

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Ten Year Review Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Deletion of Batocarpus costaricensis from Appendix I.

B. PROPONENT

The Swiss Confederation.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

- 11. Class: Magnoliopsida (Dicotyledonae)
- 12. Order: Urticales
- 13. Family: Moraceae
- 14. Species: Batocarpus costaricensis Standley & L.O. Williams 1952
- 15. Common Names: English:
French:
Spanish: Ojoche macho
- 16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

- 21. Distribution: This species occurs in southwestern Costa Rica in the Golfo Dulce area (Burger, 1977; Standley and Williams, 1952), with a recent report of a collection extending its range to eastern Panama (Darién Province) (D'Arcy, 1987). Woodson et al. (1960) expected it to be found in western Panama.
- 22. Population: In Costa Rica, it is occasional in lowland forest and forested hills at 50-500 m (Standley and Williams, 1952; Allen, 1956), e.g. in Corcovado National Park (Hartshorn and Poveda, 1983). In one vegetation study plot (0.2 ha), this species occurred with a frequency of about 4.4%; with the basal area it occupied, it was the fifth most important of 36 species at the site (Hartshorn, 1983). Dr. W. Burger (in litt. to B. MacBryde, 20/06/75) considered the species poorly known rather than selectively endangered, because 30 m tall trees are seldom collected scientifically; Burger (1977) knew of only two herbarium collections of it, neither of a male tree. He speculated that the species might be endangered by habitat loss, including the lack of sufficient forest for reproduction of a possibly widely dispersed species (Burger in litt. to MacBryde, 20/06/75).
- 23. Habitat: A subcanopy tree on slopes and ridges in tropical wet forest (Holdridge Life Zone system) (Hartshorn, 1983; Hartshorn and Poveda, 1983).

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: "The wood is white, hard, close-grained and easy to work, but seems to have no local uses" (Allen, 1956).
32. Legal International Trade: No evidence (Oldfield, 1988). According to the Costa Rican Dirección General Forestal [in litt. to the IUCN Threatened Plants Unit (TPU), 1980], there is no Costa Rican trade in this species. (Resolution Conf. 4.26 encourages completion of the 10-year review.)
33. Illegal Trade: None known.
34. Potential Trade Threats: Unknown. There had been timbering in the area now conserved as Corcovado National Park, which is most accessible by sea (IUCN, 1989). There also has been timbering, colonization and other development in the Darién of Panama, and there are development plans for the area (IUCN, 1989).

4. Protection Status

41. National: In Costa Rica, an interdepartmental Commission was set up to analyze the situation for this and other native species regulated by CITES, together with their other potentially threatened species (Costa Rican Dirección General Forestal in litt. to TPU, 1980).
42. International: Unknown. Resolution Conf. 2.19 does not appear to support the CITES listing of this species, in view of its extension in range, its frequency in Costa Rica (and possibly in Panama), and the apparent lack of trade interest in it.
43. Additional Protection Needs: Unknown. The species is not one of the plants Costa Rica included in the Annex to the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere [OEA/Ser.A/74a (SEPF); cf. Prance and Elias, 1977]. Panama is also a party to that Convention, but has not listed plants, and this species is only recently reported for that country.

5. Information on Similar Species

Batocarpus Karsten is a poorly known, distinct genus of three species, found from Costa Rica to Bolivia (Burger, 1977).

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

None; to be sought.

7. Additional Remarks

Submitted on behalf of Chairman, Plants Committee.

8. References

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