

Bicol Region,  
Philippines

# HAPPY PILI

## TREE FARM AND DISTILLERY

Partner Since 2018

*Botanical sourced from this farm: Elemi*

### FARM LOCATION AND BACKGROUND

With expertise in the legal, sustainable sourcing of Elemi essential oil from the precious pili tree while providing fair wages to workers, the Happy Pili Tree Farm and Distillery protects natural resources to help ensure the long-term viability of high-quality Elemi essential oil. This partner farm has also vertically integrated the production process by building a distillery on-site and by keeping job opportunities and expertise within the community.

### BOTANICAL BACKGROUND

The source of Young Living's Elemi essential oil, the versatile pili tree (*Canarium luzonicum*) is a beautiful tropical evergreen with an array of uses: richly fragrant resin; nutritious nuts; edible shoots, pulp, and leaves; cooking oil; and natural decor created from its shells. Pili trees primarily grow in the wild throughout the Philippines and Southeast Asia, thriving especially in typhoon conditions. These storm-loving trees produce the bright, lemon-pine scented resin that's steam distilled to become Elemi essential oil. The species has been confined to this region for quite a long time and has not been introduced to many other countries.

**Happy Pili is best  
known for its  
sustainable practices.**

### HARVESTING AND DISTILLING

With a deep commitment to innovative harvesting methods that protect pili trees, the farm trains its workers on sustainable resin harvesting methods that prolong the life and health of the trees while increasing the quality of the resin. The farm's distillation practices mirror this commitment to sustainability. Through a Young Living partner farm grant, Happy Pili built its first custom, commercial-scale distillery that uses a number of innovative methods for dramatically reducing the amount of power and water used during steam distillation.



## HOW THE FARM GOT ITS START

Young Living's late founder, D. Gary Young, dreamt of partnering with a reliable supplier of high-quality Elemi, an essential oil especially near to his heart. While it was challenging to find a partner already dedicated to the values that define our Seed to Seal® quality commitment, Young Living finally found that partner in the Happy Pili Tree Farm. The farm's emphasis on quality and sustainability made it a perfect fit for Gary's dream.

While Gary didn't get to personally watch the partnership between Young Living and Happy Pili take root, the farm's director, Rosalina Tan, keeps the farm's operations aligned with his vision and Young Living's stringent quality standards at every step. She ensures that her team takes proper care of the trees so that they and their families can continue to enjoy a secure livelihood in beautiful surroundings for years to come.



## DID YOU KNOW?



Locally, the pili tree is known as “the tree of hope” because it thrives in harsh typhoon conditions. In fact, farmers sometimes simulate storms by shaking the trees to improve their yield.



The oldest, largest pili trees produce the best Elemi essential oil. This farm is home to pili trees that are over 100 years old, some of which are so large that it takes four people, arms linked, to reach around them.



As part of their conservation initiatives, farm workers geotag the pili trees as a method of tracking and keeping inventory.

## LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY



**Conserving water and power.** The custom distillery at the Happy Pili Tree Farm conserves both water and power with a closed-loop system that regulates the temperature of the distillery equipment. To conserve additional water, the farm team reuses water left over from distillation to water the nursery and garden.

**Creating long-term economic empowerment.** By paying fair wages and educating farmers how to prolong the life of pili trees while increasing the yield and quality of their resin, this partner has laid a foundation of long-term economic security for its workers and their families.

**Protecting the planet.** Recognizing the critical role that tropical forests play in regulating the planet's temperature, Happy Pili has collaborated with Young Living to protect existing pili trees and plant new ones.

**Supporting the community.** In 2019 Happy Pili joined with The D. Gary Young, Young Living Foundation to provide support, guidance, technical aid and community advocacy by constructing a new schoolhouse for children in the area, complete with an organic garden, fish pond, duck house, and clean water source.