



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

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CONCERNING:

CITES Identification Manual and other identification materials
available on the *Checklist of CITES species*

1. The Secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) are pleased to announce a new tool aimed at improving and promoting the availability of identification materials on CITES-listed species.
2. Thanks to the financial support from the European Union, over 4,000 identification resources from the CITES Identification Manual and other identification materials that are hosted on the CITES Virtual College (as at February 2020) are now available on the *Checklist of CITES species* (<http://checklist.cites.org/>), as well as *Species+* (<http://speciesplus.net>).
3. The identification materials can be accessed on the *CITES Checklist* in three main formats.
 - a) The full set of the *CITES Identification Manual* or any of its six constituent volumes can be accessed by clicking the “CITES Identification Manual” download button under “Featured” in the right-hand panel of the *Checklist* site.
 - b) Individual sheets of the *CITES Identification Manual* hosted on the CITES Virtual College can be searched by individual taxon entries. These sheets become available when users expand the “Show More” component to show the timeline and identification materials underneath.
 - c) Customizable PDFs of CITES Identification Manual sheets for specific taxonomic groups, locations or Appendices are accessible from the “Download” button on the right-hand panel. This is the best download type for users wanting to access materials for a select group of species (e.g. seahorses) or a specific taxonomic group from a specific location (e.g. cacti of Mexico).
4. A full guide to accessing the materials can be found on the “[About page](#)” of the *CITES Checklist*. The individual volumes of the *CITES Identification Manual* is also available on the “[Identification materials](#)” page of the CITES website.
5. If you find any bugs or errors in this new functionality, please contact the Secretariat at info@cites.org.