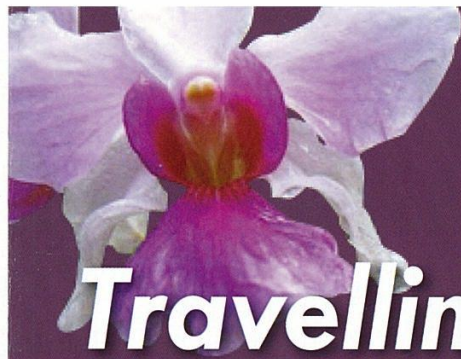


# ENDANGERED SPECIES

what you need to know?



## Travelling abroad?

Please do not bring home endangered species or their products which you cannot legally import. This guide will help you to buy wisely to avoid contributing to the illegal trade in endangered species.

Many species of wild animals and plants are threatened with extinction because of loss of habitats and over-exploitation for international trade. Beware when you are shopping for souvenirs in overseas tourist markets as you may be tempted to buy live animals or exotic products made from endangered species. The import and export of many endangered species (including their parts, related products or derivatives) require permits from the government.

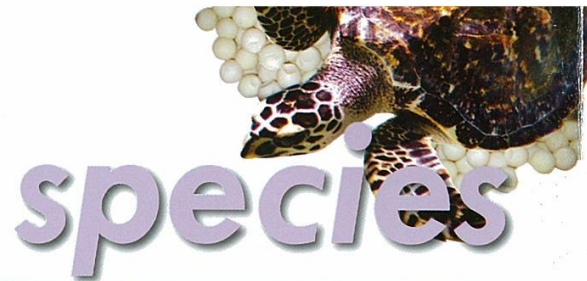
## CITES

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement to ensure that trade does not threaten wildlife species with extinction. CITES regulates international trade in endangered species of animals and plants (including their parts and derivatives) through a worldwide system of permits which must be presented before specimens leave or enter a country.

CITES has a membership of more than 175 parties. Singapore became a signatory to CITES on 30 November 1986 and implemented the Convention on 9 February 1987.



# Protected



## Controlled parts, products and derivatives

All endangered species are listed in the CITES Appendices as follows:

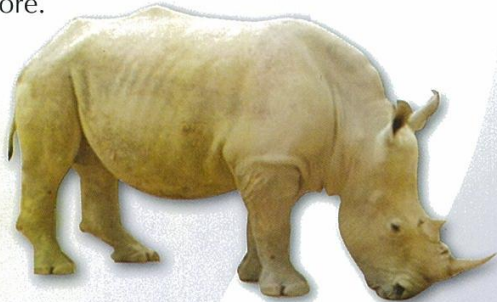
### Appendix I

**Appendix I lists highly endangered species which are threatened with extinction.**

Commercial import/export is not allowed. Movement of these species may be authorised only under certain circumstances (eg. zoological gardens, bird parks, research institutions, museums, etc).

### Examples

**Elephants, Rhinoceroses, Tigers, Sea Turtles, Whales, Bears, Wild big cats, many Apes and Monkeys, some Macaws, Dragon Fish, Lady's Slipper Orchids** and many more.



### Appendix II

**Appendix II includes species which may become endangered if trade in these species is not regulated.** Trade is allowed if specimens are accompanied by proper CITES permits.

### Examples

**Crocodiles, Monitor Lizards, Pythons, Tortoises, some Freshwater Turtles, most Parrots, hard Corals, Bird-Winged Butterflies, Sturgeons, Giant Clams, some Sharks, Seahorses, American Ginseng, some Orchids, Agarwood, Pitcher Plants** and many more.

### Appendix III

**Appendix III are not considered endangered but are protected in certain countries.** They can be traded with a certificate of origin or export permit.

### Examples

**Walruses, some Deer, Cranes, Pheasants, some Finches, Rosewood** etc.

**CITES permits are required to import and export endangered species (live, dead, parts, products and derivatives).** Wildlife parts and products include ivory, skin, horn, bone, shell, scale, teeth, egg, gall bladder, hunting trophies, medicinal preparations that contain endangered species (eg rhinoceros horn, tiger bone, musk, bear gall, etc), wildlife souvenirs, wood chips, roots, bulbs, seedlings and many more.



# The Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act



The Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act is our national legislation that gives effect to CITES to control import and export of endangered species in Singapore.

Under the Act, it is an offence for anyone to import or export an endangered species without a permit. Control under this Act applies to all import and export of endangered species undertaken by commercial organisations, scientific institutions, zoological and bird parks, tourists, pet owners and the general public.



## Where do I obtain a CITES permit?



You must obtain all necessary permits before importing and exporting any endangered species, including their parts, products and derivatives.

### Foreign CITES permits

If you purchase a CITES species or product in another country, you must obtain a CITES export permit from the local CITES authority which is usually a government for conservation of wildlife, forestry, fisheries or environment.

You will also require a CITES import permit from the CITES office in Singapore. Please contact the AVA listed on the back of this leaflet for more details before going abroad.

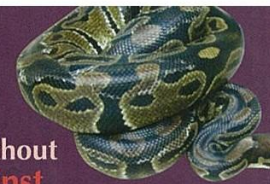
### Singapore CITES permits

Singapore CITES import and export permits are issued by the AVA.

Submission of application for an import permit must be supported by a CITES export permit issued by the relevant CITES authority in the exporting country.

If you are bringing overseas an endangered species which you have purchased in Singapore, you need to have a CITES export permit. Application for the permit must be substantiated with documentary proof of legal import, purchase or acquisition of the specimens.

It is an **OFFENCE** to import or export any endangered species without a permit. It is also **against the law to possess an endangered species that has been illegally imported into Singapore.**



Failure to obtain a CITES permit may result in the confiscation of your purchases. Severe penalties will be imposed on persons or companies infringing the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act. The penalties under this Act for anyone convicted of illegal import, export and re-export of endangered species are fines of up to S\$50,000 per scheduled species (but not to exceed in the aggregate S\$500,000) and/or jail up to two years.

Be cautious when you purchase any wildlife or wildlife products. Ensure that they are accompanied by the necessary permits to avoid contributing to the illegal wildlife trade.

### Overseas Shopping Checklist

International trade in the following items is prohibited without a permit:

- Raw ivory, ivory carvings, figurines, trinkets
- Sea turtle products (eg turtle shell jewellery, ornaments, stuffed turtles, eggs, etc)
- Game trophies of bears, wild cats, antelopes, zebras, deers, reptiles, etc
- Furskins and pelts of large cats (eg tiger, lion, cheetah, leopard, etc)
- Giant clam shells and ornaments
- Hard corals
- Whalebone products
- Butterfly (eg. birdwing), scorpion and spider collections
- Medicines containing derivatives of endangered species (eg. musk, saiga antelope horn, bear gall bladder)
- Live/stuffed animals and birds
- Live plants
- Dragon fish
- And ..... many more!

Exemptions may apply to personal effects for a limited type of items. Please check with the CITES authorities before you travel.