

TRAFFIC (International) BULLETIN

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Editors: Shirley Bennett and John A. Burton

TRAFFIC International (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce) is a specialist group of the Survival Service Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Its function is to monitor the international trade in wildlife.

Any opinions expressed in this Bulletin are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN or any other organisation connected with TRAFFIC. Information may be quoted freely, but an acknowledgement to the TRAFFIC Group of IUCN/SSC should be made where appropriate.

Honor Farm of the Transvaal

Lions and tigers from the High Noon game farm at Villiersdorp have been sent to a 'horror farm' in the Eastern Transvaal, where animals are shot as trophies by thrill seeking tourists from the safety of vehicles.

The lions are kept in small enclosures until hunter tourists buy them as trophies. They are then released into an enclosure where they are shot

The Cape Department of Nature Conservation now refuses to issue permits allowing animals to be sent to the farm owned, by Mr Don Timcke.

Apparently the department had understood that the lions were to be released in a large area on Mr Timcke's farm for breeding purposes.

The director of the Cape Department of Nature Conservation, Mr W.O. Morsbach, said that he did not believe such hunting to be in the interest of conservation. "While I am in favour of hunting as part of a management programme under natural conditions, I am totally against hunting wildlife under artificial conditions. This is not in the interests of conservation," he said. (Cont.p2)

When Graham Ferreira, reporter for the 'Weekend Argus' visited the farm, a labourer told him that many of the lions associated the vehicles with being fed, and came trotting unsuspectingly towards the vehicle to get a bullet between the eyes.

Mr Timcke has said that he could not see any difference between this form of trophy shooting and the slaughter of cattle in an abattoir.

A professional hunter has described the operation as "a Roman circus with no odds on the lion."

Last year a total of twelve lions and two tigers were sent from High Noon to Mr Timcke in three separate consignments.

The director of High Noon, Mr Kemp, had thought the animals were going to the park for breeding purposes.

Below is an advertisement in the classified ads section of the Kenyan Farmers Weekly for February 27, 1980.

Between the Timbavati Game Reserve and the Kruger Park with elephant, lions, leopards, cheetah, wildebeeste, zebra and kudu, offers hunting safaris throughout the year. Owner lets his own luxury 4 bedroom farmhouse with 2 swimming pools, bar, fish pond. 0.8 ha park with tropical trees and flowers to local and overseas hunters when he is not using it. Accommodation for up to 10 people R60/day (irrespective of how many). This includes the use of Land-Rover (excluding petrol), and 2 trackers.

The shooting fees for hunting out of season (in brackets see the successive amount of days which have to be booked for each specific animal). No Permits Required.

Baboons (1)	R 10
Impala (1)	R 50
Warthog (1)	R 30
Hyena (2)	R 80
Cape Hunting dog (2)	R 50
Jackal (2)	R 50
Wildebeeste (4)	R 200
Cheetah (5)	R 600
Leopard (5)	R 600
Lion (Permit) (5)	R1 000
IN SEASON (MAY 1/AUGUST 15)	
Impala (2)	R 45
Warthog (2)	R 30
Kudu (Big males) (3)	R 250
Wildebeeste (4)	R 180
Water Buck (5)	R 300
Giraffe (4)	R 300
Zebra (5)	R 300
Hyena (2)	R 80
Cheetah (5)	R 600
Lion (Permit) (5)	R1 000

The farm has its own airstrip and is considered one of the most beautiful and posh (sic.) places in the Eastern Transvaal.

Inquiries JOHANNESBURG 788-0120, 47-3892, or 614-5220.

(Farmer's Weekly, February 21 1980)



Survey of Caribbean Wildlife Products

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Janet Barber, head of the Information and Conservation Department of the World Wildlife Fund (UK), visited the eastern Caribbean at the end of November 1979 and very kindly made a brief survey for TRAFFIC International of the wildlife products on sale on three islands: Barbados, St. Vincent and Grenada.

Wildlife souvenirs most commonly seen on sale were items made from tortoiseshell, coral and shells, but she also saw sharks teeth jewellery, shark's jaws, stuffed caimans (from Guyana), puffer fish, and on St. Vincent, scrimshaw from the island of Bequoia where whaling continues.

TURTLE PRODUCTS

In Barbados tortoiseshell jewellery was stocked as a matter of course by semi-specialist shops and some general stores, along with green turtle polished shells, and stuffed turtles (including hawksbills) at prices ranging from £12 to £100. The jewellery was surprisingly cheap, some pieces costing as little as 50p. In the Pelican Shop, Pelican Village, where there were over 1,000 pieces of tortoiseshell jewellery for sale, there was a notice saying that the pieces were being sold at half price. Janet was told that this was because of the recent ban by the USA on imports of tortoiseshell goods by tourists (see turtle conference article, page 2), and because Germans are also now reluctant to buy it.

Janet informed the shopkeepers that import restrictions on turtle products are being imposed by a number of countries such as the UK under the CITES requirements. The shopkeepers were grateful for the information and explained that they were already diversifying into coconut shell and acrylic jewellery. The acrylic comes from Canada and the craftsmen who worked on the premises were learning to apply their skills to this material instead of turtle shell. Although these materials are not as attractive as tortoiseshell at present, (Janet bought some samples) it is encouraging that alternative materials for souvenirs are already being sought.

St. Vincent had very little tortoiseshell jewellery for sale. On Grenada there was more and it was inexpensively priced as on Barbados. In the Government handicraft shop at St. Georges many of the designs were also being made in 'cow-hoof' and coconut shell. Japanese trade statistics show that Japan has regularly imported small quantities of unworked tortoiseshell from these three islands, but the main exporters in the Caribbean are Cuba, Haiti, the Bahamas and the Cayman Islands (Cayman Turtle Farm).

Janet suggests that the independent countries such as the three islands she visited should be asked to accede to CITES, or at least that their governments should be advised that the international trade in tortoiseshell and turtle goods is largely banned or controlled, and they will therefore find it increasingly difficult to sell to tourists.

CORAL AND SHELLS

The Caribbean islands are typical of many tropical countries where large numbers of coral and shell souvenirs are offered to tourists (see Bulletin Vol I, No. 1, 'The Shell Trade in Kenya'). As in Kenya the shells on sale are mainly the large, glossy, colourful species such as conches, cones, cowries and sundial shells, although helmet shells which were seen on sale frequently in Kenya are not mentioned in the Caribbean report. Articles made of shells are also popular, such as lampstands made from conches

and jewel boxes decorated with smaller, more commonplace shells. A number of the shells were Indo-Pacific, rather than Atlantic and Caribbean species; sets of shells from Taiwan were also seen, imported shell necklaces and mother-of-pearl jewellery from Italy.

Trade statistics show that Barbados imports and exports large quantities of corals and shells: in 1977 (the most recent figures available), Barbados imported 3,103 kg of 'coral, shells, their powder and waste' from St. Vincent (82kg), the USA (3,009kg) and France (13kg). 943kg were re-exported to Grenada, and domestic exports totalled 8,837 kg, mainly to the UK (6,787 kg).

Black coral jewellery was on sale at high prices in a number of shops in Barbados and Grenada, apparently most of it collected and worked locally. In Grenada the people who dive for it and work it also hawk their wares along the beach. A pair of earrings cost as much as £5 in Barbados. Although in the past black coral has not been valued highly in the west, as has red coral, it can now be seen for sale in a number of London jewellers. In the Far East it is attributed with medicinal and magic properties and has been used for centuries.

Black coral has recently been declared an endangered species in the British Virgin Islands, and corals are also protected in Bermudan waters. Bermuda has also prohibited the taking of a number of molluscan species, including all helmet and bonnet shells, queen and harbour conches and the Bermuda cone. The status of molluscs in the Caribbean is not very clear at present but it is possible that some form of control on exploitation may be necessary.

TRAFFIC International and TRAFFIC (USA) are carrying out a study of international trade in coral and shells. Any information from any country on imports and exports, species involved, legislation and controls on exploitation, methods of collection and effects of exploitation on mollusc populations and coral reefs would be most welcome.

Stop Press:

Bangui, March 25

Poachers who slaughter an estimated 6000 elephants a year in the Central African Republic face heavy prison sentences under new laws just introduced to try to protect the species.

All killing of elephant in the country has been banned, along with the "collection, commercialization, import, export and transit" of ivory.

(The Times, March 26 1980).

Nanyuki, Kenya

John Cousans, manager of Segera Ranch Limited, has been jailed for twelve months for killing a pregnant lioness and her cub on February 27th. The car and rifle used in the hunt has been forfeited to the Kenyan Government.

The prosecution produced a letter in court which Cousans had written apologising for killing the game. The trophies were also produced as exhibits.

The magistrate said Cousans required a custodial sentence so that other large farmers would learn it was wrong to shoot wild animals.
(KNA, Kenya)

Poaching of leopards for their skins is being carried out on a massive scale in Sri Lanka.

With leopard skins fetching high prices overseas, organised gangs are now gunning down these cats in increasing numbers, bringing them closer to total extinction.

Alarmed at the situation the Director of Wild Life Conservation, Lyn de Alwis, has made an appeal to the police to crack down on these poachers. (*The Sun, November 15 1979, Sri Lanka*).

JORDAN BANS HUNTING

Jordan has banned hunting of all species of animals except fish and will no longer grant import licences for any item of hunting equipment. (*Oryx, November 1979*)

BENGAL TIGERSKIN

We have received news that Dr Begum, owner of the confiscated tigerskin (see *Bulletin Vol. I No. 5*) has returned to Bangladesh, and the Bolton police are unable to make further progress. Should she return to the UK, then Bolton Police will take appropriate action.

BATTLE TO SAVE ORYX

ONE of the world's rarest and most beautiful antelopes, the scimitar oryx of Africa, is being hunted to extinction by poachers using Jeeps and sub-machine guns, conservationists say.

The scimitar oryx can out-gallop almost anything on four legs, but unrestricted slaughter in the grasslands of the Sahel, North Africa, has decimated herds, the Fauna Preservation Society said in this week news release launching an international campaign to save the animal.

The society, based at London Zoo, warned that the species, native to Chad, Niger, Mali and Sudan, could be extinct in the wild by next year.

Millions once roamed Africa from Senegal on the West Coast to the Nile in the East. Now it is believed that only 500 survive, although civil war in Chad makes an accurate count impossible. Another 500 live in Zoos in Europe and the United States.

The white and gold antelopes stands up to 3½ feet tall and has curving horns up to 3 feet long. As recently as 1976, wildlife enthusiasts spotted herds of upto 1,000 mingling with two other species of antelope, the graceful spiral-horned addax and the dama gazelle, the society said.

The society said British wildlife expert John Newby is trying to trace the few oryx that remain in the wild, and the Niger government has shown interest in setting up a wildlife reserve near the Chad board.

Newby has witnessed "an orgy of slaughter, with oryx killed by the lorryload, many others dying unobserved of their wounds or from exhaustion following high-speed chases," the society said.

In London, David Jones, senior veterinary officer at London Zoo, is Assisting in the campaign, along with the People's Trust for Endangered Species.

A reservation could be stocked from the oryx owned by British Zoos. This survival technique has already been successfully achieved in an experiment with the Arabia oryx, which was reintroduced in Oman from a herd in the United States.

Newby was quoted in the release: "If the Fauna Preservation Society finds the money, we stand a good chance of saving the oryx. It just depends whether enough people in the world are prepared to give £5 or £10 to save one of the most graceful Africa's animals, which will be otherwise lost forever."



ZEBRA SKINS IN MAJORCA



These photos were taken in Majorca last year, where large numbers of ocelot and zebra skins were on sale. The zebra skin appears to be of *Equus burchelli*, which is widespread, but if trade on the present scale continues a rapid decline in numbers is to be expected.

HM Customs + Excise Wildlife Seizures

The table below shows seizures of wildlife by HM Customs and Excise and was published in Hansard 23 November 1979 in answer to a Parliamentary Question by Peter Hardy MP.

	1978	1979*
Leopard Skins	11	2
Cheetah Skins	4	—
Otter Skins	3	—
Tiger Skins	2	—
Serval Skins	5	—
Civet Skins	1	1
Lion Skin Rug	—	1
Crocodile Skins	30	—
Snake Skins	45	3
Lizard Skins	1	—
Colobus Monkey Skins	—	3
Kangaroo Skins	—	2
Zebra Skins	—	1
Stuffed Turtles/Turtle Shells	30	18
Stuffed Birds of Prey	5	9
Stuffed Crocodiles	—	8
Stuffed Lizard	2	—
Stuffed Mongoose/Cobra	2	2
Snakeskin Bags/Wallets	—	3
Elephant and Warthog Tusks	17	7
Carved Ivory Items	—	3
Live Animals	19	1
Live Birds	44	—
Cacti	13	46

* To the end of October.
I regret that more detailed information available. not

Leningrad Fur Auctions

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Prices of whitecoat Harp seal skins at Leningrad fur auctions are only slightly up on prices two years ago. In January 1978, 98% of the dyed whitecoats offered were sold, fetching from US\$ 9.75 to \$52 (although all but one of the seven colours offered failed to make \$40). Two years later, at the January 1980 auction the range of prices achieved was US\$ 13 - \$ 54, but only 71% of the 6,071 skins offered were sold. These whitecoats are apparently from Norway - certainly they were in 1980.

In both January 1978 and 1980 slightly over 13,000 other whitecoats were offered, identified as 'Caspran' and 'North' in the earlier year; therefore almost certainly these were from Caspran seals in the USSR. They achieved prices from US\$ 18.00 to \$34.50 in 1978, a price that was "Advanced compared to recent levels" (*Fur Review, March 1978*). Since then prices have fluctuated. The range achieved at the Leningrad auction rose from US\$ 20 - 30 in July 1979 to US\$ 20 - 49.00 in January 1980. And each time 100% of these Caspran skins were sold. But the prices, it seems, are scarcely keeping pace with inflation.

Current Kangaroo Quotas

Below are given the current kangaroo quotas, taken from the Australian Hansard for 17th October 1979. Droughts struck all areas of Australia last year, and the battle of the kangaroo has been continuing unabated. The lobby for lifting the US import bans is extremely strong, with delegations of farmers and Senators travelling to America to pressure the US Endangered Species Office. The Australian conservation lobby has been doing some pressuring of its own, and Michael Kennedy, who sent us this information, is awaiting the decision of the US.

State	Quota			Species included in quota	
	1979	1978		1979	1978
New South Wales ,	645 000	365 000	Red	300 000	150 000
			Eastern Grey	340 000	210 000
			Western Grey		
			Euro	5 000	5 000
South Australia	104 000	80 000	Red	78 000	55 000
			Western Grey	25 000	24 000
			Euro	1 000	1 000
Queensland	1 500 000*	800 000	Red		800 000
			Eastern Grey		
			Euros and Whiptail Wallabies	1 500 000	..
					..
Tasmania	300 000	250 000	Bennetts Wallaby	200 000	150 000
			Rufous Wallaby	100 000	100 000
Western Australia	220 000 ⁺	152 000	Red	180 000	152 000
			Western Grey	30 000	..
			Euro	10 000	..

*On 20 June 1979 a quota of 800 000 was approved. At the request of the Queensland Minister for Wildlife this was increased to 1 000 000 on 23 July 1979 and to 1 500 000 on 22 August 1979.

+On 20 June 1979 a quota of 180 000 red kangaroos was approved and at the request of the Western Australian Minister for Fisheries and Wildlife this was increased to 220 000 to include two additional species on 22 August 1979.

Spanish Import and Export Figures for 1978

from a summary produced by Carlos de Hita, Coordinator for La Defensa de Las Aves

COMMODITY	WEIGHT IN TONNES	
	IMPORT	EXPORT
Animals for zoological collections	6	4
Dead birds (non domestic) frozen and tinned	24	196
Raw ivory (inc. Waste)	9	7.65
Tortoiseshell	1	
Natural sponge	16	.381
Marine mammal oil and fat	566.4	1794.21
Sperm oil	27.689	19.31
Whale meat in tins 5+ kg.	No data	No data
Skins of wild animals	457	7.317
Furs	315	1939.89

Senor de Hita has produced a detailed analysis of the trade in Spanish wildlife for the years 1975 - 1978 inclusive.

The Spanish trade in small birds is of particular interest since ICBP have been running a campaign to stamp out the mass destruction of migrant songbirds in the Mediterranean. The tariff heading 02.04.02 appears to refer to the trade in frozen and tinned wild birds, and apparently in 1977 Britain imported 600 Kgs from Spain and the USA exported 8,000 Kgs to Spain.

Other interesting data include 2000 Kgs of birds to Switzerland.

Norwegian Import + Export of Whale Products

The following statistics show Norwegian exports of whalemeat to Japan via USA for 1977 and 1978 and Norwegian imports of sperm and bottlenose oil from USA for 1979.

NORWAY EXPORTS		KG	NKr
1977	Whalemeat to Japan via USA	325 871	3425 951
1978	Whalemeat to Japan via USA	68 945	992 130

NORWAY IMPORTS		KG	NKr
1979	Sperm and bottlenose oil from USA	222 338	1017 196
1979	Spermaceti	717 004	1875 898

Publications List

In addition to the Bulletin (for which there is, alas, as yet no index), TRAFFIC International has produced a number of reports, and staff as well as members of the TRAFFIC Group have published articles and papers relating to trade in wildlife. We will be pleased to distribute any that readers can supply. This list supercedes all earlier versions.

Unless indicated publications are free, but a donation should be sent to cover costs of copying and mailing.

TRAFFIC International BULLETIN 1979; Vol. I Nos 1 - 10 \$10
TRAFFIC International BULLETIN 1980; Vol. II \$10

TRAFFIC (USA) NEWSLETTER 1979; Vol. I No. 1 and Vo. 2 No. 2.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE

by Sue Wells and Tim Inskipp

100 page illustrated paperback booklet with photos and drawings by Sir Peter Scott, giving history of conservation legislation leading up to CITES- Available from TRAFFIC International price US\$4 surface mail, US\$5 airmail. Discounts available for 5 or more copies.

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA, 1973 (Revised 1976)

THE SPONGE TRADE

by Sue Wells, May 1979

A report showing the species involved, their distribution, uses etc.

KENYAN SHELL TRADE 1978

by Sue Wells, 1979

A report giving details of Kenyan legislation, shop survey, example of export permit, international trade, etc.

SUMMARY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE SKINS OF THE SALTWATER CROCODILE

by Tim Inskipp, July 1979

Data and statistics on *Crocodilus porosus*.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN VARANIDAE 1977

by Tim Inskipp

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN MARINE TURTLES

by Nicole Duplaix, David Mack and Sue Wells

This supercedes earlier reports by Sue Wells and will be published shortly.

TORTOISES COME TO BRITAIN

by John A. Burton and Mike Lambert, 1977

An article in the World of Wildlife magazine about the trade in tortoises to the United Kingdom

UK IMPORTS OF TORTOISES 1965 - 1975 inclusive

Table showing species of tortoises imported and numbers imported

THE TORTOISE TRADE

Booklet by the RSPCA describing the conditions under which tortoises are caught, crated and exported to the UK.

PRIMATES INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM 1965 - 1975

by John A. Burton

From Recent Advances in Primatology Vol. 2 Conservation (1978)

JAPANESE IMPORTS OF PRIMATES 1970 - 1979

Reprint from TRAFFIC Bulletin Nos. 8 and 9.

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN FELIDAE 1977

by Tim Inskipp

Prepared for the Second Meeting of CITES Parties at Costa Rica, March 1979

THE BUTTERFLY TRADE

by John A. Burton

MAMMALS USED IN THE FUR TRADE

Compiled by Tim Inskipp, 1978

List giving the scientific, English and trade name and distribution.

THE EXTENT OF WORLD TRADE IN BIRDS AND THE MORTALITY INVOLVED

Compiled by Tim Inskipp and Alistair Gammell

Reprint from XIII Bulletin of the International Council for Bird Preservation 1979

REPORT ON THE CONDITIONS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND THE IATA REGULATIONS

by Alistair Gammell and Tim Inskipp

Reprint from XIII Bulletin of the International Council for Bird Preservation 1979

THE TRAPPING AND EXPORT OF BIRDS FROM INDIA

by Tim Inskipp

Reprint from XIII Bulletin of the International Council for Bird Preservation 1979

IMPORTATION OF BIRDS INTO THE UNITED STATES

by Greta Nilsson

Reprint from XIII Bulletin of the International Council for Bird Preservation 1979

ALL HEAVEN IN A RAGE

A Study of Importation of Wild Birds into the United Kingdom. Published by RSPCA
by Tim Inskipp

AIRBORNE BIRDS

A Further Study of Importation of Wild Birds into the United Kingdom. Pub. by RSPCA
by Tim Inskipp

BIRDS IN PERIL

by Tim Inskipp and John A. Burton, 1979

The Threat of International Trade. Article in 'The Encyclopedia of Birds'

PASSAGE FROM INDIA

Article in 'Birds' magazine 1978, about a field investigation made by Tim Inskipp
regarding the trapping methods used to catch birds destined for the bird trade.

BIRDS ARE BIG BUSINESS

by Tim Inskipp and Gareth Thomas

'Birds' magazine article 1977, concerning importation of exotic birds into UK.

TRADE IN BIRDS IN INDIA

by Tim Inskipp

Article in 'RSPCA TODAY', Winter 1979/1980 issue.

THE TRADE IN CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENT PLANTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

by Charles Jarvis, Plant Science Laboratories, Reading University. 1979

Report produced for TRAFFIC International and the Threatened Plants Committee.

ZOOS - THE NEED FOR A NEW POLICY

by Jon Barzdo and John A. Burton

Reprint from Vole III 2 Magazine, 1979

THE ZOO CONNECTION

by John A. Burton and Tim Inskipp, 5 January 1978

Evidence of smuggling of protected and endangered species of animal.

THE INTERNATIONAL IVORY TRADE

by Susan M. Wells and John A. Burton

The international trade in ivory up to 1977 is described using data published
by government statistical offices.

THE IVORY CONNECTION

by John A. Burton, 15 April 1976

An article about the illegal trade in ivory and lizard skins and the
need for tighter legislation.

THE IVORY CONNECTION PART 2

by John A. Burton.

Fifty Years ago in Africa

FEBRUARY 1930

Provisional plans had been completed for the Prince of Wales' East African safari in which he was expected to hunt in Voi, Taveta, Kitui and Lake Albert.

His principal object was to obtain a good elephant, which it was hoped he would achieve in Kenya. Thereafter he was mainly interested in the delights of the open air life on safari and photographing with a cinema camera, big game in their natural surroundings and in addition make acquaintance with the more remote and interesting native peoples.

(Daily Nation, Nairobi).

Staff Changes at TRAFFIC

Sue Wells, researcher for TRAFFIC for two years, has gone to Cambridge to join SCMU (Species Conservation Monitoring Unit), which produces the Red Data Book, as assistant to Dr. Bob Pyle. Caroline Boydell and Frank Antram have joined us; Caroline Boydell as assistant to John Burton and Frank Antram as a research assistant.

New Publications

A six month study of International Trade in Whale Products, funded by the RSPCA and carried out by Charles Smith Mearns for the Marine Action Centre, has now been completed. The report is in the process of being edited and will be published by the RSPCA in the coming weeks.



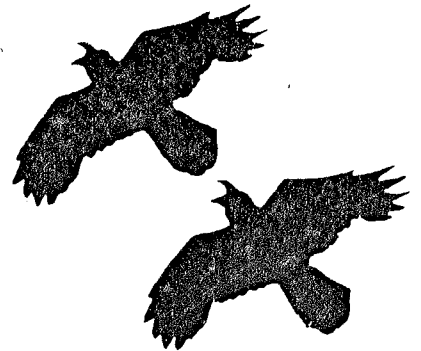
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