



ESSENCE DE GRAINE

• CRAFT/PROFESSION

Andres VEGA creates essential oils and natural cosmetics. His company, Essence de Graine, is based in Yaté and produces plant oils which are 100% natural. The seeds or kernels of tamanu nut, candlenut and avocado trees, which all grow wild locally, are harvested by women from the Yaté tribe before undergoing a rigorously controlled oil extraction process. The seeds are dried at low temperatures and the oil is extracted from the dried seeds using cold pressing methods to ensure that the essence and active, organoleptic properties of the oil are fully preserved.

• BACKGROUND

Andres VEGA completed a degree in ocean engineering in 1995 and three years later was awarded a master's degree in physical oceanography. He learned that there were openings at the New Caledonia Institute for Research and Development and he worked for the IRD as a researcher from 2004 to 2016. In 2017, Andres decided to embark on a new project and set up his Essence de Graine company.

INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Andres champions the principles and values of fair trade; respect for and the protection of people, their cultural traditions and the environment are his key priorities and he is committed to creating products containing zero toxic ingredients, palm oil or synthetic additives.

His natural beauty care oils and products are designed to provide optimal nourishment and protection for skin and hair. Andres has expanded his range and now offers creams, moisturisers, soaps, shampoos and other skin care products.