

AGARWOOD AND CITES IMPLEMENTATION IN VIETNAM

CURRENT PRACTICES ON NDF

- Vietnam has experience to conduct NDF for several plant species: NDF has been conducted base on criterias:
 - Population situation;
 - Distribution
 - Population trend
 - Harvest
 - Other biological and ecological factors
 - trade information
- The database is gathered from different sources (reports, independent research, field survey..)
- NDF = science-based risk assessment

Agar wood Plantation

- There are four species of agar wood recorded natural distribution in Vietnam, include:
 - *Aquilaria crassna*
 - *Aquilaria baillonii*
 - *Aquilaria banaensis*
 - *Aquilaria rugosa*
- *Aquilaria crassna* is big timber tree and contain high volume of oil, agar wood has been grow popular in Vietnam
- Estimated in 2009, there are 12,000 ha plantation of *Aquilaria crasna* from 1-15 year old. The density is 500-500 tree/ha



Management of Agar wood in plantation

- Agar wood began to plant two decades ago by the farmers, where they collect the seeds in the forest or household forest garden.
- Since now, the tissue culture methodology has been used to create more seeding.
- Vietnam has a system of ranger agencies from central to local, where the private company or household has to register their agar wood plantation
- Any cases of exportation has to be verify by local rangers



Import-export of Agar wood

- Only artificial products of agar wood legally export and permitted by CITES MA. The specimen include:
 - Seeding, wood chip, oil, timber log, incense...
- Import country include:
 - Japan, Taiwan, USA, Singapore, Hong Kong, UEA....



Current challenges on agar wood plantation

- Enforcement staffs lack of capacity to identify agar wood from artificial or from nature.
- Lack of a standard process to create agar wood in plantation
- A lot of house hold has several trees in home garden, then they lack of knowledge to fulfill the administration procedures
- The exportation of any artificial agar wood specimen require to fulfill all CITES document event a ml of oil or an incense



Recommendation

- An ID sheet to identified different form of agar wood and nature agar wood need to develop
- Annotation of Agar wood in CITES Appendix need to revise. The population *Aquilaria crassana* in Vietnam, Thailand can be exclude of CITES Appendix II?
- Some exemption for agar wood should be applied for a certain amount of specimen from plantation forest

