

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

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Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Doha (Qatar), 13-25 March 2010

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

A. Proposition

Inclusion of *Senna meridionalis* in Appendix II.

B. Proponent

Madagascar\*

C. Supporting statement

1. Taxonomy

1.1 Class: Dicotyledons

Subclass: Rosidae

1.2 Order: Fabales

1.3 Family: Fabaceae

1.4 Genus, species or subspecies, including author and year: *Senna meridionalis* Du Puy in 1995.

1.5 Scientific synonyms: ---

1.6 Common names: Taraby, Andapary (Mahafaly), Tainjazamena

1.7 Code numbers: ---

2. Species characteristics

2.1 Description

Small tree, 2 to 3 m high, with numerous zigzagging branches. Alternate, even-pinnate leaves. Yellow solitary flowers, all stamens of which have short filaments. Flattened dehiscent fruit without cross partitions.

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

## 2.2 Distribution

Endemic species with a very fragmented range; it is found in the southern (Toliara table mountain) and south-western (Tsingy de Bemaraha) parts of Madagascar.

## 2.3 Population

About 420 specimens (in 2006), including 150 mature ones counted in Ahaviro on the Toliara table mountain.

## 2.4 Habitat

The species grows in dry and subarid deciduous thickets, in scrubland on limestone plateaux, on the Tsingy and on rocks. It also grows in thorny thickets on limestone plateaux.

## 2.5 Conservation status

This species has a "Vulnerable" (**VU**) conservation status based on field observations carried out in 2006.

## 3. Utilization and trade

### 3.1 National utilization

The plants are used as stakes for huts. When its branches are cut, the species turns into a bonsai form which is in high demand as an ornamental plant.

### 3.2 Legal international trade

The species is exported in the form of seedlings. This species is not subject to CITES regulations.

The maximum number of seedlings was sold in 2004; the number decreased in the following year, 2005.

Years	2003	2004	2005	2006
CITES report	-	483	166	23

### 3.3 Potential trade impacts

The seeds of this species are dispersed by water. Natural seed regeneration is easy. Nevertheless, collectors tend to harvest everything they find without leaving young plants to ensure regeneration. Exports could thus lead to the absence of natural regeneration and to the decline or, in the long term, even the disappearance of populations in the wild.

## 4. Protection status

### 4.1 Nationally

Although some populations of this species are found in the Tsingy-de-Bemaraha National Park, the highly demanded form of this species grows on the Toliara table mountain which is an unprotected area, subjected to strong anthropogenic pressures such as fire.

### 4.2 Internationally

The species is not yet included in CITES Appendix II.

## 5. Comments by the country of origin

Its inclusion in CITES Appendix II could be one way of ensuring the rational management of collection in the wild with a view to protecting the species.

Its habitat on the Toliara table mountain must be protected in order to protect the wild population.

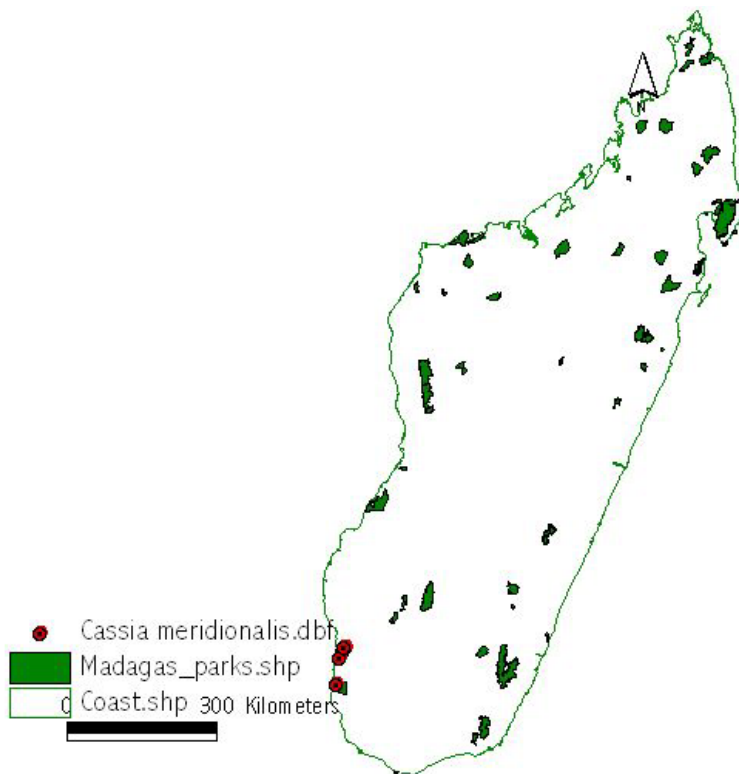
6. References

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**Map:** Distribution of *Senna meridionalis*





**Photo:** *Senna meridionalis*, cultivated