

Nurtured by nature

Young mother starts new venture offering tallow skincare products

Delphy Ranieri makes small-batch tallow skincare products, including baby balm and sunscreen, which are sold by local stores and farmers markets. She calls her new product line Heavenly Render. She's also the busy mother of three small boys.

HEAVENLY RENDER IS SUCH A SWEET NAME. TELL US HOW YOU CAME UP WITH THAT.

We wanted to spread the message that tallow is god's creation. It's not chemicals like a lot of skin-care products. So that's our niche. Everything is non-toxic, it's good for you, just the way the lord intended it.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED?

When my first son was born — he's almost five years old now — when I was pregnant with him, I started being more cognizant about what I was putting on, and in, my body. That started my health journey. Once he was born, he had some skin problems like eczema. I started doing research and found out that tallow was amazing for skin healing in general. I started making tallow balms for him and for our family, and I did that for years. Then I started giving it as gifts. After I had my third son, that's when things really started to snowball, and we decided it was time to turn it into a business.

TELL US ABOUT THE SUNSCREEN AND HOW IT DIFFERS FROM WHAT'S CURRENTLY ON THE MARKET.

One thing a lot of people are looking for right now is non-toxic sunscreen. I started making that this year because it was such a huge draw. I was ordering tallow sunscreen for my family on Etsy, and I thought, why don't I just make it myself? It has zinc oxide, the active mineral in sunscreen, for deflecting sunlight. But you want it to be non-nano zinc oxide so it doesn't absorb into your skin. That way it just sits on the surface and that's what gives you defense from the sun.



Tallow also naturally has a low SPF. It's not too significant — around 5 — but that adds some protection. And it's water resistant. Since tallow is a fat, it won't wash off right away.

WHY DO YOU USE RANCH FOODS DIRECT TALLOW IN YOUR PRODUCTS?

A lot of people making products like these will buy big tubs of tallow that are labeled as grass-fed, but it's coming from places like China, and you have no idea what's going on with that tallow. I'm happy to use local tallow from Ranch Foods. It feels good to support them, and they support me back.

IS YOUR FAMILY INVOLVED IN THE BUSINESS?

My sister is a big help. Same with my husband. Mom helps me with making my signs, since she has great penmanship. Doing something like this, while raising three kids, it definitely takes a village. Everyone in my family has really been incredibly supportive.

Look for a selection of her products at The Happy Cow, 2902 W. Colorado Ave.

