



PRESS RELEASE, 22 October 2009

## Axfood addresses palm oil issue

In a measure intended to help protect rain forests in Southeast Asia, Axfood has decided to change and limit its purchases of palm oil for the Group's private label products.

Axfood will be joining the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil and will buy certificates for the palm oil that is purchased for use in its private label products. In addition, palm oil will be replaced with other vegetable oils in a number of products, such as cooking oil and chips.

The use of palm oil is controversial, since in many locations, oil palm plantations are located on land that was once rain forest. When a food manufacturer buys certificates, it entails that money goes to growers who produce palm oil using more sustainable production practices.

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**Axfood AB** conducts food retail and wholesale business in Sweden. Retail business is conducted through the wholly owned store chains Willys, Hemköp and PrisXtra, comprising 226 stores in all. In addition, Axfood collaborates with a number of proprietor-run stores that are tied to Axfood through agreements. These include stores within the Hemköp and Willys chains as well as stores run under the Handlar'n and Tempo profiles. In all, Axfood collaborates with approximately 650 proprietor-run stores. Wholesaling is conducted through Dagab and Axfood Närlivs. Axfood is listed on Nasdaq OMX Stockholm AB's Large Cap list. Axel Johnson AB is the principal owner, with approximately 46% of the shares.