Use Essential Oils Sustainably

There is a heavy and growing demand in the US, Canada and the world for essential oils. We need to be mindful of the choices we make as consumers.

Please see our website for information on critical issues surrounding white sage and Hawaiian sandalwood as well as articles on the conservation of other essential and carrier oil-bearing plants.

UNITEDPLANTSADVERS.ORG/ESSENTIAL-OILS/

Through education we aim to protect threatened essential and carrier oil-bearing plants.

Agarwood (Aquilaria spp.) CRITICALLY ENDANGERED*

Rosewood (Aniba rosaeodora) ENDANGERED*

Spikenard (Nardostachys jatamansi) CRITICALLY ENDANGERED*

*IUCN RED LIST OF THREATENED SPECIES
Our Mission
Our mission is to protect native medicinal plants of the United States and Canada and their native habitat while ensuring an abundant renewable supply of medicinal plants for generations to come.

Avoid Using Oils Sourced From Threatened Plants In Your Practice
Find out about practices of sustainability and preservation when using oils which require care in their harvesting practices. The following is a partial list of known oil-bearing plants that are suffering from overharvesting and loss of habitat.

- SANDALWOOD (Santalum album; S. paniculatum)
- ATLAS CEDARWOOD (Cedrus atlantica)
- BRAZILIAN SASSAFRAS (Ocotea pretiosa)
- AGARWOOD (Aquilaria spp.)
- ROSEWOOD (Aniba rosaeodora)
- PALO SANTO (Bursera graveolens)
- FRANKINCENSE (Boswellia sacra; B. carteri)
- GUAIACWOOD (Gonopterodendron sarmientoii)
- WHITE SAGE (Salvia apiana)

Use Alternatives Instead
Use oils sourced from non-threatened plants as a replacement for those with sustainability concerns whenever possible. These plants are abundant and can be used sustainably because most are commercially cultivated.

- ROMAN CHAMOMILE (Chamaemelum nobile)
- LAVENDER (Lavandula angustifolia)
- ROSEMARY (Rosmarinus officinalis)
- YARROW (Achillea millefolium)
- CLARY SAGE (Salvia sclarea)
- THYME (Thymus vulgaris)

What is CITES?
CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

Where to Learn More:
Identify the CITES and conservation status of essential and carrier oil-bearing plants by visiting:
1. IUCN Red List (www.iucnredlist.org)
2. CITES (www.cites.org)
3. SPECIES+ (www.speciesplus.net)
4. UpS (www.unitedplantsavers.org)
5. Airmid Inst. (www.airmidinstitute.com)
6. TRAFFIC (www.traffic.org)

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You can help protect threatened plants which essential and carrier oils are sourced from.

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