

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



Fifteenth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 17-21 May 2005

ANNOTATIONS FOR MEDICINAL PLANTS INCLUDED IN APPENDIX II

1. The Working Group (WG) convened 18.5.2005, 9:10-10:40 hrs and was chaired by Uwe Schippmann (Germany). Basis for discussion was PC15 Doc.17 and partly PC15 Doc.10.2.2.
2. CoP13 Dec.13.50 calls for annotations which adequately reflect the major commodities in trade. Based on the interventions made by representatives and observers already in the PC plenary session on May 17 it was decided that the generic recommendation in PC15 Doc 17 paragraph 24 should not be followed. It was agreed that a species specific approach would be taken. The WG therefore discussed the trade situation and decided upon appropriate annotations or further action for the species in PC 15 Doc.17 paragraphs 11-20. Decisions of the WG on revised annotations are summarized in tables 1 and 2.
3. ***Taxus chinensis, T. fuana, T. cuspidata, T. sumatrana, and T. wallichiana:*** Delegates from CN and US, the proponent countries for these species and its annotation #10, summarized that the intention of the annotation was to exclude the retail trade of packaged medicines from CITES controls. The term “finished pharmaceutical products” was found to be too ambiguous and a possible way for circumvention of controls. After some discussion delegates of CN, CA and CN were asked to draft a more appropriate wording (cf. table 2).
4. ***Podophyllum hexandrum:*** This species is under review in the Significant Trade process. No information was available for the WG’s discussion and the drafting of an appropriate annotation was deferred to IUCN-MPSG and the supervisory group.
5. ***Hydrastis canadensis:*** It was confirmed by participants that goldenseal roots are sometimes powdered prior to export to avoid CITES paperwork. It was agreed to change the annotation to include powder. The use of #10 rev was considered and delegates of US and CA indicated a need to consult internally on the appropriateness of regulating commodities such as leaves or extract as would occur under #10 rev.
6. ***Panax ginseng, P. quinquefolius:*** The focus of CITES controls on roots and parts of roots was found to be appropriate and the first part of #3 to be well phrased. It was agreed that the annotation would be even improved by deleting the second part of the annotation after the comma which lists a number of undefined terms while not adding relevant substance. The proposed #3 rev. positively defines what is included in CITES controls.
7. ***Pterocarpus santalinus:*** This tree species is in demand as a quality timber, a source of dyes and as incense. It was agreed that trade in powder and extract should be covered by CITES controls. It was also agreed that finished products such as furniture and musical instruments should stay exempt from CITES controls. The chair and the delegate from COMURNAT were asked to draft an appropriate annotation. Table 2 contains proposed #7 rev.
8. It was proposed to move the *Vanilla* related text of #8(d) to #1 and annotate Orchicaceae ssp. in App. II with #1 rev. (cf. table 2). This would make #8 redundant.

**Table 1: Proposed revised annotations for medicinal plant species in Appendix II**

Taxon	Current Annot.	Problem	Proposed Annotation
<i>Taxus chinensis</i> , <i>T. fuana</i> , <i>T. cuspidata</i> , <i>T. sumatrana</i> , <i>T. wallichiana</i>	#10	Term “finished ... product” not precise enough	#10 rev.
<i>Adonis vernalis</i>	#2		#10 rev.
<i>Guaiacum spp.</i>	#2	Resin, extract and oil are presently exempt but should be covered by controls	#10 rev.
<i>Podophyllum hexandrum</i>	#2	No information available	deferred
<i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i>	#2	Alkaloids extracted from the roots presently exempt but should be covered by controls	#10 rev.
<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i>	#3	US and CA to consult internally on significance of commodities such as cut leaves and extract	deferred
<i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i>	#3	Oil and powder presently exempt but should be covered by controls	#10 rev.
<i>Panax ginseng</i> , <i>Panax quinquefolius</i>	#3	Existing annotation worked well, text after comma not needed	#3 rev.
<i>Picrorhiza kurrooa</i>	#3	Oil are presently exempt but should be covered by controls	#10 rev.
<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i>	#7	Powder and extract should be covered by CITES controls. Furniture and musical instruments should stay exempt.	#7 rev.

**Table 2: Current and revised Annotations for medicinal plants**

	Current version	Revised version
#1	Designates all parts and derivatives, except: a) seeds, spores and pollen (including pollinia); b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers; and c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants.	<b>add:</b> d) fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of artificially propagated plants of the genus <i>Vanilla</i> .
#2	Designates all parts and derivatives, except: a) seeds and pollen; b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers; c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants; and d) chemical derivatives and finished pharmaceutical products.	[redundant]
#3	Designates whole and sliced roots and parts of roots, excluding manufactured parts or derivatives such as powders, pills, extracts, tonics, teas and confectionery.	Designates whole and sliced roots and parts of roots.
#7	Designates logs, wood-chips and unprocessed broken material.	Designates logs, wood-chips, powder and extracts.
#8	Designates all parts and derivatives, except: a) seeds and pollen (including pollinia); b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers; c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants; and d) fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of artificially propagated plants of the genus <i>Vanilla</i> .	[redundant]
#10	Designates all parts and derivatives except: a) seeds and pollen; and b) finished pharmaceutical products.	Designates all parts and derivatives except: a) seeds and pollen; and b) finished pharmaceutical products packaged and ready for retail trade.