

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

A. Proposal

Annotation of Euphorbiaceae in Appendix II to read as follows:

Artificially propagated specimens of *Euphorbia lactea* are not subject to the provisions of the Convention when they are:

- a) grafted on rootstocks of *Euphorbia neriifolia* L.;
- b) colour mutants; or
- c) crested-branch forming or fan-shaped.

B. Proponent

Thailand.

C. Supporting statement

1. Taxonomy

- 1.1 Class: Dicotyledonae
- 1.2 Order: Euphorbiales
- 1.3 Family: Euphorbiaceae
- 1.4 Genus: *Euphorbia* L.
Species: *Euphorbia lactea* Haw.
- 1.5 Scientific synonyms: ---
- 1.6 Common names: English: Candelabra cactus, False cactus, Dragon bone tree.
French: Euphorbe cactus
Spanish:
- 1.7 Code numbers: ---

2. Biological parameters

- 2.1 Distribution
Not applicable.
- 2.2 Habitat availability
Not applicable.
- 2.3 Population status
Not applicable.

2.4 Population trends

Not applicable.

2.5 Geographic trends

Not applicable.

2.6 Role of the species in its ecosystem

2.7 Threats

3. Utilization and trade

3.1 National utilization

Euphorbia lactea; All plant parts considered poisonous, especially the white sap (milky sap). Colour mutants are cultivated as house plant in tropical countries. In Thailand, crested or fan-shaped and colour mutants usually are grafted on cultivated *Euphorbia neriiifolia* L.

3.2 Legal international trade

The crested or fan-shaped and colour mutants of *Euphorbia lactea* is widely cultivated in the tropics and subtropics where it is valued as an unusual ornamentals. In Thailand, it is traded as grafted plants.

3.3 Illegal trade

3.3.1 National illegal trade

3.3.2 International illegal trade

International illegal trade in specimens of the crested or fan-shaped and colour mutants of *Euphorbia lactea* (artificial propagated plant) occurring in small number, mostly tourist who is unaware of CITES documentation.

3.4 Actual or potential trade impacts

Exempting of the artificially propagated specimens of the crested or fan-shaped and colour mutants of *Euphorbia lactea* will not be harmful to the wild population, because they are cultivated, not natural occurring specimens.

3.5 Captive breeding or artificial propagation for commercial purposes (outside country of origin)

The crested or fan-shaped and colour mutants of *Euphorbia lactea* are quite easy to artificial propagation and trade in worldwide. They are propagated by cutting and grafting on the stocks.

Thailand export of artificially propagated the crested or fan-shaped and colour mutants of *Euphorbia lactea* recorded 24,095 plants in 2001 and 219,505 plants in 2002 to different 25 countries.

4. Conservation and management

4.1 Legal status

4.1.1 National

Trade control and harvested of wild-collected subject to legal control at the national level of the original range state to effect the protection of species.

4.1.2 International

Since, Euphorbiaceae spp. (succulent species only) was included in Appendices; except the artificially propagated specimens of cultivars of *Euphorbia trigona* and annotation with # 1 are not subject to the provisions of the Convention.

4.2 Species management

4.2.1 Population monitoring

Not applicable.

4.2.2 Habitat conservation

Not applicable.

4.2.3 Management measures

Not applicable.

4.3 Control measures

4.3.1 International trade

The artificially propagated specimens of the colour mutants of *Euphorbia lactea* when it in trade are subject to distinguished from the exhibit characteristics from wild original, the specimens should be; (a) colour mutants and/or lacking chlorophyll (b) crested branches forming and /or fan-shaped (c) grafted on the grafting stocks e.g. *Euphorbia nerifolia* L."

4.3.2 Domestic measures

Not relevant for this proposal.

5. Information on similar species

Not applicable.

6. Other comments

This proposal is made in accordance with document PC13 Doc. 13.2, regarding on Review of the Appendices Artificially propagated plants traded in large quantities. This document prepared by Secretariat. With the provisions of paragraph 4 and 6 remark as following:

- 4) The following taxa included in the CITES Appendices are known to contain or comprise taxa that are traded in large quantities as artificially propagated plants: the families Cactaceae, Cycadaceae and Orchidaceae (mostly Appendix II with some taxa in Appendix I); the genera *Cyclamen*, *Galanthus* and *Sternbergia* (ornamental bulbs or corms listed in Appendix II); the insectivorous plant genera *Nepenthes* and *Sarracenia* (mostly Appendix II with some taxa in Appendix I); the Venus fly-trap *Dionaea muscipula* (Appendix II); the succulent plant genera *Aloe*, *Euphorbia* (succulent species only) and *Pachypodium* (mostly Appendix II with some taxa

in Appendix I). Depending on the precise definition of 'traded in large quantities', other taxa may also qualify (e.g. the family *Didiereaceae* and the succulent genus *Anacampseros*, *Agave victoriae-reginae* and possibly the newly-listed *Swietenia macrophylla*).

- 6) A number of taxa have been exempt from the provisions of the Convention for some time when traded as artificially propagated specimens, namely cultivars of *Euphorbia trigona* and *Cyclamen persicum* and the following cactus hybrids or cultivars: *Hatiora x graeseri*; *Schlumbergera x buckleyi*; *Schlumbergera russelliana x Schlumbergera truncata*; *Schlumbergera orssichiana x Schlumbergera truncata*; *Schlumbergera opuntioides x Schlumbergera truncata*; *Schlumbergera truncata* (cultivars); *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* (cultivars) forms lacking chlorophyll, grafted on the following grafting stocks: *Harrisia 'Jusbertii'*, *Hylocereus trigonus* or *Hylocereus undatus*; *Opuntia microdasys* (cultivars). At the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP12, Santiago, 2002) the listing for *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* was amended to cover all Cactaceae spp. colour mutants lacking chlorophyll.

7. Additional remarks

Euphorbia lactea Haw.: Shrub to 2 m tall; branches 3-4 angled, dark green with paler band; leaves rudimentary, caduceous; inflorescence from new growth, with yellow cyathia. Natives to India. Sometimes, there is a cristated form.

Yok is the Thai trade name of *Euphorbia lactea* for colour mutants and crested or fan-shaped forms.

8. References

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Sajeva, M. and Costanzo, M. 2002. *Succulents II, The new illustrated Dictionary*. Timber Press, Inc, Oregon, 234pp.

Sungkasubuan, S. and all. 2003. *Annual Report 2002*. Plant Varieties Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Chatu Chak, Bangkok; 118 pp.

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www.cites.org

Euphorbia lactea

Fan-shaped



Crested forms



Euphorbia lactea in cultivation



Euphorbia lactea
(original form)



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