



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

CITES consultation – HTA

15th September 2025

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UK CITES Management Authority



Forestry Commission
England



Environment
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CITES webinar



- 1. Summary of CITES**
 - 2. CITES reform - consultation**
 - 3. Q&A**
 - 4. CoP20 highlights – horticulture**
 - 5. Wrap up**
-

CITES introduction



- **CITES** = Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

<https://cites.org/eng>

- 185 signatory Parties

Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species.

CITES requirements



- 3 Appendices (translated into 4 Annexes in EU and UK)

[Species+ \(speciesplus.net\)](https://speciesplus.net)

- Trade controls through an export–import permits system:
 - **Annex A & Annex B:** (re-)export + import permits
 - **Annex C:** (re-)export permit/cert. of origin + import notification
 - **Annex D:** import notification
 - Main assessments: Legal Acquisition Finding (LAF) and Non-Detriment Finding (NDF)
-

CITES species – plants



- Most orchids – c.29,000 spp.
 - Most cacti – c.1,500 spp.
 - All aloes (except art. prop. *Aloe vera*) – c.600 spp.
 - All *Sarracenia* spp. – c.29 spp.
 - *Dionaea muscipula*
 - Tropical hardwoods, e.g. mahoganies (e.g. *Swietenia macrophylla*) and rosewoods (*Dalbergia/Guibourita* spp.)
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UK CITES Authorities

UK Management Authority (policy)



- Development of UK CITES policy
- UK CITES regime coordination
- Maintenance of UK CITES legislation

CITES.UKMA@defra.gov.uk

UK Management Authority (operations)



- Considering and issues permits/ certs
- Legal acquisition findings
- Fees & charges

Wildlife.Licensing@apha.gov.uk

UK SA (flora)



- Conducting Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs)
- Scientific advice

CITES@kew.org

UK Enforcement Authority



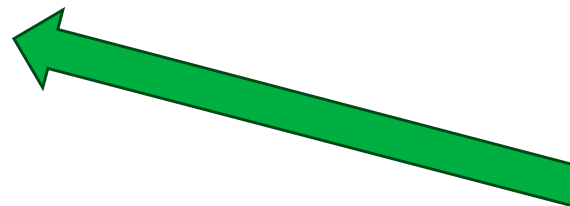
- CITES border controls
- Endorsing permits
- Management and disposal of seizures

BorderForceCITESteam@homeoffice.gov.uk



CITES reform programme

- **Digital reform**
 - Pegasus
 - eCITES
- **Process reform**
- **Legislative reform**





CITES legislative reform

Consultation

- a. Proposals to amend UK CITES legislation**
 - b. Proposed amends to fees and charges**
 - c. Introduction of civil sanctions (limited application)**
 - 6 weeks (11 Sept – 23 Oct)**
 - Support sessions on: 18 Sept (3:30 – 5), 30 Sept (4 – 5:30) and 16 October (4 – 5:30)**
-

CITES consultation



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<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/cites/cites-reform-proposals/>



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CITES Reform proposals

Overview

This consultation invites views on proposed regulatory reforms to the CITES implementing framework in the UK.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ("CITES") is an international agreement that aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants is conducted legally and does not threaten the survival of the species. A key part of this is achieved through the issuing of permits for the import, (re-)export and introduction from the sea of species listed on the CITES Appendices.

Closes 23 Oct 2025

Opened 11 Sep 2025

Contact

CITES.UKMA@defra.gov.uk



CITES legislative reform

1. Proposals to amend CITES assimilated legislation

Better targeting of CITES controls

- Article 10 certificates (commercial use certificates)
- **Import permits for Annex B specimens**
- **Semi-complete permits**
- **Annex D**
- Travelling Exhibition Certificates
- Accommodation and care considerations within the WTRs

Strengthening conservation outcomes

- **Greater use of civil sanctions to address enforcement gaps**
 - Strengthen controls in place for Schedule 4 listed bird species
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CITES legislative reform

1. Proposals to amend CITES assimilated legislation (cont.)

- Article 60 certificates
- **Provisions to better address smuggling post-import**
- Registration of facilities that captive breed Appendix I species for commercial purposes in line with CITES Resolution 12.1
- UK domestic stricter measures
- **Revising the criteria for exceptional Port of Entry use**

CITES implementation

- **Amendments to the implementation of Appendix III (Annex C)**
 - **Suspensions Regulation (EC Reg 1587/2019)**
 - **Grounds for application refusal**
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CITES legislative reform

2. Proposed amendments to the CITES fees and charges framework

3. Draft Statutory Guidance for COTES civil sanctions



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Consultation on proposals to amend the assimilated UK Wildlife Trade Regulations

September 2025

Any questions..?



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CoP20 highlights – horticulture

24 November – 05 December (Samarkand, Uzbekistan)

<https://cites.org/eng/meetings/cop>

Amendments to CITES Appendices

Chilean palm (*Jubaea chilensis*) – Include in Appendix I



Ponytail palm (*Beaucarnea glassiana* & *B. hookeri*) – Include in Appendix II



Avonia quinaria – Transfer from Appendix II to Appendix I



Cycad Spurge (*Euphorbia bupleurifolia*) – Transfer from Appendix II to Appendix I



Aloes (*Aloe bergeriana*, *A. jeppeae*, *A. subspicata* & *A. welwitschia*) – Include in Aloe genus listing (previously considered part of non-listed *Chortolirion* genus)





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Thank you for your help in strengthening UK implementation of CITES

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