

# Healthy, green and sustainable

WHAT started in the 1990s by a group of Kalannie farmers to help combat salinity has grown into Australia's biggest producer of eucalyptus oil – Kochii Eucalyptus Oil.

For centuries Chinese, Indian Ayurvedic, Greek and other styles of medicine have incorporated eucalyptus oil into the treatment of a range of conditions.

It also has importance in Aboriginal bush medicine.

There are more than 800 species of eucalypts in the world, of which *Eucalyptus kochii* has the greatest concentration of cineole or eucalyptol.

It is this cineole that gives the distinctive eucalyptus smell and the antibacterial and antimicrobial properties.

*Eucalyptus kochii*, an oil mallee unique to Western Australia, has the highest cineole content, at 90 to 95 per cent, of all the eucalypts.

These trees form a large lignotuber, which not only helps to sustain the trees during the long hot summer, but also allows the trees to coppice after harvesting.

On average trees can be harvested every two to three years creating a sustainable supply of leaves.

The leaves are put through a traditional steam distillation process, with the biomass from previous extractions fuelling the furnace and any water used



□ *Eucalyptus kochii* is the namesake of Kochii Eucalyptus Oil the business.

collected and recycled.

The end result is pure and natural eucalyptus oil from an environmentally friendly and sustainable process.

As the medicinal benefits of eucalyptus oil are being rediscovered, so to the demand for eucalyptus oils growing.

Already eucalyptus oil is used for colds and respiratory conditions, inflammation and arthritis and fungal infections and skin wounds.

There are also many other applications where eucalyptus is used as an additive such as mouth wash and cough medicines.

Kochii Eucalyptus Oil recently shipped the first of hopefully many shipments of eucalyptus oil to the United States of America for the essential oil market.

From humble beginnings the company is building an Australian based manufacturer with worldwide markets.

□ More information: visit [kochiioil.com.au](http://kochiioil.com.au)