

orchid authorities howled and rightfully are still howling. As we (humanity collectively) destroy an area of tropical forest daily equal to a small State, orchids and bromeliads and other desirable plants dry in the sun and die rather than be exported to growers in other countries.

A second request and wish I have is that somehow an effort be made to eliminate politics and power-plays for funding and a key place in the control circus. To deny that these problems exist is futile—All of us CPN'ers around the world know that when a government bureaucracy or any large organization of even a private nature come into the picture, power politics and competition for limited funding inevitably come up. I think the plants, the various scientists and officials of these organizations, and us, would all be better served by a more open and concerted effort in practice, not just in word.

If nothing else now, I can expect a flood of indignant letters, brochures, pamphlets, etc. from officials of these various organizations—And that is to the good! The more information of a certain nature we can get, or total "information" to weed through and look for truth, the better they and we will be served. I will share it with you. By the way, for the record, I have approached at least two dozen officials in all these organizations for CPN articles. All I received were "somedays" and "Too busy right now" or no comment at all, thus passing up an important CP information outlet—CPN—to get their point across. That is not good PR, ladies and gentlemen!

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## **Changes in Regulations Effecting International Trade in Carnivorous Plants**

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Far reaching changes in the international laws governing world trade in carnivorous plants became effective worldwide on the 22 October 1987. These changes follow a recent meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of Wild Fauna and Flora held in Ottawa, Canada during July 1987. CITES is concerned with the conservation of wildlife and is best known for effectively banning international trade in leopard skins, ivory and crocodile products. However CITES also concerns plants, especially orchids, cacti, other succulents and many carnivorous plants. The most endangered species are listed on Appendix I and world trade in wild collected plants and their derivatives on this list is totally prohibited. Those species considered threatened but not in immediate danger of extinction are listed on Appendix II. Species on this list may be traded but only if accompanied by the appropriate documents. The standard CITES licence which is issued by all member states party to the Convention requires information on the numbers and names of species requested, whether the plants are wild or artificially propagated and the intended use by the importer or exporter. Use categories include trade, personal, scientific or educational purposes.

All licences are issued by Management Authorities in the countries of origin and a selected list of these is given in Table 1. Under the CITES Convention many member states also appoint Scientific Authorities who give further advice to the Management Authorities on the biology of the species on the Appendices. In the United Kingdom the Scientific Authority for plants is the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. CITES is enforced in the UK by

Her Majesty's Customs & Excise who are first to see specimens when they enter the country. The licenses are processed by Customs & Excise before forwarding to the Department of the Environment. Any infringement of CITES regulations is usually policed by Customs & Excise in conjunction with the Wildlife Inspectorate of the Department of the Environment.

This article explains how and why changes to the carnivorous plants listed on the Appendices were made by CITES in 1987 and shows the revisions to the Appendices. The biennial meeting of CITES parties is the one occasion when biologists and administrators concerned with the operation of CITES get together to discuss problems that have arisen since the last conference. These include many subject areas such as infractions by one or more states, new species to be considered under the various committees for listing on the Appendices, Annual Trade Reports and the formulation of resolutions which will enable the Convention to operate more smoothly. Two of these subject areas involved discussions of direct relevance to carnivorous plant specialists; one being a revised resolution concerning the treatment of artificially propagated hybrids and the other new carnivorous plant species being listed on Appendix I.

In all cases any issues of relevance to plants are first screened by the Plant Working Group, who discuss the subjects at great length. Indeed at the recent meeting discussions on one proposal alone lasted for five days. The Group is formed on an *ad hoc* basis and comprises botanists and growers of international repute as well as representatives of both governmental and non-governmental organizations. Any person or organization who has been accredited by the CITES Secretariat may attend sessions of the Plant Working Group. Having passed scrutiny at this specialist level the subject is then raised in the relevant committee when all member states have an opportunity to speak on the subject with the facility to vote if contentious or unresolved points arise. Having passed the committee stage the decision is usually endorsed during the plenary session at the end of the conference.

Over 700 delegates from more than 80 countries attended this meeting. The decisions taken at Ottawa will take effect both nationally and internationally within 90 days of the end of the conference, which will be the 22 October 1987. However for all countries in the European Community changes will take effect on publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities, since CITES is implemented in the UK and the rest of the Community by a Commission Regulation.

## **Changes in Regulations**

At its third meeting in Lausanne in 1986, the Plant Working Group decided that regulations affecting trade in artificially propagated hybrids of Appendix I species could be simplified without placing wild populations of these plants at greater risk. Having refined their ideas, a Resolution was drawn up and passed at the Ottawa meeting and henceforth all artificially propagated hybrids from Appendix I species will be treated in the same way as all other carnivorous plant hybrids offered in international trade. This means that plants will only require a certificate of artificial propagation rather than an import or export licence. However countries in which the Appendix I species grow reserve the right to place their own restrictions on these plants if they feel that wild populations are being inadvertently threatened by this approach.

*Please see **CHANGES** on page 51*

## CHANGES *continued from page 46*

This resolution currently applies to *Sarracenia alabamensis* var. *alabamensis*, *S. jonesii* and *S. oreophila* since all these species are permanently listed on Appendix I of the Convention. *Nepenthes rajah* is also on Appendix I but not normally involved in hybridization. One more species of carnivorous plant was also considered for uplisting at the Ottawa Conference, namely *Nepenthes khasiana* following a proposal from the Government of India and any hybridization involving this species would now be subject to the same regulations as those already listed.

### Table 1

#### Management Authorities under the CITES Convention — a selected list

Australia	Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 636, CANBERRA A.C.T. 2601.
Federal Republic of Germany	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit, Abteilung Naturschutz, Referat 623, Postfach 140270, D-5300 BONN 1.
Japan	Ministry of International Trade & Industry, International Economic Affairs Division, International Economic Affairs Department, International Trade Policy Bureau, 3-1, Kasumi-ga-seki 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO.
United Kingdom	Department of the Environment, Tollgate House, Houlton Street, BRISTOL. BS2 9DJ
U.S.A.	Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Room 527, Matomic Building, 1717 H Street, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240.

Imports into the U.K. may also need a Phytosanitary Certificate and this may be obtained through the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Plant Health Division, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1.

In addition to this proposal the Malaysian Government also formulated a proposal to include all species of *Nepenthes* not already listed on Appendix I, on Appendix II. This was also adopted although the Plant Working Group recognized that many species are very common in some parts of their range. However in order for CITES to work effectively it must be possible to identify plants in the form in which they are normally traded and for *Nepenthes* it would not always be possible to distinguish one species from another but it may be possible to identify a plant or plant part belonging to that genus. Appendix II listing does not aim to prevent trade but merely to monitor it under licence.

A third proposal relating to carnivorous plants was put forward by the USA to include all species of *Sarracenia* not already listed on Appendix I, on Appendix II. This was also approved by the Plant Working Group and adopted by the Conference of Parties. Table 2 shows the status of all carnivorous plants now listed on the Appendices of the Convention.

**Table 2**

**Current status of carnivorous plants listed on the Appendices of CITES**

<b>Family</b>	<b>Appendix I</b>	<b>Appendix II</b>
BYBLIDACEAE		Byblis spp.
CEPHALOTACEAE		Cephalotus follicularis
NEPENTHACEAE	Nepenthes rajah Nepenthes khasiana	All Nepenthes spp. not already on Appendix I
SARRACENIACEAE	Sarracenia alabamensis var. alabamensis S. jonesii S. oreophila	All Sarracenia spp. not already on Appendix I  Darlingtonia californica

## **Assessment of Natural CP Populations by a Commercial Grower**

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The following article is one in which I have considered writing for a number of years. It is not due to the difficulty in preparing an article for CPN, but in the subject matter. Back in the early 1970's, I initiated a strong conservation based policy in developing World Insectivorous Plants (WIP) and making its objectives based on commercial production of CP. My concerns for plant conservation were based on printed accounts that I had read on how the plants were being removed from their natural ancestral homelands by commercial companies (so-called field collectors) at an astronomical rate rapidly depleting them from the wild to the point of near extinction. I was horrified with the thought of commercial CP companies going out into the field and ripping plants out and stuffing them into a bag for resale. It did not seem ethical. It still isn't if the land is not owned, leased or the owner compensated for the change in the plant life. To get a firsthand look at the situation and to improve my understanding of CP populations, I made an extensive tour of the southeastern coastal areas of Mississippi to North Carolina in 1975.

When I first visited this CP belt, I was impressed with the quantity of plants in the field. Especially impressive was the Green Swamp in North Carolina. Even with all of the reported "rapes" by commercial companies, carnivores were easy to find along the roadways and in the natural forest areas. Having conversed with many of the "field collectors," they mentioned that there were so many plants in the Green Swamp that it would be decades before they would get scarce. They practiced a limited conservation program by taking only