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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. At the time of writing the present introduction (September 2013), 178 countries were party to CITES.

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 organization. The Centre has been in operation for over 30 years, combining scientific research with practical policy advice.

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FOREWORD AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The advent of new and innovative information and communication technologies provides CITES Parties with electronic tools and resources that can be used to facilitate the implementation of the Convention. Among these resources is the database-driven 2013 edition of the *Checklist of CITES species*, which offer a number of innovative ways to use nomenclatural information on CITES-listed species.

For example, this new edition allows users to download information on species in different data formats compatible with databases and other datasets. This will make it far easier to ensure consistency between national checklists and the nomenclature adopted by the Conference of the Parties to CITES. In addition, it is now possible to generate customized checklists where information can be collated using different criteria, including countries, Appendices or taxa, or any combination thereof. This possibility to tailor checklists to one's needs will make this resource much more flexible and capable of meeting the needs of a wide range of users. Another bonus is that, because the online *Checklist* will be updated as necessary, Parties will always have access to the most up-to-date information.

Equally exciting is the possibility of partnerships with other organizations developing projects to meet the needs of Parties. In this regard, the CITES Secretariat is working with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to develop a system where data from the *Checklist of CITES species* will be integrated with those from checklists from other multilateral environmental agreements, with a view to promoting and facilitating harmonization of nomenclature.

A database-driven *Checklist* also makes information more accessible to the public through the provision of easy-to-use search criteria, including by country or Appendix. As a result, the *Checklist* can now serve a dual role, first as the official digest of scientific names contained in the official standard references, as recognized in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP16) on *Standard nomenclature*, and, second, as an educational resource for students and teachers.

The CITES Secretariat is planning to enhance the *Checklist of CITES species* with a number of new services before the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, scheduled for 2016. Such services will give CITES Management Authorities the possibility to update their own systems with amendments to the CITES Appendices as they are made, which will also reduce the risk of introducing errors in copying species names. Another possibility will be to "pull" the names of species and the Appendices they are included in directly into a CITES electronic permit or certificate. This function will also assist in the reduction of clerical errors, thereby making trade easier to monitor and trace.

This database-driven *Checklist* was developed by UNEP-WCMC using data from the CITES species database, under contract to the CITES Secretariat. I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of UNEP-WCMC, and most particularly the staff responsible for the meticulous work involved. I also recognize the contribution of the specific staff of the CITES Secretariat who not only gave guidance to the UNEP-WCMC production team but also helped to update the text and prepared the output received for final publication.

The *Checklist* was also reviewed by the nomenclature specialists of the CITES Animals and Plants Committees, Ms Ute Grimm and Mr Noel McGough, and the Secretariat is grateful for their work and their comments.

The production and publication of the *Checklist* have been made possible through the generous funding of the European Union. I should therefore like to express my sincere thanks to the European Union, not only for this project but also for their continued general support for CITES activities.

The Checklist of CITES species is widely used and appreciated by CITES Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities, Customs officers and others involved in the implementation and enforcement of CITES, as well as by intergovernmental entities, international and national non-governmental organizations, academics, the media and many others. We trust that this new electronic edition will be of value to you, and we very much welcome any feedback and suggestions on ways to improve this resource in the future.

John E. Scanlon CITES Secretary-General

INTRODUCTION

The Conference of the Parties recognizes the *Checklist of CITES species* as an official digest of scientific names contained in the official standard references. 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 Checklist website also provides the flexibility to create tailored outputs by higher taxonomic group, Appendix and country or region, with additional "Advanced options" for including or excluding elements such as Authors' names, scientific synonyms and common names. If filters have been applied, some of the descriptions below may not be applicable. For instance, if scientific synonyms have been excluded, the synonym records will not appear in the output.

Structure

The Checklist of CITES species comprises two parts: the Index of CITES species (the present output) and the History of CITES listings. While users can choose to download tailored outputs of the Index of CITES species, the complete publication is an alphabetical list of all animal and plant taxa included in the CITES Appendices. The only exceptions to this are Appendix-II orchids. These are only included if they are listed in the CITES Orchid Checklist, volumes 1-4, published by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, or in the Checklist for Bulbophyllum and allied taxa (Sieder, Rainer & Kiehn, 2007). For the orchid species not found in these references, the CITES Species Index contains a record of the genera to which they belong, e.g. Aa spp, but not of the individual species in each genus.

Three types of record are included in the *Index of CITES* species:

- 1) scientific names, which are the main records and contain all information;
- 2) common names, which refer to the main record; and
- 3) scientific synonyms, which refer to the main record.

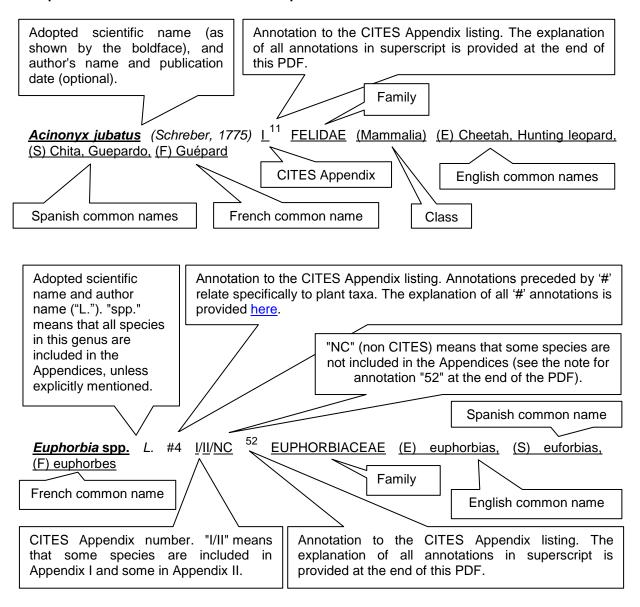
1 The scientific name record

This record is the main record that contains all the information available for each taxon.

Taxonomic names that have been officially adopted by the Conference of the Parties [see the list of standard nomenclatural references in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP16)] appear in boldface in the Checklist, e.g. Acinonyx jubatus (the cheetah). This is the case for most taxa. In some cases, nevertheless, a standard nomenclatural reference for the constituent species of a higher taxon has not yet been adopted. In such instances, a reference identified by UNEP-WCMC has been used. The names of these taxa are not in boldface, e.g. Tridacna maxima (or any Tridacnidae species).

Higher taxa are only included when there is an Appendix listing at that level or if the higher taxon has inherited a listing from another higher taxon. For instance, a genus within Scleractinia spp. would be included so that it would be clear to readers that all species within the genus are listed (e.g. *Acropora* spp.). If, alternatively, the inclusion in the Appendices goes no further up than the species level, as in the case of *Dugong dugon*, the genus, family or order would not appear in this case (e.g. *Dugon*, Dugongidae and Sirenia would not appear).

Examples of scientific name records and explanation



Key to abbreviations and annotations

I	listed in Appendix I
II	listed in Appendix II
III	listed in Appendix III
NC	non CITES
spp.	all species of a higher taxon
var.	variety
Superscript annotations 1 to 74.	see the key for <i>Annotations</i> <u>not</u> preceded by "#" at the end of this PDF
#1-#14 (flora only)	see Key to # annotations

2 The common name record

Where available, English (E), Spanish (S) and French (F) common names are provided. The common name is followed by the corresponding scientific name under which all information is recorded. There is only one entry for each common name, e.g. there is an entry for 'Eagle, Golden' but not for 'Golden Eagle'.

Examples of common name records and explanation

- 1) Hummingbird, Emerald-chinned (E): Abeillia abeillei
 - = go to "Abeillia abeillei" to see the full record of the "emerald-chinned hummingbird".
- 2) parrots (E): PSITTACIFORMES (Aves)
 - = go to "PSITTACIFORMES" to see the full record of "parrots".
- 3) orchids, slipper (E): Paphiopedilum spp. / Phragmipedium spp.
 - = go to "Paphiopedilum spp." and "Phragmipedium spp." to see the full record of "slipper orchids", because the same common name is used for both genera.

3 The synonym record

A synonym is followed by '=' and the scientific name under which all information is recorded.

Example and explanation

Loxodonta cyclotis = Loxodonta africana

Explanation: Loxodonta cyclotis is a synonym of Loxodonta africana. Go to "Loxodonta africana" to see the full record.

Note: A same species name may be displayed as both a synonym and an accepted name when it has been given by different authors to different species. Thus, the *Index of CITES species* contains the following consecutive entries:

Porites solida = Porites astreoides

Porites solida II PORITIDAE (Anthozoa)

Selecting "Author's name" in the *Advanced options* will display the authors' names both on screen and in the downloads, thereby clarifying these records as:

Porites solida Verrill, 1868 = Porites astreoides Lamarck, 1816

Porites solida (Forskål, 1775) II PORITIDAE (Anthozoa)

In other words, the Conference of the Parties to CITES has adopted *Porites astreoides*, as named by Lamarck in 1816, and *Porites solida*, as named by Forskål in 1775, as the scientific names of two CITES-listed species. In addition, it is recognized that the species that Verrill named *Porites solida* in 1868 is the same as the one known to CITES as *Porites astreoides*.