

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Nepenthes spp., except the species already included in Appendix I, in Appendix II.

- Reason: i) there is increasing unrestricted commercial trade in wild plants which is threatening the survival of rare species or those with a restricted distribution. Of 68 species of Nepenthes, the great majority are endemic and rare and at least eight species are severely threatened by commercial collecting (see 342. below);
- ii) it is difficult to protect Nepenthes rajah, an Appendix I species, as it can be passed off as other species when the pitchers have been cut off.

B. PROPONENT

Malaysia.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Angiospermae (Dicotyledonae)
12. Order: Theales
13. Family: Nepenthaceae
14. Species: a. Nepenthes alata  
b. Nepenthes albo-marginata  
c. Nepenthes ampullaria  
d. Nepenthes macfarlanei  
e. Nepenthes gracilis  
f. Nepenthes gracillima  
g. Nepenthes rufflesiana  
h. Nepenthes reinwardtiana  
i. Nepenthes sanguinea
15. Trade names: Pitcher plants
16. Common Names: English: pitcher plants  
French: népenthès  
Spanish: Nepentes  
German: Kannepflanzen
17. Code Numbers: -

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: 68 species from Madagascar, Sri Lanka, India, Indo-China, Malaysia, Australia (Queensland), to New Caledonia.



### 3. Trade Data

Trade data are lacking because there is no requirement to declare international transactions.

31. National Utilization: Only Australia has a local market for pitcher plants. Local and foreign commercial dealers are collecting wild plants from Brunei Darussalam, India, Malaysia (Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak) and the Philippines for sale overseas. Except for Australia, no local enterprise has tried propagation from seed or cuttings from cultivated material - it is cheaper to collect wild plants free.
32. Legal International Trade: The volume of legal international trade is not known accurately as only Nepenthes rajah is listed under CITES. In the past three years (1983-1986) only five transactions were reported to CITES, two of cultivated specimens and three in Nepenthes rajah (exported for scientific purposes).

33. Illegal Trade: Commercial collectors still attempt to steal plants and seeds of Nepenthes rajah from the Kinabalu National Park (Annex 2).
34. Potential Trade Threats:
  341. Live Specimens: Cultivating carnivorous plants, including pitcher plant species, is fashionable in the West, Australia and Japan. This has made collecting wild pitcher plants a lucrative business.
  342. Parts and Derivatives: Local reports from India, the Philippines, Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak indicated that unscrupulous foreign traders are depleting accessible areas to the extent that collecting is endangering the continued survival of several rare and restricted species, such as N. burbidgeae, N. burkei, N. edwardsiana, N. gracillima, N. khasiana, N. leptochila, N. merrilliana and N. villosa.
  343. Some mountain tops are almost stripped bare of pitcher plants by foreign commercial collectors. These include Mt. Murud, Pagon and Silam in Sabah, Mt. Santubond in Sarawak and Fraser's Hill in Peninsular Malaysia (Briggs, 1985).

#### 4. Protection Status

41. National: Collection of plants species for trade is not allowed in National Parks.
42. International: Only Nepenthes rajah is in CITES Appendix I. There are at present no species in Appendix II.
43. Additional Protection Needs: All species need to be placed in Appendix II in order to:
  - i) control the volume of trade, which is currently threatening endemic species; and
  - ii) give additional protection to Nepenthes rajah which can at present be passed off as an unprotected species of Nepenthes.

#### 5. Information on Similar Species

From seed or from sterile material, it is very difficult to distinguish the species. For this reason, to protect the rare and therefore commercially valuable species, the trade in all species needs to be controlled.

Species of Nepenthes would not be confused with species of other genera.

#### 6. Comments from Countries of Origin

61. The Republic of India has already proposed that N. khasiana be given international protection (under Appendix I) as it is seriously threatened by over collecting. This proposal was not accepted at that time due to lack of information.

62. The Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service are concerned about illegal imports of Nepenthes rajah: "Australian customs officers have on two occasions seized material believed to be Nepenthes rajah. The plants were seedlings and plants from which pitchers and leaf tips had been removed. On both occasions further action could not be taken because identification sufficiently reliable for court purposes could not be established. The inclusion of all other Nepenthes in Appendix II and production of material that would enable reliable identification of Nepenthes rajah seedlings and incomplete plants would certainly assist in reducing this problem" (Professor J.D. Ovington, Director).

7. Additional Remarks

71. Pitcher plant species are not difficult to grow either from stem cuttings or seed so that trade in plants from cultivated sources could supply the market.
72. Most species are presently in cultivation, including Nepenthes rajah (see Annex 1), so there is no excuse for collecting plants from the wild (except that it is cheaper and is an instant source of mature plants).
73. While export of wild plants for commercial purposes should be restricted because of the damage caused to wild populations, the export of seeds can be permitted for material collected outside protected areas, such as National Parks. Taking seeds would not have much impact on wild populations as each female plant produces inflorescences of many capsules, each capsule produces thousands of tiny seeds and as the plant is perennial several inflorescences are produced in a lifetime.
74. For all these reasons, trade in pitcher plant species would not be adversely affected should all species be included in Appendix II. In addition, it would not affect the livelihood of local people as most collectors are foreigners.

7. References

- Briggs, J.G. 1985. The Current Nepenthes Situation in Borneo. Malayan Naturalist 38 (3) 46 - 48.
- Danser, B.H., 1928. The Nepenthaceae of the Netherlands Indies. Bull. Jard. Bot. Botze. III, 9, 249-435.
- Kiew, R., 1985. Portraits of Threatened Plants. 11. Nepenthes gracillium. Malayan Naturalist 39 (1&2) 24.
- Kiew, R., Chin, S.C. and Ng F.S.P., 1985. Malaysia's 10 Most Endangered Plants, Malayan Naturalist 38 (4) 3-4.
- Kurata, S., 1976. Nepenthes of Mount Kinabalu, Sabah National Parks Publication No. 2
- Shivas, G., 1984. Pitcher Plants of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. Mauzen Asia.

STATUS OF NEPENTHES SPECIES  
(\*Species in Trade)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Status</u>
1. * <u>alata</u>	Philippines, Peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra	Gunung Tahan only
2. * <u>albo-marginata</u>	Borneo (Brunei & Sarawak), Pen. Malaysia, Sumatra	Widespread, but rare in Sumatra
3. * <u>ampullaria</u>	Borneo, Pen. Malaysia, Sumatra, New Guinea	Widespread
4. * <u>bicalcarata</u>	Borneo (Brunei, Kalimantan, Sabah and Sarawak)	Endemic to Borneo; considered by IUCN to be endangered in Sabah, rare au Kalimantan
5. * <u>burbidgeae</u>	Borneo (Kalimantan & Sabah)	Endemic, rare and restricted; severely threatened by commercial collecting (1985 price US\$ 30 a plant from Brunei)
6. <u>decurrens</u>	Borneo (Brunei, Kalimantan & Sarawak)	Endemic to Borneo, rare and restricted
7. <u>edwardsiana</u>	Borneo (Kalimantan and Sabah)	Endemic to Borneo, rare and restricted.
8. * <u>fusca</u>	Borneo (Brunei, Kalimantan, Sabah & Sarawak)	Endemic to Borneo
9. * <u>gracilllis</u>	Borneo, Pen. Malaysia, Sulawesi & Sumatra	Widespread, common
10. * <u>gracillima</u>	Peninsular Malaysia	Endemic, rare restricted, vulnerable (Kiew, 1985), under pressure from collectors
11. <u>hirsuta</u>	Borneo (Kalimantan & Sarawak)	Rare and restricted
12. * <u>leptochila</u>	Borneo	Endemic, rare and restricted, threatened by commercial collecting
13. <u>lowii</u>	Borneo (Brunei, Sabah & Sarawak)	Endemic to Borneo, rare and restricted.
14. * <u>macfarlanei</u>	Peninsular Malaysia	Endemic, restricted

<u>Species</u>	<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Status</u>
15. * <u>mirabilis</u>	Indo-China, S. China, Borneo, Philippines, Sulawesi, Java, Sumatra, Moluccas, New Guinea and Queensland)	Widespread
16. <u>muluensis</u>	Borneo (Sarawak)	Endemic, rare and restricted; considered endangered by IUCN
17. <u>neglecta</u>	Borneo (Sabah)	Endemic, rare and restricted; considered endangered by IUCN
18. <u>northiana</u>	Borneo (Sarawak)	Endemic, rare and restricted; vulnerable
19. <u>pilosa</u>	Borneo (Kalimantan, Sabah & Sarawak)	Endemic to Borneo, rare, considered endangered by IUCN in Sabah
20. * <u>rafflesiana</u>	Borneo, Pen. Malaysia, Moluccas, Sumatra	Widespread but rare in Sumatra
21. * <u>rajah</u>	Borneo (Sabah)	Endemic, very rare and restricted; in Appendix I of CITES but still collected illegally; price for wild plants US\$1000; one of Malaysia's 10 most endangered plants (Kiew, Chin and Ng, 1985)
22. * <u>reinwardtiana</u>	Borneo, Pen. Malaysia, Moluccas, Sumatra	Widespread, but rare in Pen. Malaysia
23. * <u>sanguinea</u>	Borneo (Kalimantan), Pen. Malaysia	Rare in Kalimantan
24. <u>stenophylla</u>	Borneo	Endemic, rare in Kalimantan
25. * <u>tentaculata</u>	Borneo (Brunei, Sabah & Sarawak), Sulawesi	Widespread
26. * <u>veitchii</u>	Borneo (Sabah & Sarawak)	Endemic
27. * <u>villosa</u>	Borneo (Sabah)	Endemic, rare and restricted; severely threatened by commercial collecting; 1985 price US\$30 per plant

N.B. Natural hybrids such as N. hookeriana and N. trichocarpa are not included in this list.