

Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, Cap. 586 Captive-bred/Artificially Propagated Appendix II Species

Under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (the Ordinance), Cap. 586, **possession** of a specimen of an Appendix II species does not require a licence if there is documentary evidence to prove that the specimen is not a live animal or plant of wild origin (e.g. captive bred animals or artificially propagated plants). However, for the **export or re-export** of these Appendix-II specimens, including captive bred animals or artificially propagated plants, a Licence (or a Phytosanitary Certificate issued under the Plant (Importation and Pest Control) Ordinance, Cap. 207 for export of artificially propagated Appendix II plants) issued in advance by this Department is required. Normally, a Licence to Export or Re-export will only be granted if:

- a. the animal or plant was legally acquired in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the local legislations; and
- b. in the case of a specimen that was captive-bred or artificially propagated locally, the applicant can provide documentary evidence to prove that the specimen is from legally possessed parent stock.

To prove that the endangered species are exempt from the requirement of Licence to Possess and/or to facilitate future export, traders, hobbyists and scientific researchers who engage in the captive breeding or artificial propagation activities of live Appendix II species are encouraged to keep proper records following the guidelines below.

Before the captive breeding or artificial propagation activities start, the owner should provide the following information to this Department by fax, mail, e-formmail or in person (in form ESPD-Lic-01E or any other format containing the same information):

- details of the operation, including name, address, telephone number, business registration number and name of the contact person;
- description of the facilities and breeding/propagation techniques (photos may be provided); and
- a list of the endangered species, including the scientific name, source and quantity of each species

The owner should retain documents proving the legal source of the parental stock, such as CITES Export Permit issued by the exporting place or Licence to Import issued by this Department.

During the captive breeding or artificial propagation activities in operation, when there is increase or decrease in the number of the species, the owner should submit the following information to this Department (in form ESPD-Lic-02E or any other format containing the same information):

- the increase (such as birth or hatching, or production of newly propagated plants) and decrease (such as death, sale or other transaction) in the number of the live animals and plants. Each species should be recorded separately; and
- evidence of the increase (such as photos).

For the purpose of verification of the information provided by the owner, authorized officers of this department should be allowed to enter the captive breeding or artificial propagation operation to inspect the specimens of scheduled species and the relevant records and documents. Copies of these documents must be provided to an authorized officer upon request.

Enquiries

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Hotline: 2150 6973 / 2150 6967

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Application Email: applycites@afcd.gov.hk

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