

Fact sheet

Co-HVO and palm oil

- The use of hydrogenated vegetable oil promotes the production of palm oil worldwide.
- Palm oil contributes to the destruction of the rainforest and threatens the global climate as a result.
- A current draft version of the 37th BImSchV will promote the use of Co-HVO in Germany.

Co-HVO

The initials Co-HVO stand for hydrated vegetable oils; the “co” refers to the production method, co-processing. This process involves using biogenic oils as direct additives to fossil fuel production in traditional oil refineries. In the process of refining fossil crude oil a vacuum gas oil is created by the vacuum distillation process. Theoretically, up to 30 percent vegetable oil could be added to this interim product; in practice, the quota is around 20 percent in summer and only 10 percent in winter due to limitations on the properties of biogenic oils in cold temperatures. Palm oil is mostly used for this purpose given the particular chemical properties involved and due to the cheap prices.

Palm oil

In biological terms, palm oil is the flesh of the palm fruit; economically, it is the most widely cultivated vegetable oil in the world. Ecologically, it is a nightmare. To grow palm fruit a tropical climate and location is needed. Currently 17 million hectares are under cultivation worldwide, and to create more room, ever more rainforest is being destroyed using slash-and-burn techniques. This results in the destruction of a unique living environment for animals and humans and releases climate-damaging CO₂ – so much CO₂ in fact, that Indonesia, the world’s largest palm oil producer, has become the third largest CO₂ emitter in the world despite lacking significant industry. Palm oil is primarily attractive because of its price: The palm oil is, on a per-hectare basis, much more efficient than other oil plants. In addition, it grows in countries with low wage levels and where there is little legal protection for workers.

Facts:

- Worldwide production: 60 million tonnes, from 17 million hectares
- Global use:
 - 68 percent in foodstuffs
 - 27 percent in cosmetics, cleaning materials, etc.
 - 5 percent for energy purposes
- Consumption in Germany: 1,795,705 tonnes (2.99% of global production)
- Use in Germany:
 - 41 percent for bioenergy (primarily for producing HVO)
 - 40 percent in foodstuffs (including animal foods)
 - 17 percent for industrial purposes
- Summary of WWF study: 50 percent of German palm oil requirements could be saved by avoiding the use of palm oil in biofuels and by more conscientious consumption.

VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG

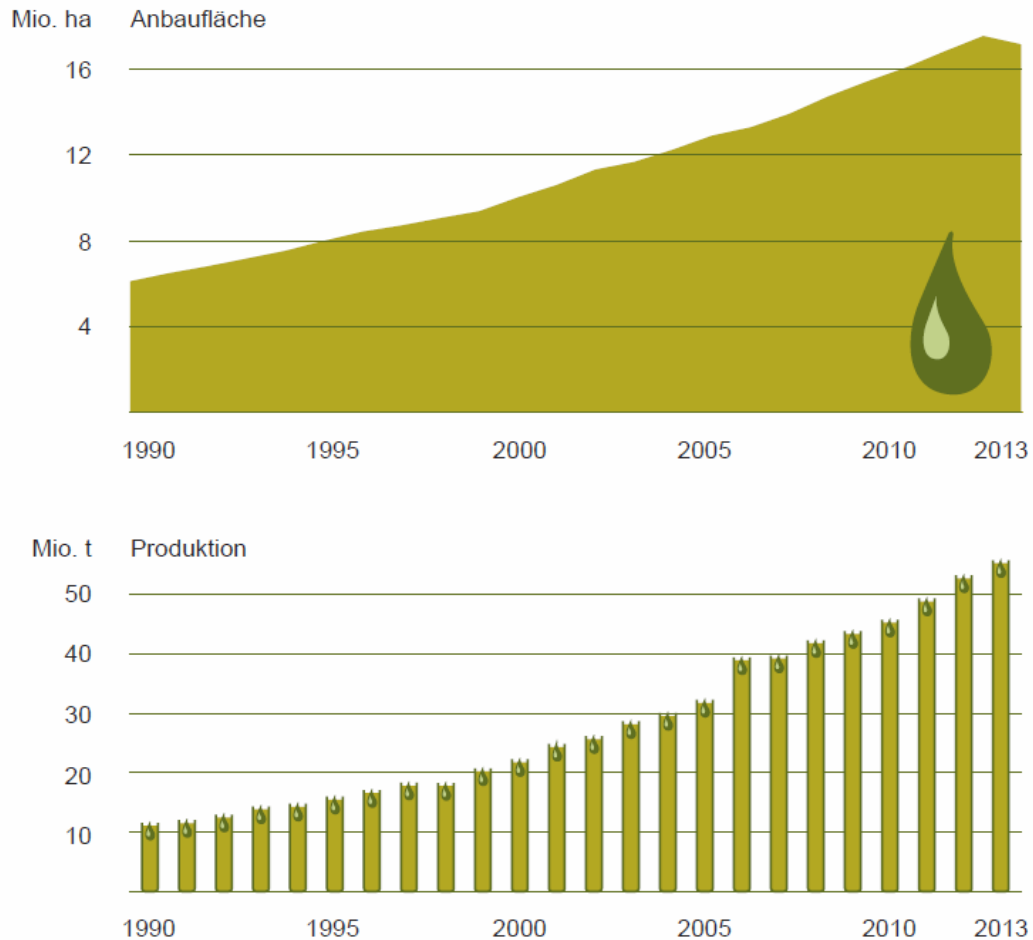
Ulrike Kurze
Marketing/PR
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelßner’s Hof), 04109 Leipzig
Tel.: +49 176 13085404
Fax: +49 341 308530-999
E-Mail: ulrike.kurze@verbio.de

Patricia Ritter
c/o zebra|public relations GmbH
Werner-Hartmann-Straße 5, 01099 Dresden
Tel.: +49 351 212800-27
Fax: +49 351 212800-39
E-Mail: patricia.ritter@zebra.de

Fact sheet

The statistics and illustrations concerning palm oil have been provided to us by the WWF and were published in the WWF study "Auf der Ölspur" issued in July 2016.

Abbildung 1: Globale Palmanbauflächen und Palmölerzeugung, 1990–2013



Quelle: eigene Darstellung unter Verwendung von Daten aus FAO (2015).

VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG

Ulrike Kurze
Marketing/PR
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelßner's Hof), 04109 Leipzig
Tel.: +49 176 13085404
Fax: +49 341 308530-999
E-Mail: ulrike.kurze@verbio.de

Patricia Ritter
c/o zebra|public relations GmbH
Werner-Hartmann-Straße 5, 01099 Dresden
Tel.: +49 351 212800-27
Fax: +49 351 212800-39
E-Mail: patricia.ritter@zebra.de

Fact sheet

Draft legislation – the 37th BImSchV

The 37th Regulation on the Implementation of the Federal Emissions Protection Act (BImSchV) has been published in draft form. This carries the title “Regulation to credit electricity based fuels and use of biogenic oils as additives for greenhouse gas quota purposes” and promotes the increased use of Co-HVO. The draft refers to the EU-Directive (EU) 2015/652, which names Co-HVO as one optional method of achieving greenhouse gas reduction obligations. The so-called GHG quota requires that greenhouse gas emissions shall be reduced by 4.0 percent in 2017 and by 6.0 percent in 2020.

Advanced second-generation biofuels

This includes all biofuels that are produced using waste products and products not used for human consumption. This includes biodiesel from used fat as well as other sources, for example biomethane from 100 percent straw – a biofuel for natural gas powered vehicles that can demonstrate 90 percent CO₂ reductions, highest efficiencies and competitive production costs. Further, a natural gas vehicle powered by biomethane produced using straw is more environmentally friendly than an electric car powered using the current European electricity mix, which is based on nuclear energy and lignite coal.

Illustration 2 (source: VERBIO)

Four big bales of straw are sufficient to produce the fuel required to power a medium-sized natural gas passenger vehicle for a year.

VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG

Ulrike Kurze
Marketing/PR
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelßner's Hof), 04109 Leipzig
Tel.: +49 176 13085404
Fax: +49 341 308530-999
E-Mail: ulrike.kurze@verbio.de

Patricia Ritter
c/o zebra|public relations GmbH
Werner-Hartmann-Straße 5, 01099 Dresden
Tel.: +49 351 212800-27
Fax: +49 351 212800-39
E-Mail: patricia.ritter@zebra.de

Fact sheet



VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG

Ulrike Kurze
Marketing/PR
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelßner's Hof), 04109 Leipzig
Tel.: +49 176 13085404
Fax: +49 341 308530-999
E-Mail: ulrike.kurze@verbio.de

Patricia Ritter
c/o zebra|public relations GmbH
Werner-Hartmann-Straße 5, 01099 Dresden
Tel.: +49 351 212800-27
Fax: +49 351 212800-39
E-Mail: patricia.ritter@zebra.de