

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Other Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Transfer of *Cypripedium tibeticum* from Appendix II to Appendix I.

B. PROPONENT

India.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Monocotyledoneae
12. Order: Orchidales
13. Family: Orchidaceae
14. Scientific Name: *Cypripedium tibeticum* King ex Hemsl. in Journ. Linn. Soc. 29: 320. 1892.
15. Scientific Synonyms: None.
16. Common Names: English: 'Lady's Slipper' Orchid
French:
Spanish:
17. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Population Status: Endangered.
22. Population Trend: Rare.
23. Distribution: U.P. (Garhwal), Sikkim. Bhutan, S.E. Tibet.
24. Habitat Availability: Along moist hill slopes and sub-alpine meadows at alt. 2800-3300 m.
25. Geographic Trend: The species was restricted to Sikkim Himalayas but recently has been reported from Valley of Flowers in Garhwal Himalayas.
26. Threats: As restricted to small pockets only, all precautionary measures are being taken for protection.

3. Utilization and Trade

31. National Utilization: Horticultural, scientific and ornamental.

32. Legal International Trade: Trade regulated under Appendix II of CITES.
Cypripedium spp. Exports 1983-1987:
- 1983 Total: 5433 plants (AU,3; GH,730; DE,110; NL,4500; NZ,30; US,60)
1984 Total: 1373 (AU,446; FR,50; DE,300; NL,3; CH,400; US,111; JP,60; CA,3)
1985 Total: 11085 (AU,5020; 78; HK,400; NL,3000; US,#&; JP,2450)
1986 Total: 7963 (AU,1228; DK,1050; DE,1300;HK,200; NL,3312;CH,300; US,308;
JP,190; GB,75)
1987 Total: 1236 (AU,150; BE,18; HK,400; US,588; GB,80)
33. Illegal Trade: Insufficient data available.
34. Actual Potential Trade Impact: For its handsome foliage and delightful flowers with large pouch the species has got high potential trade impact.
35. Captive Breeding and Artificial Propagation (outside country of origin): Not known.
4. Conservation and Management
41. Legal Status
411. National: Export of wild orchids prohibited under the Export (Control) Order.
412. International: Export regulated under Appendix II of CITES.
42. Species Management
421. Population Monitoring: To be undertaken.
422. Habitat Conservation: The newly reported population spot is protected in Valley of Flowers National Park.
423. Management Measures: Plans for species to be introduced in other National Parks and Orchidaria of similar habitat. Multiplication and propagation through tissue culture method is being undertaken.
43. Control Measures
431. International Trade: Export regulated through inclusion in Appendix II of CITES.
432. Domestic Measures: Measures are being taken to protect the wild sources as the species is restricted to isolated small pockets only.
5. Information on Similar Species
51. Similarity in Appearance: All *Cypripedium* species belong to "Lady's Slipper" Orchid group, and superficially the habit of seedlings and flowers look alike but *Cypripedium tibeticum* is easily distinguished from other by its flowers ca 5 cm across with white flushed and purplish veined tip of 3.5-5 cm long.
52. Nature of Specimens in Trade: Seedlings, mature plants and flowers.
6. Comments from Countries of Origin

7. Additional Remarks

Description: Terrestrial, hairy herbs 15-30 cm high. Leaves 3-5, alternate, elliptic to broadly ovate. 4.5-12 x 3-6 cm. Flower solitary, ca 5 cm across, white flushed and veined with purplish red. Lip globe, 3.5-5 cm long.

8. References

Bose, T.K. & Bhattacharya, S.K. 1980. Orchids of India. Naya Prakash, Calcutta.

Mahapatra, S., Ghorai, A. & Mondal, M.S, 1992. In Journ. Econ. Tax. Bot. 16(3): 575-576.

Chakrabarti, K., Indian Orchid Trade - A Critical Review, in press.

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