

Botanic Gardens Conservation International
The world's largest plant conservation network



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Plants for the Planet

Module 2: Understanding a CITES listing



Understanding a CITES listing

Module 2 will help identify which taxa are regulated under CITES.

It will also explain other aspects related to the species listing e.g. what parts and derivatives are regulated, whether global populations or just specific country populations are covered, and whether trade suspensions or quotas are in place.

If a species is not listed on CITES, a CITES permit is not needed. However, other issues should also be considered, for example the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#), the [Habitats Directive](#), [Plant Health legislation](#) or any relevant agreements covering the movement of plants.

What are the Appendices?



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- Species are listed on one of three [Appendices, I, II and III](#). Species, genera and families can be listed.
- **Appendix I** lists species threatened with extinction and trade is permitted only in exceptional circumstances. There are around 300 plant species listed in Appendix I and import, export and re-export permits are required.



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Dalbergia nigra guitar blank

What are the Appendices?

- **Appendix II** includes species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but which may become so if trade is not regulated. Trade is permitted in both wild and artificially propagated material with appropriate permits. There are around 29,000 plant species on Appendix II; export and re-export permits are obligatory but import permits are not necessary unless required by national law, for instance when trading with the EU.
- **Appendix III** lists species that are threatened locally with extinction through trade and are subject to controls within certain countries. There are currently around 12 plant species listed in this Appendix. International trade requires an export permit from the country that listed the species, or a certificate of origin if exported from elsewhere.

Appendices or Annexes?

As stated, taxa regulated under CITES are laid out in the [APPENDICES](#). If operating in or out of a country that is Party to CITES then the [APPENDICES](#) should be read to find out which taxa are listed.

However, if operating in and out of a country or an economic or geographical region that implements stricter measures the latest version of that region's legislation should be checked. For example all Member States of the EU are Parties to CITES but they implement CITES through legislation known as the [EU Wildlife Trade Regulations](#) (EU WTR). Under these Regulations species are listed on [ANNEXES](#) (Annex A,B,C and D) and if sending material into or out of the EU these Regulations should be consulted (see Module 3). **Some species that are not listed in CITES at all are listed on the Annexes and need a permit to be traded internationally.**

Both the Appendices and the Annexes should be read from left to right in order to immediately identify any taxa in Appendix I/ Annex A requiring the highest protection due to unsustainable trade. Flora is listed after fauna, alphabetically by family.

How to find out if a species is CITES-listed

There are several sites where the lists of CITES species can be found. They include the [Appendices](#) on the CITES website and the [Annexes](#) on the EU WTR website.

A central point of information, [Species+](#), has now been developed by [UNEP-WCMC](#) and the CITES Secretariat to assist Parties with implementing a number of multilateral environmental agreements including CITES and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).

As the Appendices and Annexes can be difficult to understand, this module will explain how to use [Species +](#). Several topics should be covered first in order to understand a listing and what information and actions are essential to its implementation.

Nomenclature

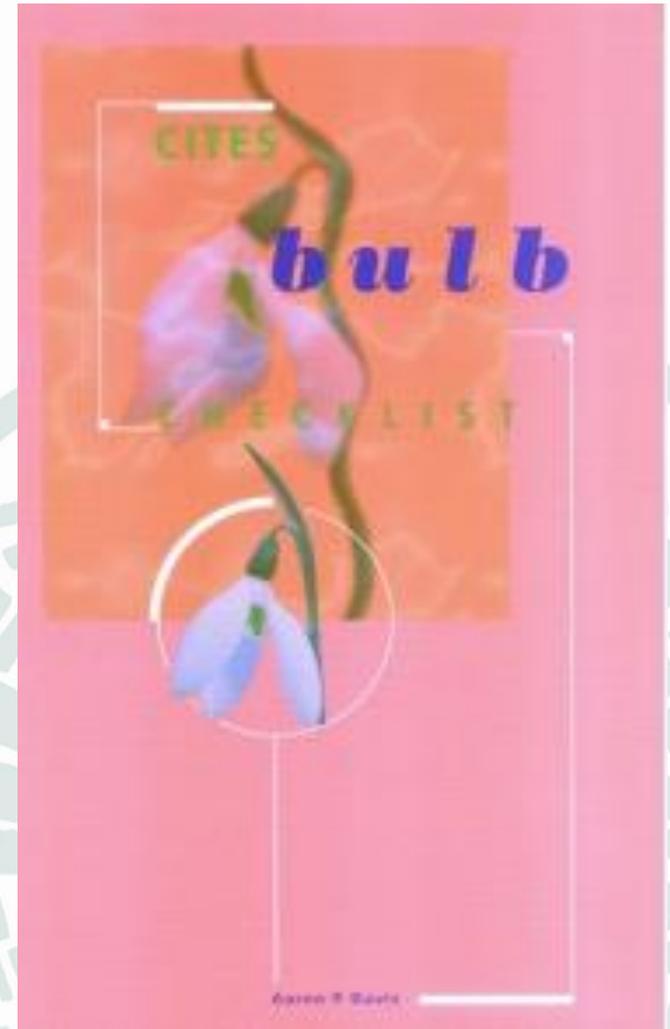


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All taxa are listed under their scientific (Latin) name. CITES adopts [Standard References](#) (checklists) to be used by Parties when referring to the scientific names of regulated taxa.

These references inform the accepted names that should be used on CITES permits and annual reports. They also include, where possible, major synonyms - the non-accepted names. The Standard References are updated at every CoP based on the recommendations of the CITES [Animals](#) and [Plants](#) Committees. The list of Standard References is included in a [CITES Resolution on Standard Nomenclature](#) (for flora see Annex 2).



Nomenclature



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Where a standard reference has been adopted for a family, genus or species this reference is given in Species +.

Where no standard reference is available clarification can be sought from the CITES Secretariat who may confer with the Nomenclature Specialist of the CITES Plants Committee to provide more formal guidance on the appropriate scientific name.



Annotations



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Appendix I / Annex A species, apart from orchids, do not have annotations and all parts and derivatives, live or dead, are regulated. Species in Appendix II and III / Annex B, C and D can be listed with annotations, which give information on what is regulated.

- **# Numbers e.g. #5**

These provide information on the parts and derivatives regulated, for instance logs, sawn wood and veneer may be covered, but not plywood.

- **Small numbers e.g. 9**

These provide specific information on the listing, for instance artificially propagated material of certain species may not need a permit, if it is traded in a certain way.



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Artificially propagated cacti

Annotations



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- **Populations e.g. Populations of Madagascar**

This highlights whether specific populations are covered, restricting the scope of the listing to cover only regulated specimens from species endemic to that country.

- **No annotation**

All parts and derivatives, alive or dead, of a species in any form and from any country need a permit for international trade.

NOTE: Some of the annotations used in Annex D differ from those used in the Appendices e.g. § 3 (Dried and fresh plants, including, where appropriate; leaves, roots/rootstock, stems, seeds/spores, bark and fruits.)

Explanations of the annotations can be found at bottom of the Appendices and the beginning of the Annexes.

How a species is listed

- To list a species in Appendix I or II, a Party needs to submit a proposal for approval by the CoP. Such listings have to meet [biological and trade criteria](#) set out by CITES and the proposals have to include scientific data on population and trade trends.
- A Party may reach out to national or international stakeholders, such as botanic gardens, to assess these listings and the information provided.
- The proposals are discussed at the CoP and either adopted by consensus or submitted to a vote, needing a two-thirds majority to be adopted. The species can subsequently be transferred between or removed from the Appendices at future CoPs should the biological and trade data change.
- Species can be listed on Appendix III at any time by the range State of that species.

Species +



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Species + contains
Information about the
following:

- Is the specimen listed in the CITES Appendices and/or the EU Annexes?
- Which parts and derivatives are regulated?
- Are all populations or only certain populations regulated?

Species+

About | Related Resources | Terms

- Checklist of CITES Species
- CITES Trade Database
- Species+ / CITES Checklist API
- EU Captive breeding database
- EU E-library
- EU Wildlife Trade Legislation

Welcome to Species+

Bringing you authoritative information on taxonomy, legislation, distribution and trade in MEA-listed species. Learn more

CITES CMS

Species, higher taxon, synonym or common name. SEARCH LOCATIONS

New feature: Now you can view subspecies pages and download distribution data within the listings outputs. ✕

DOWNLOAD SPECIES LISTS

Species +



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- Are CITES export quotas in place?

- Is there a trade suspension for this species / country combination?

- It also links to the Checklists and Trade Database, amongst other resources.

Species+

About | Related Resources | Terms

- Checklist of CITES Species
- CITES Trade Database
- Species+ / CITES Checklist API
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Welcome to Species+

Bringing you authoritative information on taxonomy, legislation, distribution and trade in MEA-listed species. Learn more

CITES CMS Species, higher taxon, synonym or common name. SEARCH LOCATIONS

New feature: Now you can view subspecies pages and download distribution data within the listings outputs.

DOWNLOAD SPECIES LISTS

Species +



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The information page has four tabs:

LEGAL (information on the CITES listing/ suspensions/ quotas/ reservations and EU listings);

NAMES (scientific and common names);

DISTRIBUTION (countries and territories);

REFERENCES (for distribution and CITES standard references).

CITES **CMS** Galanthus woronowii **SEARCH** **LOCATIONS**

Galanthus woronowii

Losinsk. in Kom.
• Liliales • Amaryllidaceae • Galanthus

LEGAL **NAMES** **DISTRIBUTION** **REFERENCES**

CITES Listing CITES Quotas CITES Suspensions EU Listing EU Decisions

CITES

CITES LISTING

| APPENDIX | COUNTRY | DATE | NOTES |
|----------|---------|------------|--|
| II | | 23/06/2010 | [GENUS listing Galanthus spp.] CoP15 #4 |

Species +



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This species is listed on Appendix II of CITES.

There are quotas in place for bulbs from Georgia and Turkey.

There are no trade suspensions in place.

CITES CMS Galanthus woronowii SEARCH LOCATIONS

Galanthus woronowii

Losinsk. in Kom.
• Liliales • Amaryllidaceae • Galanthus

LEGAL NAMES DISTRIBUTION REFERENCES

CITES Listing CITES Quotas CITES Suspensions EU Listing EU Decisions

CITES

CITES LISTING

| APPENDIX | COUNTRY | DATE | NOTES |
|----------|---------|------------|--|
| II | | 23/06/2010 | [GENUS listing Galanthus spp.] CoP15 #4 |

QUOTAS

| YEAR | COUNTRY | QUOTA | NOTES |
|------|---------|----------|--|
| 2015 | Georgia | 15000000 | bulbs, wild taken |
| 2015 | Turkey | 2000000 | artificially propagated bulbs |
| 2015 | Turkey | 3000000 | bulbs, wild-taken CITES export quotas (PDF) |

[SHOW HISTORY](#)

SUSPENSIONS

There are no current suspensions in place for this species.

Species +



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When you click on the link under 'Notes' that reads 'CoP15 #4' this box appears. The listing has a #4 annotation, meaning that all parts and derivatives are covered except those listed in the box.

Galanthus woronowii
Losinsk. in
▸ Liliales ▸ Am.

COP15 #4

LEGAL

CITES Listing

CITES

CITES LISTING
APPENDIX

II

QUOTAS

EU Decisions

All parts and derivatives, except:
a) seeds (including seedpods of Orchidaceae), spores and pollen (including pollinia). The exemption does not apply to seeds from Cactaceae spp. exported from Mexico, and to seeds from Beccariophoenix madagascariensis and Neodypsis decaryi exported from Madagascar;
b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;
c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants;
d) fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus *Vanilla* (Orchidaceae) and of the family Cactaceae;
e) stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera *Opuntia* subgenus *Opuntia* and *Selenicereus* (Cactaceae); and
f) finished products of *Euphorbia antisiphilitica* packaged and ready for retail trade

Species +



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By scrolling down you can see the EU listing. Some species that are not listed in CITES at all are covered by the EU WTR. (See Module 3)

It is listed on Annex B of the EU WTR.

There is a positive decision for Georgia for this species concerning the quota of 15 million bulbs. Turkey has not published a quota.

EU Wildlife Trade Regulations

EU LISTING

| ANNEX | COUNTRY | DATE | NOTES | LEGAL NOTICE |
|-------|---------|------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | | | [GENUS listing Galanthus spp.] | Commission Reg. (EU) No 1320/2014 of 1 December 2014 |
| | | 20/12/2014 | No 1320/2014 #4 | |

B

SHOW HISTORY ▾

EU DECISIONS

| DATE | COUNTRY | EU DECISIONS | NOTES | DOCUMENT |
|------------|---------|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 30/06/2009 | Georgia | Positive | live Quota of 15 million bulbs. | <u>SRG 48 Soc</u> |
| 16/02/2010 | Turkey | Positive | | <u>SRG 51 Soc</u> |

SHOW HISTORY ▾

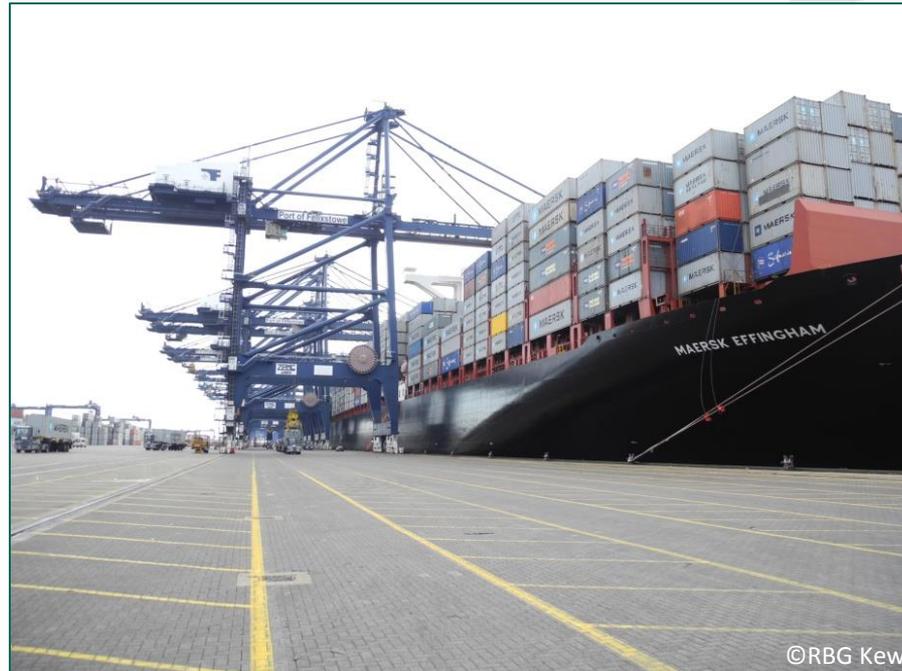
Practice Question



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A trader in France wants to import a 40ft container from Mexico, containing 4,000 finished lipsticks (50 lipsticks to a box) not in final packaging. The lipsticks contain *Euphorbia antisiphilitica*. Is this a CITES listed species and does the French trader need a permit?



Practice Question



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Euphorbia antisiphilitica

Zucc.

• Euphorbiales • Euphorbiaceae • Euphorbia

LEGAL

NAMES

DISTRIBUTION

REFERENCES

CITES Listing

CITES Quotas

CITES Suspensions

EU Listing

EU Decisions

CITES

CITES LISTING

| APPENDIX | COUNTRY | DATE | NOTES |
|----------|---------|------------|--|
| | | | [GENUS listing Euphorbia spp.] |
| | | | CoP15 #4 |
| | | | Succulent species are included in Appendix II, except for <i>Euphorbia misera</i> and the species included in Appendix I. |
| | | | Other species are not included in the Appendices. |
| II | | 23/06/2010 | Additionally, artificially propagated specimens of cultivars of <i>Euphorbia trigona</i> , artificially propagated specimens of crested, fan-shaped or colour mutants of <i>Euphorbia lactea</i> , when grafted on artificially propagated root stock of <i>Euphorbia neriifolia</i> , and artificially propagated specimens of cultivars of <i>Euphorbia 'Mili'</i> when they are traded in shipments of 100 or more plants and readily recognizable as artificially propagated specimens, are not subject to the provisions of the Convention. |

This species is listed in Appendix II of CITES.

It has a #4 annotation

Practice Question



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#4 regulates everything apart from certain seeds, tissue cultures, cut flowers and finished products of *Euphorbia antisyphilitica* packaged and ready for retail trade.

▸ Euphorbiales ▸ Euphorbiaceae ▸ Euphorbia

| LEGAL | NAMES | DISTRIBUTION | REFERENCES |
|-------|-------|--------------|------------|
|-------|-------|--------------|------------|

CITES Listing CITES Quotas CITES Suspensions EU Listing EU Decisions

CITES

CITES LISTING

APPENDIX

COP15 #4

All parts and derivatives, except:

- a) seeds (including seedpods of Orchidaceae), spores and pollen (including pollinia). The exemption does not apply to seeds from Cactaceae spp. exported from Mexico, and to seeds from *Beccariophoenix madagascariensis* and *Neodypsis decaryi* exported from Madagascar;
- b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;
- c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants;
- d) fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus *Vanilla* (Orchidaceae) and of the family Cactaceae;
- e) stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera *Opuntia* subgenus *Opuntia* and *Selenicereus* (Cactaceae); and
- f) finished products of *Euphorbia antisyphilitica* packaged and ready for retail trade

Convention.

SHOW HISTORY -

Practice Question



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There are no CITES quotas or suspensions

QUOTAS

There are no current quotas in place for this species.

SUSPENSIONS

There are no current suspensions in place for this species.

EU Wildlife Trade Regulations

EU LISTING

| ANNEX | COUNTRY | DATE | NOTES | LEGAL NOTICE |
|-------|---------|------------|--|--|
| B | | 20/12/2014 | [GENUS listing <i>Euphorbia</i> spp.] No 1320/2014 #4 Succulent species only except for: 1) <i>Euphorbia misera</i> ; 2) artificially propagated specimens of cultivars of <i>Euphorbia trigona</i> ; 3) artificially propagated specimens of <i>Euphorbia lactea</i> grafted on artificially propagated root stock of <i>Euphorbia nerifolia</i> , when they are: — crested, or — fan-shaped, or — colour mutants; 4) artificially propagated specimens of cultivars of | Commission Reg. (EU) No 1320/2014 of 1 December 2014 |

It is on Annex B of the EU WTR

Practice Question



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B

20/12/2014

neriifolia, when they are: — crested, or — fan-shaped, or — colour mutants; 4) artificially propagated specimens of cultivars of ***Euphorbia*** "Miliii" when they are: — readily recognisable as artificially propagated specimens, and — introduced into or (re-)exported from the Union in shipments of 100 or more plants; which are not subject to the provisions of this Regulation, and 5) the species included in Annex A.

Commission Reg. (EU) No 1320/2014 of 1 December 2014

SHOW HISTORY ▾

EU DECISIONS

| DATE | COUNTRY | EU DECISIONS | NOTES | DOCUMENT |
|------------|---------|--------------|-------|-------------------|
| 26/05/2008 | Mexico | Positive | | <u>SRG 44 Soc</u> |

SHOW HISTORY ▾

There is a positive EU Decision for Mexico

Results



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- As the lipsticks are finished but not packaged and ready for retail trade this shipment does not fulfil the terms of the exemption of the #4 annotation.
- The trader therefore needs both a Mexican export permit and an EU import permit.



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Various uses for *Euphorbia antisyphilitica*

Additional Information



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The small number annotations mentioned in slide 9 are not shown on Species +. The information they represent is listed under 'Full note' instead.

Acanthephippium bicolor

Lindley

• Orchidales • Orchidaceae • Acanthephippium

- LEGAL
- NAMES
- DISTRIBUTION
- REFERENCES

CITES Listing CITES Quotas CITES Suspensions EU Listing EU Decisions

CITES

CITES LISTING

| APPENDIX | COUNTRY | DATE | NOTES |
|----------|---------|------------|--|
| II | | 23/06/2010 | [FAMILY listing Orchidaceae spp.] <u>CoP15 #4</u> Included in Appendix II, except for the species included in Appendix I. Some conditions apply. <u>See full note</u> |

[SHOW HISTORY](#)

QUOTAS

There are no current quotas in place for this species.

Additional Information



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Clicking on this link reveals more information, essential to fully understand the listing. Alternatively, the [Appendices](#) list this information at the end of the species and the [Annexes](#) at the beginning.

Acanthephippium bicolor

Lindley

• Orchidales • Orchidaceae • Acanthephippium

LEGAL

CITES Listing

CITES

CITES LISTING

APPENDIX

II

QUOTAS

There are no current quotas in place for this species.

SUSPENSIONS

FULL NOTE

Included in Appendix II, except for the species included in Appendix I. Additionally, artificially propagated hybrids of the following genera are not subject to the provisions of the Convention, if conditions, as indicated under a) and b), are met: **Cymbidium**, **Dendrobium**, **Phalaenopsis** and **Vanda**:

a) Specimens are readily recognizable as artificially propagated and do not show any signs of having been collected in the wild such as mechanical damage or strong dehydration resulting from collection, irregular growth and heterogeneous size and shape within a taxon and shipment, algae or other epiphyllous organisms adhering to leaves, or damage by insects or other pests; and

b) i) when shipped in non-flowering state, the specimens must be traded in shipments consisting of individual containers (such as cartons, boxes, crates or individual shelves of CC-containers) each containing 20 or more plants of the same hybrid; the plants within each container must exhibit a high degree of uniformity and healthiness; and the shipment must be accompanied by documentation, such as an invoice, which clearly states the number of plants of each hybrid; or

ii) when shipped in flowering state, with at least one fully open flower per specimen, no minimum number of specimens per shipment is required but specimens must be professionally processed for commercial retail sale, e.g. labelled with printed labels or packaged with printed packages indicating the name of the hybrid and the country of final processing. This should be clearly visible and allow easy verification.

Plants not clearly qualifying for the exemption must be accompanied by appropriate CITES documents.

EU Decisions

ies included in



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End of Module 2: Understanding a CITES Listing

It might be useful to read [Module 3](#) in conjunction with this module before trying the quiz.



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Our Mission is to mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and the planet

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