

漁 農 自 然 護 理 署

九龍長沙灣道三零三號

長沙灣政府合署五樓



AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
5/F Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices
303 Cheung Sha Wan Road
Kowloon, Hong Kong

本署檔號 Our Ref.: AF CON 07/24
通函編號 Circular No.: ES 02/12
電話 Tel No.: 2150 6982
電郵 E-mail: hk_cites@afcd.gov.hk
圖文傳真 Fax No.: 2376 3749

26 April 2012

Dear Sir/ Madam:

Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance –
Licensing Control of Medicines Containing Endangered Species

Recently, it has come to the attention of this Department that a few traders may have contravened the licensing requirements under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, Cap. 586 when importing or selling herbal medicines and proprietary medicines containing ingredients of endangered species. This circular letter aims to remind traders to observe and comply with the relevant requirements under the Ordinance.

The Ordinance gives effect to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Hong Kong. Under the Ordinance, the commercial trade in Appendix I species (e.g. tiger, rhino, some bear species) is generally prohibited. Unless exempted, a licence to be issued in advance by this Department is required for the import, introduction from the sea, export, re-export or possession of specimens of a scheduled species, whether alive, dead, parts or derivatives.

The import of herbal medicines or proprietary medicines manufactured from Appendix II species is allowed subject to production of a valid CITES export permit, and inspection by an authorized officer of this Department upon landing in Hong Kong. The herbal medicines or proprietary medicines manufactured from Appendix I species (e.g. costus root), captive bred or artificially propagated by operations registered by the CITES Secretariat, are treated as specimens of Appendix II species. The import of specimens manufactured from Appendix III species is allowed subject to production of a valid CITES export permit or a certificate of origin, and inspection by an authorized officer of this Department upon landing in Hong Kong. The export or re-export of herbal medicines or proprietary medicines manufactured from Appendix II or III species requires a licence issued in advance from this Department.

Any person contravening the licensing requirements of the Ordinance will be prosecuted and is liable to a fine of 5 million dollars, imprisonment for 2 years and forfeiture of the specimens upon conviction.

Please feel free to contact Ms. Pan YEUNG at 2150 6966 if you have any enquiries.

Yours faithfully,

(Azaria K. Y. WONG)

For Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation