



CHINESE SOURCING POLICY – NA'VI ORGANICS

Over the years in our search for the most vital and life giving foods and herbs (a passion which grew into Na'vi Organics), we have tried many different herbs and extracts from all over the world. Some of these were from China, yet unfortunately most were not of an acceptable standard for our own use.

A couple of years ago, we were extremely fortunate to find a wonderful producer to work with in China, who has an extremely strict sourcing policy and an in-depth knowledge and passion for Traditional Chinese Medicine. After sampling their products and being inspired by their quality, we began to offer a very select range of tonic herbs.

Since stocking these products, we began to receive regular emails from some potential customers expressing their concern with environmental pollutants and how this can affect herbs grown and harvested in China.. this is something that also greatly concerns us as well. Unscrupulous vendors have exploited the herb industry (abroad and here in the West), and they hurt far more than they realise by selling poor quality products produced from herbs grown in poor and often contaminated conditions. Not only are these products of poor quality, but they damage the rich and proud tradition that exists in China for growing medicinal herbs. The regulations, when they are adhered to, for growing, harvesting, and processing medicinal herbs in China far exceeds any other regulations or guidelines anywhere in the world. It is in the acknowledgment of this that we are proud to be able to offer herbs and extracts produced in-line with these ancient traditions.

The belief that anything that comes from China must be contaminated due to their serious pollution problems is a generalisation. Indeed, we certainly acknowledge that some parts of China are heavily polluted especially around the more built up areas. Yet, it is worth considering that China is a huge country, with vast areas of wilderness that still remain unpolluted. To the North it borders desert regions of Mongolia, and to the West, there are the Himalayan mountainous regions. Both of these areas still have vast amounts of untouched and pristine land.

To get the very best out of the herbs that have traditionally been used in Chinese medicine, the preparations need to be done in an exact manner. Those immersed in the lineages of Traditional Chinese Medicine have the precise knowledge, skills and many hundreds of years of experience in knowing the best harvest times and just as importantly, how best to prepare and extract the herbs.

This one producer that we have chosen to work with in China produce all their herbs and extracts directly in line with the ancient principals of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Knowing exactly where to source herbs which are not only grown in the right conditions, but are also free of pollution and contamination, and harvested at the correct time, is a fundamental principle of what they do. For example, our pine pollen is wild harvested only during a certain few days in the year from elevations above 1000m in the mountains of north-western Yunnan. This part of Yunnan is in the Tibetan Autonomous Zone and is at the foot of the eastern most edge of the Himalayas.

For very batch produced a full set of tests are performed to check for any contamination, each of these certificates of analysis (CoA) are available upon request. Each CoA contains the results for the testing of heavy metals and bacteria. It is especially important with the reputation that China has, that any of our products sourced from this region are thoroughly tested in this way.