

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Twelfth meeting of the Plants Committee
Leiden (The Netherlands), 13-17 May 2002

Significant trade in plants

Implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.) (cf. Decision 11.117)

SELECTION OF TAXA FOR REVIEW

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 11th meeting, the Plants Committee considered a document containing data on trade in plants (document PC11 Doc. 11.2.3) to determine whether trade in some species might require further evaluation under the provisions of Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.).
3. This evaluation resulted in a long list of taxa of apparent concern [document PC11 Doc.11.2.3a (Rev.)], but the Committee did not make any conclusions regarding a possible follow up to this first evaluation.
4. The Secretariat evaluated the trade data for most of these species and its conclusions are contained in Annex 1 to this document. A large part of this Annex was also circulated to the Members of the Committee, but no comments were received from them.
5. Not included in this evaluation are the taxa that will be part of the review of the trade in Madagascan succulents and of the review of trade in cycads.
6. A number of species still needs further evaluation. Those are included in Annex 2 to this document. Comments will be provided as soon as the evaluation has been made.

TAXA, SELECTED BY THE PLANTS COMMITTEE
[DOCUMENT PC11 DOC.11.2.3A (REV.)]

Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus (Appendix I)

Concern was raised over trade in 24 specimens in 1998. However, a detailed print out of the records on trade in this species demonstrated that all trade was in artificially propagated specimens. The record of 24 possibly wild origin specimens could not be traced. ***Not a species of concern.***

Carnegiea gigantea

There is a large volume of trade reported as 'timber', the same description that is also used for rain sticks. Like rainsticks, the 'timber' is harvested from dead specimens, not from live ones. The only exporting countries are the two range States, Mexico and the United States. ***Not a species of concern.***

Cereus hildmannianus

The records concerned refer to trade from Tahiti to the United States with source unknown. The species is indigenous to Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay. The trade concerned, originates in Haiti and has the source code 'U'. As a matter of fact, trade in many different species from Haiti (and the Dominican Republic) to the USA is frequently recorded 'U'. The United States, however, confirmed that these imports all relate to artificially propagated specimens. ***Not a species of concern.***

Cereus repandus

This is a species from Venezuela and the Netherlands Antilles. Denmark had one large export (10,560) in 1995. Haiti has an average export of 3,419 specimens over a period of five years. All are most likely artificially propagated. See also the comments made under *Cereus hildmannianus*. ***Not a species of concern.***

Echinocactus grusonii

This species is artificially propagated on a large scale in many countries. The 450 specimens recorded for 1998 came from Belize with the source code 'W', destination United Kingdom. However, this country is not a range State, and the entry is probably an error. All other trade originated in the USA, and was recorded without a source code. The specimens were most likely all artificially propagated. ***Not a species of concern.***

Echinocactus horizonthalonius

Apart from a few confiscated specimens that were returned to Mexico from Germany, all exports of wild specimens were from the United States. The quantities are, however, very low (never more than 100 per year) and would not have a negative impact on the wild populations. ***Not a species of concern.***

Echinopsis pachanoi

This is one of the several species from this genus that are used for rain sticks. The quantities (1100 pieces of 'timber' in 1999, from Peru) are not a reason for immediate concern. In

addition, the Parties at the last CoP have agreed to an exemption for rain sticks (three specimens per person), indicating that the trade in rain sticks is not problematic for the survival of the species. ***Not a species of concern.***

Ferocactus cylindraceus

Trade in wild specimens all originates in the USA. This trade is well regulated. The specimens are harvested from sites that are converted for house building or other purposes, and all specimens are tagged. ***Not a species of concern.***

Gymnocalycium baldianum

This species is endemic to Argentina. The only export recorded from that country related to 18 specimens in 1996. The only other export is of 688 specimens (1997), from Korea to Japan and most likely relates to artificially. ***Not a species of concern.***

Gymnocalycium bruchii

The only recorded trade in wild specimens relates to a shipment of 15 specimens from Argentina to Italy (1999). This was for scientific purposes. All other trade is in artificially propagated specimens. ***Not a species of concern.***

Gymnocalycium calochlorum

Trade in wild specimens was recorded for 1997 (four from Argentina to the USA) and 1999 (12 specimens from Argentina to Italy), in both cases for scientific purposes. ***Not a species of concern.***

Gymnocalycium gibbosum

The only recorded trade in wild specimens relates to a shipment of 10 specimens from Argentina to Italy (1999). This was for scientific purposes. ***Not a species of concern.***

Gymnocalycium hossei

The only recorded trade in wild specimens relates to a shipment of 9 specimens from Argentina to Italy (1999). This was for scientific purposes. ***Not a species of concern.***

Opuntia bigelovii, Opuntia cholla, Opuntia fulgida, Opuntia imbricata

México informed the Secretariat that all the exports concerned were approved in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 2 a). The exported specimens were all taken from dead or dried out plants. ***Not species of concern.***

Opuntia leucotricha

The trade data recorded all relate to trade from Haiti to the USA with source code 'U'. As mentioned above, these are most likely all artificially propagated specimens. ***Not a species of concern.***

Pachycereus pringlei

The only record of trade in wild specimens is in 1999, to the USA for scientific purposes. ***Not a species of concern.***

Stenocereus thurberi

Mexico informed the Secretariat the specimens concerned were all seeds, exported for scientific purposes. ***Not a species of concern.***

Rauwolfia serpentina

Only one record of 9 kg of extracts is reported for the period 1995-1999. This would not justify a review of the species under the provisions of Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.). In addition, chemical extracts and finished pharmaceutical products containing derivatives of this species are exempted from CITES controls. Since no trade in plants or plant parts has been recorded since its inclusion in Appendix II, one may wonder whether its listing is still justified. However, the review of this species has also been discussed in several meetings of the Plants Committee (cf. Medicinal Plants Significant Trade Study CITES project S-109; Schippmann, 2001; BfN Skripten 39). The Plants Committee should consider whether it wants to give a follow-up to the recommendations contained in this report. ***Perhaps a species of concern. Candidate for the Review of the Appendices.***

Panax quinquefolius

TRAFFIC-North America has prepared a report on the trade in this species (American Ginseng: The Root of North America's Medicinal Herb Trade: May 1998). The Secretariat has requested TRAFFIC North America to send a copy of this report to all members of the Plants Committee. The Plants Committee may wish to discuss this report at its next meeting to consider whether further action is required.

Quercus copeyensis

It is not clear why the working group at its 11th meeting of the Plants Committee selected this species. The only trade recorded is for three live specimens in 1996. ***Not a species of concern.***

Fouquieria columnaris

Similar conclusion as for the previous species. The only recorded trade was in 1995 (77 m³ of timber). ***Not a species of concern.***

Pericopsis elata

There is a considerable trade in timber of this species, and it is not at all certain that this trade is truly non-detrimental. ***Candidate for review, but could be a costly project, in particular when field surveys are required.***

Pterocarpus santalinus

The review of this species has been discussed in several meetings of the Plants Committee (cf. Medicinal Plants Significant Trade Study CITES project S-109; Schippmann, 2001; BfN Skripten 39). The Plants Committee should consider whether it wants to give a follow-up to the recommendations contained in this report.

Aloe ellenbeckii

One record of an export of 70,000 kg of extracts from Kenya in 1999. ***Not a species of immediate concern, but trade needs to be monitored.***

Aloe ferox

The review of this species has been discussed in several meetings of the Plants Committee (cf. Medicinal Plants Significant Trade Study, CITES project S-109; Schippmann, 2001; BfN Skripten 39). No concern was expressed about possible detrimental trade. ***Not a species of concern.***

Aloe schoelleri

The working group at the 11th meeting of the Plants Committee has apparently maintained all the aloe species in its list of taxa of concern. For this species trade in only 2 live specimens has been recorded (1998). ***Not a species of concern.***

Podophyllum hexandrum

The review of this species has been discussed in several meetings of the Plants Committee (cf. Medicinal Plants Significant Trade Study CITES project S-109; Schippmann, 2001; BfN Skripten 39). The Plants Committee should consider whether it wants to give a follow-up to the recommendations contained in this report.

Picrorhiza kurrooa, Nardostachys grandiflora

A report by TRAFFIC on the regulation of trade in this species was discussed at the 10th meeting of the Plants Committee (see PC10. Doc. 10.2.3 and Inf. 10.2) but no clear conclusions were drawn. The Plants Committee should consider whether it wants to give a follow-up to the recommendations contained in this report.

Taxus wallichiana

The review of this species has been discussed in several meetings of the Plants Committee (cf. Medicinal Plants Significant Trade Study CITES project S-109; Schippmann, 2001; BfN Skripten 39). The Plants Committee should consider whether it wants to give a follow-up to the recommendations contained in this report.

Aquilaria mallacensis

Subject of a separate study. See also Medicinal Plants Significant Trade Study CITES project S-109; Schippmann, 2001; BfN Skripten 39.

Guaiacum officinale and *G. sanctum*

Subject of a separate study.

SPECIES OF WHICH THE TRADE DATA HAVE NOT BEEN ANALYSED
AT THE TIME OF WRITING OF THIS DOCUMENT

Pachypodium bispinosum

Alsophila spp.

Cnemidaria spp.

Calochlaena spp.

Cibotium spp.

Dicksonia sellowiana