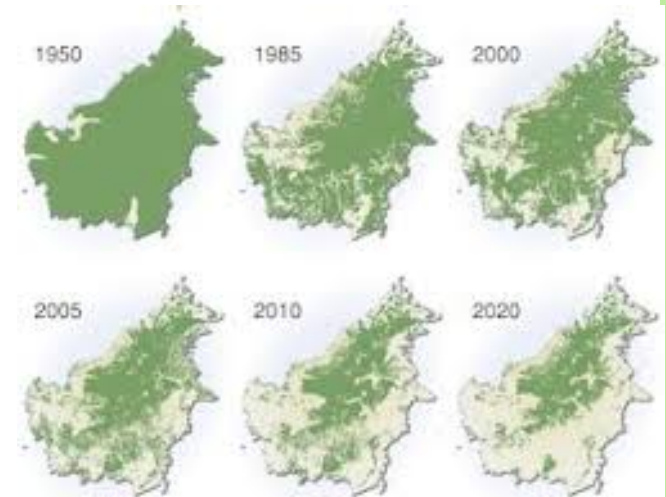
This may seem like a tiny step towards a solution, yet if enough people around the globe boycott these companies, they may start to notice.

## **Contact companies that use palm oil and alert them to the issue.**

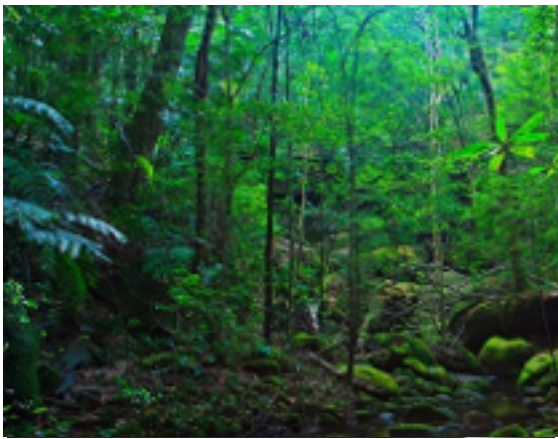
If enough people alert these companies to the issue, they may change their ways. And even if palm oil is one of their essential ingredients, they can use sustainable palm oil instead. Sustainable palm oil is exactly the same ingredient, but it is not grown in Borneo or Sumatra and poses no threat to animal habitat.

## **Spread the word so that others can take action.**

The previous ideas require large numbers of people to participate. You can help form these crowds by spreading the word and alerting people. The more people are informed, the more word will spread, and one person can alert millions in this fashion.



Avoid these "sustainable" palm oil labels while shopping. Labeled items contain palm oil that is not entirely sustainable.



The degradation of the orangutans' rainforest home after it is scheduled for destruction.