

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Other Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of *Colchicum luteum* in Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

India.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Monocotyledoneae
12. Order: Liliales
13. Family: Liliaceae
14. Scientific Name: *Colchicum luteum* Baker in Gard. Chron. 33. 1874
15. Scientific Synonyms: None.
16. Common Names: English:
French:
Spanish:
Hindi: Hirantuliya, Surinjan
Punjabi: Surinjan-i-talkh
Sans.: Hiranyatutha
Urdu: Suranjanetalkh

17. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Population Status: Not yet designated.
22. Population Trend: Rare.
23. Distribution: Western Himalayas. Afghanistan, Turkestan.
24. Habitat Availability: Tropical to temperate Himalayas in open pasture lands or outskirts of forests at altitudes 700-3000 m.
25. Geographic Trend: Tropical to temperate Western Himalayas.
26. Threats: Habitat destruction and over-exploitation of the species for corms and seeds for use in various medicinal purposes and extraction of colchicine.

3. Utilization and Trade:
 31. National Utilization: Corms and seeds are used in Unani medicines, pharmaceutical industry and for the extraction of colchicine.
 32. Legal International Trade:
 33. Illegal Trade: The full extent of the illegal trade is not specifically known but attempted export consignments have been apprehended.
 34. Actual Potential Trade Impact: The corms are used as carminative, laxative, aphrodisiac; used in gout, rheumatism and diseases of liver and spleen. Colchicine is extracted from seeds and corms used in pharmaceutical industry and also in laboratories for cytological studies. Over-exploitation is feared to be depleting wild stocks.
 35. Captive Breeding or Artificial Propagation (outside country of origin): Not known.
4. Conservation and Management:
 41. Legal Status:
 411. National: Plant, parts and derivatives now prohibited for export under Export (Control) Order.
 412. International: None so far.
 42. Species Management:
 421. Population Monitoring: Being undertaken on a limited scale
 422. Habitat Conservation: No specific conservation strategy is implemented so far. It is restricted to North-western Himalayas only and occurs in some protected areas there. Further legislation and conservation strategies are being prepared.
 423. Management Measures: No species specific ones undertaken so far.
 43. Control measures:
 431. International Trade: None so far.
 432. Domestic Measure: Exploitation from wild sources is being regulated and attempt is being made for its cultivation.
5. Information on Similar Species
 51. Similarity in Appearance: The corms and seeds of *Colchicum autumnale* are similar to that of *C. luteum*.
 52. Nature of Specimen in Trade: Corms and seeds. The fresh corms usually measure 15-35 mm in length and 10-20 mm in diam. and seeds are ovoid or irregularly globular, 2-3 mm diam., brownish-white.
6. Comments from Countries of Origin

7. Additional Remarks

Description: Small herbs. Corms gibbously ovoid, ca 15-35 x 10-20 mm, coats dark brown. Leaves radical, few, lobate, short at the flowering time, linear-oblong or oblanceolate obtuse, 15-30 cm long. Flowers 1-3 on very short stalk amongst the leaf sheaths, perianths 6, golden yellow. Capsules 2.5-4 cm. Seeds subglobose or ovoid, 2-3 mm diam., brownish or brownish white.

8. References

Anonymous 1950. *The Wealth of India CSIR, New Delhi* Vol. 2: 307.

Anonymous 1986. *Useful plants of India, CSIR, New Delhi*. p. 136.

Hook.f. 1892. *Fl. Brit. India* 6: 356.

Kirtikar, K.R. & Basu, B.D. *Indian Medicinal Plants*. Allahabad. Vol. 4: 2524-2525.

