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CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. CITES has a large membership, with 178 Parties.

The United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) is the specialist biodiversity assessment centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the world's foremost intergovernmental environmental organisation. The Centre has been in operation for over 30 years, combining scientific research with practical policy advice.

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INTRODUCTION

Information on the history of CITES listings is provided on all taxa ever included in the CITES Appendices. The original listing date is given for all taxa (orders, families, genera, species, and subspecies) and populations specifically named in the current Appendices, or in earlier versions of the Appendices. All reservations made by Parties are listed, with the dates on which they entered into force and, where relevant, the dates on which they were withdrawn. The *Checklist of CITES species* is now dynamically linked to Species+, a database of information on MEA-listed species that is managed by UNEP-WCMC, allowing, for the first time, taxonomic and listing changes to be reflected within this document as they are updated. This will include amendments to CITES Appendix III made between meetings of the Conference of the Parties. For this reason, it will be important for users of the *Checklist* to take note of the date of download, as outputs will change over time on the basis of changes adopted by Parties.

The information within the *History of listing* PDF output is arranged in taxonomic order, with common names provided for higher taxa, e.g. URSIDAE (bears). However, mirroring the CITES Appendices, the common name of species is only included in this output in cases where only one or a few species are listed in a family e.g. ESCHRICHTIIDAE (Grey Whale). This means that, in most cases, species names are only provided in Latin. Common names can be found through the CITES Checklist website (either through the search facility or through the downloadable *Index of CITES species* outputs). As an example, to determine the history of listing for the 'big-headed sideneck turtle', first use the website or *Index of CITES species*, where the name will be found linked to *Peltocephalus dumerilianus*, then search for *Peltocephalus dumerilianus* in the *History of CITES listings*. Alternatively, the "timelines" provided on the Checklist website give users a visual display of the history of listing.

The data are organized in columns that provide information on: scientific name, CITES Appendix, ISO country and territory codes, dates, plant annotations and notes, as follows.

Scientific name

Column 1: This column contains the scientific names of the taxa that are, or used to be, included in the CITES Appendices. These names may be at various taxonomic levels: order, family, genus, species, subspecies or variety. Orders and families are given in the same taxonomic sequence as that used in the CITES Appendices. Species (and subspecies) are listed in alphabetical sequence within each family. Higher taxon names indicated in bold as headings are provided for information only.

CITES Appendix

Column 2: This column lists the Appendix or Appendices in which the taxa are or were included. Reservations made by Parties are indicated by adding '/r' to the Appendix number, whilst '/w' signifies the withdrawal of the reservation. If both Appendix I and Appendix II are applicable to a particular taxon on one date, Appendix I appears first in the list. 'Del' under an Appendix number indicates that the taxon was deleted from that Appendix on the given date.

ISO country and territory codes

Column 3: This column provides the ISO code of countries or territories mentioned in relation to inclusions in Appendix III and to reservations. ISO codes are also used for species that are split-listed or only partially listed in the Notes (see Column 6). A full list of relevant ISO codes can be found here: ISO country and territory codes.

Dates

Column 4: This column contains the dates when changes to the Appendices in relation to the species concerned came into effect. The dates are listed chronologically as day/month/year (01/07/75 = 1 July 1975), with the earliest date first. The subsequent listing history of the taxon or population can be determined by examining the lines that follow. Where populations of a taxon are split between Appendix I and Appendix II, both Appendices are indicated against every date when a change has taken place, with notes indicating the status of all populations in each Appendix.

Annotations

Column 5 (flora only): Plant species are often included in the CITES Appendices with an annotation to indicate which population, parts or derivatives are concerned by the listing, or to clarify the scope of the listing. As the text of the annotations change over time, Column 5 indicates the specific annotation that applies, e.g. 'CoP14#1' means Annotation #1 as adopted at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, namely "All parts and derivatives, except: a) seeds, spores and pollen (including pollinia); b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained *in vitro*, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers; c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants; and d) fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of artificially propagated plants of the genus *Vanilla*". By comparison, the annotation "CoP3 #1" designates "roots" only.

A historical summary of the annotations is provided here: Historical summary of annotations.

Notes

Column 6: The final column contains any additional information provided in the three CITES languages. References to populations are indicated by the use of two-letter ISO country or territory codes (see above).