

"CITES NEWS" - PLANTS

A Newsletter for the European Region of the CITES Plants Committee

Issue 2 1994

This issue includes:

- **Questionnaire**
- **Plants Committee Meeting (PC5)**
- **Conference of the Parties (COP9)**
- **Preparation for COP9**
- **COP9 Proposals Publications**

This issue of **CITES NEWS** brings you up-to-date with the items to be discussed at the 9th CITES Conference of the Parties (COP9), to be held in Fort Lauderdale, USA from 7th - 18th November 1994. COP9 will be the largest ever meeting of the Parties - the USA are expecting 3000 participants. Plants will be centre stage, with proposals to list a number of timber species on the Appendices. Hopefully there will be an informed debate on the scientific merits of the proposals and the problems associated with their implementation before final decisions are made.

During the early stages of COP9 the CITES regions will meet to elect new representatives for the various committees. I do not intend to stand for re-election as European Representative on the Plants Committee. I have enjoyed my two terms as Representative, but now feel the post needs to change - especially in such a large region. We do hope however, to continue with this newsletter in association with the new Representative.

Noel McGough

Questionnaire

In Issue 1 of **CITES NEWS** we asked you to help us by filling in a questionnaire to enable us to provide you with the information you need.

We would like to thank all those who returned the questionnaires so promptly and to urge those of you who have not yet done so to get it in the post soon! In case it got lost, we have included another copy in this issue. The more views we get from you, the better.

If anyone has any news items they would like included in any future issues of **CITES NEWS**, please send it to Jacqui Roberts at Kew. (**See back page for address**).

CITES Plants Committee

Over 70 delegates attended the Fifth CITES Plants Committee Meeting in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico on 16 - 19 May 1994.

This was a particularly important meeting as it was the last PC meeting before the Conference of the Parties in November. It was a very successful meeting and thanks are due particularly to the Mexican organisations, INE SEDESOL and CANTE for their extensive background preparation, the organisation of the venue and ongoing support. This enabled a packed agenda to be completed on time.

9th Conference of the Parties (COP9)

The Secretariat has circulated details (Notification 803, 28 April 1994) to the Parties covering Registration and Reservation forms, Provisional Agenda, Working Programmes and Rules of Procedure for COP9.

If you are representative of a Non-Government Organisation, remember your organisation must contact your Management Authority and the CITES Secretariat (Geneva) if you wish to attend.

COP9 - PLANT PROPOSALS

Ten Year Review Proposals

Family	Proponent	Specific Taxon	Proposal	PC View
CACTACEAE	Mexico/ Switzerland	<i>Astrophytum asterias</i>	AI to AII	✓
		<i>Leuchtenbergia principis</i>	AI to AII	✓
		<i>Mammillaria plumosa</i>	AI to AII	✓
ORCHIDACEAE	Switzerland	<i>Cattleya skinneri</i>	AI to AII	Maj.✓
		<i>Lycaste skinneri</i> var. <i>alba</i>	AI to AII	✓
		<i>Pachypodium namaquanum</i>	AI to AII	✓
APOCYNACEAE	Switzerland	<i>Alocasia sandieriana</i>	Delete	-
ARACEAE		<i>Aloe barbadensis</i> (<i>vera</i>)	Delete	Maj.✓
LILIACEAE		<i>Didickea cunninghamii</i>	AI to AII	✓
ORCHIDACEAE		<i>Camellia chrysantha</i>	Delete	✓
THEACEAE				

Other Proposals

Family	Proponent	Specific Taxon	Proposal	PC View	
EBENACEAE	Germany	<i>Diospyros mun</i>	AII	✗	
LEGUMINOSAE		<i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i>	AII	✓	
MELIACEAE		<i>Entandrophragma</i> spp.	AII	✓	
BERBERIDACEAE	India	<i>Khaya</i> spp.	AII	✓	
		<i>Berberis aristata</i>	AII	-	
		<i>Gentiana kurroo</i>	AII	-	
GENTIANACEAE	Kenya	<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i>	AII	✗	
LEGUMINOSAE		<i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i>	AII	✗	
THYMELAECEAE		<i>Colchicum luteum</i>	AII	-	
LILIACEAE		<i>Cypripedium cordigerum</i> , <i>C. elegans</i> , <i>C. himalaicum</i> , <i>C. tibeticum</i>	AII to AI	-	
ORCHIDACEAE		<i>Rheum australe</i>	AII	-	
POLYGONACEAE	Madagascar/ Switzerland	<i>Aconitum deinorrhizum</i> , <i>A. ferox</i> , <i>A. heterophyllum</i>	AII	-	
RANUNCULACEAE		<i>Coptis teeta</i>	AII	-	
		<i>Picrorhiza kurroo</i>	AII	-	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Kenya	<i>Taxus wallichiana</i>	AII	-	
TAXACEAE		<i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i>	AII	-	
VALERIANACEAE		<i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i>	AII	✓	
LEGUMINOSAE	Madagascar/ Switzerland	<i>Prunus africana</i>	AII	✓	
ROSACEAE		<i>Pachypodium ambongense</i>	AII to AI	✓	
APOCYNACEAE	Switzerland	<i>Pachypodium brevicaulis</i>	AI to AII	✓	
EUPHORBIACEAE		<i>Euphorbia cremersii</i>	AII to AI	✓	
		<i>Euphorbia primulifolia</i>	AI to AII	✓	
LILIACEAE	Netherlands	<i>Aloe albiflora</i> , <i>A. alfredii</i> , <i>A. bakeri</i> , <i>A. bellatula</i> , <i>A. calcairophila</i> , <i>A. compressa</i> (inc. var. <i>rugosquamosa</i> and <i>schistophila</i>), <i>A. delphinensis</i> , <i>A. descoingsii</i> , <i>A. fragilis</i> , <i>A. haworthioides</i> (inc. var. <i>aurantiaca</i>), <i>A. helenae</i> , <i>A. laeta</i> (inc. var. <i>maniensis</i>), <i>A. parallelifolia</i> , <i>A. parvula</i> , <i>A. rauhii</i> , <i>A. suzannae</i> , <i>A. versicolor</i>	AII to AI	✓	
		<i>Swietenia</i> spp.	AII	✓	
		MELIACEAE	<i>Dactylanthus taylorii</i>	AI	✗
		BALANOPHORACEAE	<i>Dendrobium cruentum</i>	AII to AI	✗
		ORCHIDACEAE			

Key: ✓PC supported ✗PC did not support -PC did not discuss

COP9 - PREPARATION

The main items discussed at the Fifth Plants Committee Meeting were as follows:

- **Law Enforcement Working Group**

The UK have prepared a resolution for COP9, encouraging greater co-operation between all relevant bodies involved with law enforcement.
- **Proposals**

Draft proposals for COP9 were discussed at PC5, however, the official deadline for receipt by the CITES Secretariat, of proposals to go forward to COP9 was 10 June 1994. The table on page 3 lists all the proposals that will go forward and gives the views of the Plants Committee Meeting - as based on the presentation of the documents at the Committee.
- **Sterile Containers**

All flaked seedlings of Appendix I species are now exempt from control. To broaden the interpretation of the term "flaked" Germany and Spain recommended the following annotation:

"Seedlings or tissue cultures obtained *in vitro* in sterile culture media, either liquid or solid, transported in containers commonly used for this type of culture, with different shapes and made of different materials".

Germany has submitted this as a formal annotation to the Appendices.
- **New Criteria for Amendment to the CITES Appendices**

The draft New Criteria were approved at a Closed Meeting of the Plants Committee. Approximately 140 plant species had been successfully tested in a validation process. This was compared with approximately 12 animal species. To obtain documentation on the Criteria and the tests carried out, please contact your Management Authority.
- **Nursery Registration**

The draft resolution considered, was aimed at lessening the bureaucracy associated with Appendix I artificially propagated material. The proposal was supported with amendments, additions and clarifications.
- **Consolidated Resolution on Plants**

This is a consolidation of all resolutions relating to plants as adopted at past Conferences. Some of the text is no longer up-to-date. The Plants Officer was charged to produce a draft document for amendments to the text in line with the recommendations made at the PC meeting. This will be put forward at COP9 as a consolidated resolution.
- **Significant Trade Review**

The Plants Committee is empowered to establish a list of those plant taxa included in Appendix II which are considered as being significantly affected by trade; to review and assess all available biological and trade data and to make recommendations outlining priorities for action with regard to the species. The Plants Committee recommended Noel McGough, UK Scientific Authority, to take on the role of co-ordinator for Significant Trade.
- **For More Information**

The complete report of the Fifth Plants Committee Meeting will be available before COP9. Available from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

A summary of the decisions of the Meeting is available now from Jacqui Roberts, RBG, Kew.

PUBLICATIONS

Ackeroyd, J., McGough, H.N. & Wyse Jackson, P. 1994. *A CITES Manual for Botanic Gardens*. Sets out the principles and practices of CITES as they relate to botanic gardens. Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), Kew, UK.

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Wood, J.J. & Cribb, P.J. 1994. *A Checklist of the Orchids of Borneo*. Accepted names, place and authorities, plus notes on habitat and distribution. Illustrated. The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK.

CITES PLANTS COMMITTEE

Dr James Armstrong
Chairman
Representative Oceania
CALM
Hackett Drive, Crawley
Perth, Western Australia
☎ +61 9 386 8811
Fax: +61 9 386 1578

Dr Bruce MacBryde
Vice Chairman
Representative North America
Office of Scientific Authority
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Washington, DC 20240. USA
☎ +1 703 358 1708
Fax: +1 703 358 2276

Mr Noel McGough
Vice Chairman Nomenclature
and European Representative Plants
Committee
Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew, Richmond
Surrey TW9 3AE, UK
☎ +44 81 332 5722
Fax: +44 81 332 5278

Mr Bertrand von Arx
Alternate Representative Europe
Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques
Chemin de l'Impératrice 1
case postale 60
CH 1292, Chambésy
Geneva, Switzerland
☎ +41 22 732 6969
Fax: +41 22 738 4597

Dr Christine Kabuye
Representative Africa
East African Herbarium
National Museums of Kenya
PO Box 45166, Nairobi, Kenya
☎ +254 2 743 513
Fax: +254 2 741 424

Dr Maria Luisa Reyna de Aguilar
Representative South, Central
America and the Caribbean
Secc Areas Naturales y Biodiv
SEMA Secretaria Ejecutiva del
Medio Ambiente
Edificio CREDO-MATIC
Alameda Roosevelt
San Salvador, El Salvador
Fax: +503 770 490

Dr B D Sharma
Representative Asia
455/16-A, Faridabad
Haryana, India
☎ +91 129 280 198

CITES Secretariat
15, chemin des Anémones
Case postale 456
1219 Châtelaine
Geneva, Switzerland
☎ +41 22 979 9139/40
Fax: +41 22 797 3417

CITES NEWS - PLANTS
is edited and produced by:

Jacqui Roberts
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew,
Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3AE, UK.

Bertrand von Arx
Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques
Chemin de l'Impératrice 1
case postale 60, CH 1292,
Chambésy, Geneva, Switzerland