International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings

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Working Group - Perennials

Case Study: *Panax quinquefolius*

CITES Scientific Authority for the United States

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Scientific Authority
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Panax quinquefolius
American ginseng

Listed in Appendix II of CITES on July 1, 1975
Morphology of *Panax quinquefolius*
Habitat for *Panax quinquefolius* in the USA.
United States non-detriment finding for *Panax quinquefolius*

- The U.S. Scientific Authority makes a programmatic non-detriment finding on a State-by-State basis.

- Not on a permit-by-permit basis for individual applicants.
19 U.S. States are approved for the export of wild-harvested roots

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- New York
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Tennessee
- Vermont
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
U.S. CITES Authorities Export Program for States

- States must have promulgated laws and regulations for the harvest and sale of ginseng roots.

- States must have a management program designed to monitor and protect populations of *P. quinquefolius* from over-harvest.
U.S. CITES Authorities
Export Program for States

- States must provide an assessment of its population and trends;
- Distribution of the species on a county-by-county basis;
- Information on the phenology of the species in their State; and
- Description of the types of information used to make the assessment.
U.S. Non-detriment finding for *Panax quinquefolius*

- The 19 approved States must submit an annual harvest report with current species’ status information;

- The weight of the total amount of wild-harvested roots;

- Total amount harvested on a county-by-county basis;

- The average number of roots per pound; and

- Trends in abundance and distribution of populations.
Information the U.S. S.A. considers for making a NDF for *Panax quinquefolius*

- Biological life history characteristics of the species (e.g., reproductive strategy, recruitment rate, survival rate, regeneration requirements);
- Status of the species in the wild;
- Population structure, size, and trends;
- Genetic diversity;
Information the U.S. S.A. considers for making a NDF for *Panax quinquefolius*

- Areas of harvest and non-harvest;
- Habitat distribution (e.g., continuous, fragmented);
- Habitat availability and quality;
- Role of the species in its ecosystem;
Information the U.S. S.A. considers for making a NDF for *Panax quinquefolius*

- Main threats to species;
- Management and harvest practices;
- Trade data: legal and illegal trade levels; and
- State legislation and regulatory requirements, and law enforcement practices.
Sources of Information

- State annual reports
- Published and unpublished scientific literature
- Species experts/researchers
- Other government agencies
- CITES documents and trade data
- Private enterprises and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- U.S. Code of Federal Regulations 50 Part 23
U.S. Non-detriment finding for *Panax quinquefolius*

- Since 1999, only roots harvested from plants that are 5-years of age or older can be exported.
- Harvest has remained relatively stable overall.
Age Determination of *Panax quinquefolius*
Contact Information

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