

EDITOR'S CORNER

The editors recently received a letter from the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior suggesting that it might be helpful if we advise *CPN* readers on current rules and regulations concerning trade in protected carnivorous plants (CP).

There are two main legal and legislative concerns: -1) the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA), which deals with interstate, and to some extent international, shipments of listed plants (currently, only *S. oreophila* is listed among CP); and 2) the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), which covers international shipments of listed plants (currently, *Nepenthes rajah*, *Darlingtonia*, *Sarracenia rubra alabamensis*, *S. rubra jonesii* and *S. oreophila* are the CP listed). Of course, both lists are likely to be added to, and one country or another may add additional species of its own or other countries.

The laws for ESA indicate that interstate "trade" is forbidden without permits by the seller who must prove cultivation. "Trade" means for profit; donations and private exchanges are excluded, although bartering is not – there is likely a fine line between "barter" and "exchange" which might be individually interpreted by any single enforcement officer or district (as are the IRS laws!).

The rulings also cover plant products which of course would include seeds and cuttings and roots. However, seeds may be excluded if collected from cultivated plants, but proof of such cultivation must be available.

The above is the briefest of summaries, and as the reader can see, the situation is complex. All interested individuals should obtain pamphlet FWS-F-018 from the address mentioned below.

You should also request a list of plants involved at the same time.

So, within the United States, it is up to the dealer to have a permit to sell his plants interstate if he is dealing in listed CP. The buyer is not legally liable. Internationally, both dealer and customer will be required to have proper permits, and often special permits in addition that might be required by an individual nation. Those exchanging plants interstate or internationally not for profit are advised to read the pamphlet carefully and use caution.

As we mentioned, the situation is complex and there are many exceptions and amplifications of the above "bare bones" that those who exchange, donate, buy or sell CP must be aware of. Further, there are already contradictions among bureaucrats on interpretation. In future issues of *CPN* where we list sources as a reader service (we do not endorse any commercial source), or in the reader "want ad" section, we will put in a line or two reminding the reader to check into various restrictions.

For further completely detailed information and plant lists, write to: Federal Wildlife Permit Office, P.O. Box 3654, Arlington, VA 22203; telephone (703) 235-1903.

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SPECIAL NOTICE

Carnivorous Plants of the World, by K. Kondo, will be published in May, 1983. The soft-bound book will have 220 pages, 176 in color, and will illustrate 40% of the carnivorous plants in the world. Portions of the descriptions will be in English.

Joe Mazrimas has arranged with the author to compile orders from ICPS members. Orders should be sent to Joe Mazrimas (address inside front cover) by June 15, 1983. The price of \$10.00 U.S. includes shipping. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Joe.