KONA SANDALWOOD REFORESTATION PROJECT

Partner Since 2014

Botanicals sourced from this reforestation project: Royal Hawaiian Sandalwood™* and Royal Hawaiian Sandalwood Hydrosol



The Kona Sandalwood Reforestation Project is a great example of how our farm partnerships strive to preserve cultural values. At this location, only dead or dying sandalwood is harvested to maintain the ecological balance and to follow the deeply rooted Hawaiian belief in humanity's responsibility to maintain a respectful relationship with the land.

BOTANICAL BACKGROUND

Hawaiian sandalwood, or Santalum paniculatum, grows at a higher altitude than other sandalwood trees and was once traded exclusively by Hawaiian royalty. That's why the essential oil extracted from the trees is called "Royal" Hawaiian Sandalwood. The oil is especially high in santalol and has a smooth, sweet aroma.

At the Kona Sandalwood Reforestation Project, only dead or dying sandalwood is harvested.

HARVESTING AND TESTING Out of respect for the land and its sacredness, the Kona Sandalwood **Reforestation Project** waits until these trees reach the end of their natural lives before they are harvested. Serendipitously, it's also at this point when the highest percentage of oil can be found. Essential oil is extracted through the steam distillation of wood pieces of mature sandalwood trees found primarily in dry forest areas on lava substrates.





HOW THE PROJECT GOT ITS START

Young Living Founder D. Gary Young played a pivotal role in the growth of the Kona Sandalwood Reforestation Project. When he, Co-Founder Mary Young, and their family visited, it became clear that he shared the same passion as the project's founder and owner, Wade Lee. Together, they envisioned using the dead and dying sandalwood that the forest was providing to create a sustainable, beloved product. Through this partnership with Young Living, the reforestation project is now a beautiful and thriving Hawaiian forest that provides the world with precious Royal Hawaiian Sandalwood essential oil.



DID YOU KNOW?



The average age of harvested sandalwood trees is 61 years old. Since the Kona Sandalwood Reforestation Project started in 2010, workers have planted millions of new native Hawaiian trees on its 3,000 acres.



Royal Hawaiian Sandalwood Hydrosol is a distillation water that hydrates skin and hair and can add a welcoming aroma to linens and the air in your home.

Royal Hawaiian Sandalwood Hydrosol is extracted by steam distilling wood from mature sandalwood trees native to the Hawaiian Islands. During the distillation process, the essential oil is separated from the hydrosol, which is also known as distillation water or floral water.

LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY



Preventing fires. With funds acquired through product sales, the project has built over 10 miles of fencing and over 15 miles of fire breaks to protect the sandalwood forest from fires.

Preserving the land. The Kona Sandalwood Reforestation Project occupies one of the rarest ecosystems in the world, a tropical dryland forest. This location has contributed to the success of reforestation efforts, supporting the deeply rooted Hawaiian belief in humans' respectful relationship with the land.

Operating with zero waste. Since all supplies and equipment used for the project must either be trucked in or created on-site, the project has established a zero-waste standard. The water processed through the distillery is reused in power washers that wash root balls before they're chipped. The runoff from the power washers then feeds the project's reservoirs, which can be used in case of a fire. Spent chips left over from the distillation process are used as dust management on the roads and are also donated to a local horse stable as ground cover for the stalls.

Relying on renewable energy. Since the project is located on a remote part of the island, its power must be created or gathered on-site. All electricity used in the cabin living quarters and education centre is fed by more than 60 solar roof panels.

Serving the community. The Kona Sandalwood Reforestation Project has hosted over 100 schools, Boy Scout troops, and community leaders, teaching them about the ecosystem, the trees, and what they can do to preserve the forest for future generations.

Experience our farms: Visit YoungLivingFarmTours.com for more information.