

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

Other proposals

A. Proposal

To annotate Cactaceae spp., *Euphorbia* spp. and *Cyclamen* in Appendix II to exclude artificially propagated specimens of the following hybrids and/or cultivars:

CACTACEAE *Hatiora x graeseri*
Schlumbergera hybrids & cultivars
Gymnocalycium mihanovichii cultivars (forms lacking chlorophyll, grafted)
Opuntia microdasys

Euphorbia spp. *Euphorbia trigona* cultivars

Cyclamen spp. *Cyclamen persicum* hybrids & cultivars. This exemption does not apply to specimens traded as dormant tubers

NOTE: If the meeting of the Conference of the Parties decides to adopt this proposal, a small amendment to Resolution Conf. 2.13 will be required as well. See paragraph C.6. of this amendment proposal.

B. Proponent

The Kingdom of Denmark

C. Supporting Statement

1. Taxonomy

1.1 Class Dicotyledonae

1.2 Order Cactales

1.3 Family Cactaceae

1.4 Genus *Hatiora x graeseri* (Werderm.) Barthlott
(more than 100 named cultivars)

1.5 Scientific synonyms *Hatiora gaertneri* x *H. rosea*
Rhipsalis x graeseri Werderm.
x *Rhipsalis phylloopsis graeseri* Werderm.
Rhipsalidopsis x graeseri (Werderm.) Moran

1.6 Common names Hybrid Easter cactus

1.4 Genus and species *Schlumbergera* hybrids & cultivars Lemaire 1958
(more than 1000 named hybrids/cultivars)

1.5 Scientific synonyms
1. *S. x buckleyi* (T. Moore) Tjaden
S. russelliana x *S. truncata*
2. *S. orssichiana* x *S. truncata*
3. *S. opuntioides* x *S. truncata*
4. *S. truncata* cultivars

1.6 Common names Christmas cactus, Crab cactus

1.4 Genus and species *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* (Fri_ et Gürke) Britt. et Rose
(cultivars or forms lacking chlorophyll, grafted)
(more than 50 named cultivars)

1.5 Scientific synonyms-

1.6 Common name-

1.4 Genus and species *Opuntia microdasys* (Lehm.) Pfeiff.
(more than 30 named cultivars)

1.5 Scientific synonyms-

1.6 Common names-

1.2 Order Geraniales

1.3 Family EUPHORBIACEAE

1.4 Genus and species *Euphorbia trigona* Miller cultivars

1.5 Scientific synonyms *Euphorbia hermentiana* Lem.

1.6 Common name Cowboy cactus

1.2 Order Primulales

1.3 Family PRIMULACEAE

1.4 Genus and species *Cyclamen persicum* Mill. hybrids/cultivars
(more than 400 named hybrids/cultivars)

1.5 Scientific synonyms-

1.6 Common name cyclamen

(The Nomenclature Committee will be consulted before the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to ensure that the nomenclature in this proposal is in accordance with Resolution Conf. 9.26.)

1.7 Code numbers

2. Biological Parameters

These parameters are not relevant for this proposal, since it does not refer to wild-collected specimens. The proposed exemptions apply to artificially propagated specimens only.

This proposal is made in accordance with the provisions of paragraph f) under the second RESOLVES in Resolution Conf. 9.24:

"Species of which all specimens in trade have been artificially propagated should not be included in the Appendices if there is no probability of trade taking place in specimens of wild origin".

This proposal refers to hybrids, cultivars and other manmade selections of species that fulfil those criteria, and have, for decades, been artificially propagated by the millions as hybrids, cultivars or other named

selections. They are traded in high volumes as "supermarket plants".

3.Utilization and Trade

3.1National utilization

Not relevant for the proposal.

3.2Legal international trade

WCMC has analyzed the data stored in the WCMC Trade Database to determine the volumes of wild and/or artificially propagated specimens of the above mentioned taxa.

However, when making this analysis, WCMC noted that there are significant problems with the interpretation of the data, due to incomplete and/or inadequate reporting. The details of this are discussed in a separate document (**document Doc. 10.56**) presented for consideration by this tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The overall conclusions, which can be drawn from the report are summarized below.

***Hatiora* spp.**

It appears from the analysis of the trade in *Hatiora* spp. that from 1988 to 1992 an annual average of approximately 400,000 artificially propagated plants were recorded in international trade. The major exporters were Denmark, Canada, the Netherlands, Brazil and, more recently, Poland. Only two wild plants were recorded in international trade during the period 1985 to 1995. These were exported from Brazil to the United Kingdom in 1991 for scientific purposes.

Hatiora spp. occurs naturally in Brazil.

***Schlumbergera* spp.**

In 1993 the volume of international trade of *Schlumbergera* spp. was 1.75 million live plants. The majority was exported by Canada, Denmark and the Netherlands. There is no recorded trade in specimens of *Schlumbergera* spp. reported to be of wild origin. It is possible that a single plant, imported by Germany from Guatemala (origin unknown) for scientific purposes, was originally a wild specimen.

Schlumbergera spp. occurs naturally in Brazil.

Gymnocalycium mihanovichii

There is an enormous trade in artificially propagated specimens of *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* cultivars. The most important exporting countries are Brazil, Japan and the Republic of Korea. In 1993 the volume of international trade was approximately 3.3 million live plants. Over the period 1985 to 1995 no trade in wild specimens has been recorded.

Gymnocalycium mihanovichii occurs naturally in Argentina and Paraguay.

Opuntia microdasys

In the WCMC no international trade in *Opuntia microdasys* is recorded. This can be explained by the fact that the trade in these plants often goes under the term "mixed cacti", in trays for supermarkets containing a mixed assortment of cacti and succulents, and that the exporting countries report these and specimens of other species as Cactaceae spp.

The main exporting countries are Malta, Spain, Canada and China (Province of Taiwan).

Opuntia microdasys occurs naturally in Mexico.

Euphorbia trigona

From 1990 to 1993 an annual average of approximately 2.5 million plants were recorded in international trade as being artificially propagated. The majority are exported by the Dominican Republic, Denmark and Brazil.

The only trade in wild *E. trigona* was reported by Madagascar. One wild plant was exported to France in 1993 for personal use; 30 live specimens were exported from Madagascar to Germany in 1989. *Euphorbia trigona* is not indigenous to Madagascar. There have been no records of export of these plants from Madagascar since then.

Euphorbia trigona occurs naturally in Angola and Ghana.

Cyclamen persicum

The source of all *Cyclamen persicum* in international trade since 1993 is recorded as artificially propagated. From 1988 to 1993 an annual average of approximately 2.5 million plants was traded. The majority are exported by Denmark, Israel and the Netherlands.

The only reported trade in specimens of wild origin occurred in 1991. This involved import of 25 live plants from Greece to the United Kingdom for scientific purposes, plus re-export of 10 live specimens, origin Israel, by the Netherlands to Japan.

Cyclamen persicum has its natural distribution in Algeria, Cyprus, Greece, Lebanon, the Syrian Arabic Republic, Israel, Jordan, Tunisia and Turkey.

There are also some records of imports into Greece: 15,320 tubers (source unknown) from Bulgaria in 1989, 2,320 tubers in 1990 and 5,000 live in 1992. Since the source of the tubers has not been recorded, it can not be excluded that these might have been of wild origin. For this reason, and also to avoid confusion with tubers of wild origin of other species of this genus, dormant tubers are excluded from this proposal. The hybrids/cultivars are always traded as potted/growing plants.

3.3 Illegal trade

Not known to exist.

3.4 Actual or potential trade impacts

Not relevant for the species from which these hybrids and cultivars and other manmade forms are derived.

3.5 Captive breeding or artificial propagation for commercial purposes (outside country of origin)

Hatiora x graeseri

The breeding and production of *Hatiora x graeseri* began in 1884. There are more than 100 cultivars in commercial production. The artificial propagation is based on cuttings from mother plants or cuttings from the growing stock. The annual production is estimated to 10 million specimens.

Schlumbergera hybrids

The breeding and selection of *Schlumbergera* hybrids and cultivars began as early as 1840. There are more than 1,000 named hybrids and cultivars. Production is based on cuttings taken from selected parental stock. The annual production is estimated to be 6.5 million specimens.

Gymnocalycium mihanovichii

The first plant of *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* without chlorophyll (the pigment that gives the green colour to plants) was found in 1941, in Japan, in cultivation as a seedling. It was kept alive by grafting. Since 1970 additional colour mutations have been developed. All are propagated by using the offsets of the mother plants. The plants are all grafted onto artificially propagated cactus root stocks. These root stocks are produced as from selected mother plants, mostly *Hylocereus* spp. and *Harrisia jusbertii*.

The annual production, mainly from Brazil, Republic of Korea and Japan, is estimated to be 10-15 million specimens.

Opuntia microdasys

This species was described for the first time in 1827 and has been in horticultural cultivation and propagation since then. The propagation concentrates on forms which, in their areoles (small cushion like patches on the stem joints) bear glochids (very fine hairs) in colours such as white, yellow, gold and reddish. Dwarf and cristate forms are also in cultivation.

The annual production is estimated to be 2-3 million specimens.

It should also be noted that, as explained with annotation #4 under section 11 in the Interpretation the Appendices I and II, separate stem joints (pads) of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus *Opuntia* subgenus *Opuntia* are already exempted from CITES controls.

Euphorbia trigona

In cultivation since the beginning of the 18th century and has been artificially propagated in large quantities since 1950.

The plants are propagated by cuttings taken from branches or growing tops of selected mother plants. There are several cultivars with different colours (shades of reddish and green) and/or levels of variegation (local loss of pigmentation, producing white patches on stem and leaves).

The annual production is estimated to be 5 million specimens.

Cyclamen persicum

The first description of this species dates back to the 18th century. Selective propagation already going on from about 1850. There are more than 400 named cultivars in cultivation today. The only way of propagation is by seeds from parental stocks of manmade hybrids or cultivars.

The annual production is estimated to be more than 50 million potted plants, with the majority grown in Germany (25 million).

4. Conservation and Management

4.1 Legal status

4.2 Species management

Not relevant for the proposal.

4.3 Control measures

The artificially propagated supermarket plants can be distinguished from wild specimens by the following characteristics:

- the plants are traded in large volumes by specialized traders in supermarket plants
- the specimens of the same taxon are completely uniform in size and form
- specimens are free of pests, disease and damage
- most of these supermarket plants are grown in pots
- the price of supermarket plants is very low
- the supermarket plants are often produced in countries where the species does not grow in the wild.

5. Information on Similar Species

This proposal only relates to artificially propagated specimens of hybrids, cultivars and other manmade selections of the above mentioned taxa that can be easily identifiable. Photocopies of several of the taxa concerned are attached to this proposal. Identification material, including photographs, will be prepared before the time of the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Gymnocalycium mihanovichii and *Opuntia microdasys* cultivars are easily recognizable cacti by their very artificial appearance.

6. Other Comments

6.1 General

The background for this proposal was discussed at the seventh meeting of the Plants Committee (San José, Costa Rica, 11-15 November 1996), that supported the idea to present a proposal for consideration at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. A short list of artificially propagated supermarket plants that could be excluded was also discussed by the Plants Committee.

As an additional safeguard the Secretariat will be asked to regularly inform the Plants Committee if at any time species included in this proposal should appear in trade reports as specimens of wild origin and on possible problems resulting from the implementation from these exemptions.

6.2 Amendment to Resolution Conf. 2.13

If the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties decides to adopt this proposal its should at the same to adopt the following amendment to Resolution Conf. 2.13. This to avoid that the adoption of this amendment proposal would be contrary to the provisions of that Resolution.

Add to paragraph b), after the words 'in the appendices' the following text:

unless taxa included in Appendices II or III are specifically annotated to excluded certain hybrids from CITES controls;

7. Additional Remarks

The proponent has consulted the range states concerned. However, at the date of submission (10 January 1997) only argentina had indicted that it has no objection to the proposal.

8. References

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