



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

July 30, 2001

**Notice to Importers and Exporters of Ramin Wood and Wood Articles**

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

U.S. Customs records shows that your company, or a client that you represent, has imported ramin wood or articles made of ramin wood within the last three years. This notice is sent to notify you of a change to the import requirements for those materials.

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

The country of Indonesia has informed the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that it will list its populations of ramin (all species in the plant genus *Gonystylus*) in CITES Appendix III, effective August 6, 2001. Ramin trees are native to Borneo, Indonesia and Malaysia, and are an important part of the forests that support the last wild populations of orangutans. A notification from the CITES Secretariat is enclosed for your information.

4700 River Road  
Riverdale, MD 20737

Ramin is traded in the form of logs, lumber, veneers and many manufactured wood articles. The ramin products most commonly imported into the United States are dowels, wood moldings, and wood handles. Many other products are reportedly made from ramin wood including but not limited to wooden blinds, curtain rods, broom handles and parquet floors. The listing exempts the following items from CITES restrictions: ramin seeds and pollen, *in vitro* tissue cultures, and cut flowers from artificially propagated plants.

The major exporting countries of ramin wood and ramin products are Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Peoples Republic of China. However, since ramin has been exported to many countries in raw form, it is possible to see manufactured ramin items subject to CITES restrictions traded from any country.

To comply with this CITES listing, a CITES export permit must accompany ramin wood, and any article made from ramin wood, that is exported from Indonesia beginning August 6, 2001. Ramin materials from other countries must be accompanied by either a CITES certificate of origin or CITES re-export certificate issued by the CITES management authority of the exporting country. CITES management authorities may also issue "pre-Convention" certificates for any ramin wood and wood product that was legally acquired prior to the listing date.

Additionally, commercial importers and exporters of CITES-regulated plant materials, including ramin wood and its products, must obtain a General Permit from United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ). You can obtain permit applications and other pertinent information from the PPQ Permit Unit website: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/permits/cites\\_esa.html](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/permits/cites_esa.html). Also, you can obtain information about the permits required by PPQ, by calling the PPQ Permit Unit at their toll-free telephone number: 1-877-770-5990, or by writing to them at:



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4700 River Road, Unit 136  
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Finally, CITES protected plants and plant products may be imported and exported through CITES "designated" ports, only. A listing of designated ports through which CITES timber species may be traded can be found at the following website:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/permits/cites>. A list of CITES designated ports is also available in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, 50 CFR part 24.

Bud Petit de Mange  
CITES and Plant Inspection Station Coordinator  
Port Operations  
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Enclosure

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

**NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES**

No. 2001/026

Geneva, 18 May 2001

CONCERNING:

Appendix III

1. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article XVI of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Government of Indonesia has requested the Secretariat to include its populations of the following species in Appendix III:

**F L O R A**

THYMELAEACEAE *Gonystylus* spp. #1 3

#1 3 Designates that all readily recognizable parts and derivatives are subject to the provisions of the Convention, except:

- a) seeds, spores and pollen (including pollinia);
- b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained *in vitro*, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers; and
- c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants.

2. In accordance with the provisions of Article XVI, paragraph 2, of the Convention, inclusion of these populations in Appendix III shall take effect on 6 August 2001, i.e. 90 days after this information was transmitted to the Parties through the diplomatic channel.

3. Indonesia has also established a zero export quota for *Gonystylus* spp., effective from 12 April 2001.

4. A revised edition of Appendix III valid from 6 August 2001 is attached to the present Notification.