

Illipe butter

Illipe butter (or tengkawang fat) is made from the nuts of the endangered Shorea Stenoptera tree, which only grows in the forests of Borneo. When ripe these large nuts fall to the forest floor, where they are harvested by hand before being boiled to soften the hard shell. Once opened and sterilized the seeds are sun dried for several days before being brought to our community based, zero waste processing unit. Here the seeds are processed through simple oil presses and vacuum filtered to obtain a pure, raw product. The butter is traditionally used e.g. to moisturize the skin, to heal sores and sunburn and as a flavour enhancer for traditional dishes.

We offer 100% traceable illipe butter in two qualities: Crude illipe butter as well as refined decolourised and deodorized illipe butter. Our innovative storage system allows us to offer guaranteed supply, even in years when there is no illipe nut harvest.

Ethical Product

By purchasing this product you are helping to protect the endangered Shorea Stenoptera tree. Your purchase contributes directly to the livelihood and welfare of the original inhabitants, the Dayak people who depend deeply on these virgin rainforests, but which are disappearing at an unprecedented rate. We offer guaranteed fixed prices throughout the season, in order to increase the value of the forest, so the Dayak people can continue to live in and protect their forests. We offer full traceability for our illipe butter. We estimate that for each 10 MT of illipe butter purchased, you directly contribute to the conservation of an area of approximately 35.000 hectares of rainforest.

Advantages of Illipe butter

- Great for making soap, face masks, body lotions, lip and body balms, lipstick, sunscreen & more
- Prevents drying of the skin which leads to the development of wrinkles
- Reduces degeneration of skin cells and restores skin flexibility and elasticity
- Illipe butter has a slightly higher melting point compared to the chemically similar cocoa or shea butter
- Its long-lasting skin softening and moisturizing properties help repair chronically dry/cracked skin
- Protects against UV-A and UV-B rays, illipe is used in sun protecting products and against sunburn
- Helps against premature ageing of the skin
- Heals sores and mouth ulcers as well as dry and damaged hair