



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

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## MAIN FEATURE

### International Trade in Skins of Monitor and Tegu Lizards



*Varanus exanthematicus*  
(African Savannah Monitor)

1975 - 1980

### Three More Parties for CITES

Thailand, the People's Republic of the Congo and St Lucia have all become Party to CITES.

St Lucia acceded to the Convention on 15 December 1982 (effective from 15 March 1983), becoming the 79th state Party to CITES.

Thailand ratified the Convention on 21 January 1983 (effective as of 21 April 1983), becoming the 80th member. Reservations were entered with respect to Crocodylus siamensis, Crocodylus porosus, and Varanus bengalensis listed on Appendix I, and Varanus salvator, Python molurus bivittatus, and Python reticulatus listed on Appendix II.

The People's Republic of the Congo acceded on 31 January 1983, making a total of 81 countries Party to CITES, and this will take effect from 1 May 1983.

### Bangladesh Decree on Lizard Skin

On 23 September 1982 the Bangladesh Government issued a decree which states that "all lizard skins in the possession or custody of any person shall become the property of the Government and shall be disposed of by the Government in any manner it deems fit ... Any person, who has in his possession or custody any lizard skin, shall within seven days from the date of commencement of this Order, declare in writing to the Chief Conservator of Forests, ... the total quantity of such skins in his possession or custody." Any person contravening this Order is liable to imprisonment of up to two years, a fine or both.

Since this decree was issued, over 20 lakh (2,000,000) pieces of lizard skin, valued at about Taka eight crore (approx US\$3.27m) have so far been declared under this Order.

Note that in the Varanus/Tupinambis report on page 71, Bangladesh exported a total of 1,890,559 skins during 1978-79, before becoming a party to CITES - an average of about 950,000 skins per year.

*Bangladesh Times 23.9/26.10.82*

### Turkey Bans Dolphin Hunting

The Turkish government has at last decided to ban dolphin hunting with effect from April this year, until scientists have completed a survey of dolphin populations in the Turkish Black Sea.

Large numbers (more than 900,000 according to the People's Trust for Endangered Species) have been killed in the last 15 years for their oil and the meat from their carcasses which is made into chicken meal. However, there has been a declining market for dolphin products and the EEC ban on the import of whale products, which came into effect in January 1982 and also includes a ban on dolphin products, closed what appears to have been a profitable outlet for the Turkish industry.

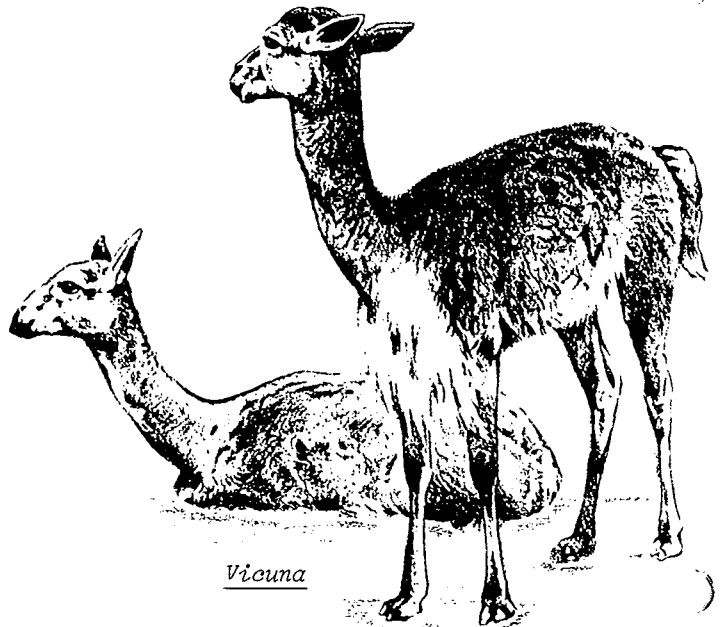
In 1966 the dolphin populations in the Black Sea were so depleted that the USSR, Bulgaria, and Romania introduced a ban on all dolphin hunting, but Turkey continued. In 1976, the Turkish government ignored a warning from United Nations Fisheries and Agricultural Organisation which urged Turkey to stop, or at least substantially reduce its catches of dolphins and porpoises. The ban on dolphin hunting in Turkey will hopefully now allow depleted stocks to recover.

*Wildlife, October 1982*  
*The Sunday Times 6.3.83*

### Vicuna Report

A report by Dr Hartmut Jungius of IUCN indicates that there has been a considerable increase in poaching of the vicuna populations of the Pampa Galeras in Peru and a severe neglect of facilities and equipment.

This seems to have arisen as a result of the replacement of many Ministry of Agriculture game wardens by the Guardia Civil (police), who have taken over all but four of the posts, and of these only three remain occupied. One of the posts visited by Dr Jungius on a recent trip was found to be in a run-down and filthy condition and the remaining four posts which were handed over in perfect condition were apparently in a similar state of neglect. The Ministry wardens, who were familiar with the area, well-trained and respected, have now been disarmed, wear no uniforms and are no longer allowed, nor able due to shortage of vehicles, to patrol the area. Therefore, as the police do not carry out long patrols, most of the land is unsupervised and poaching on the increase. One poacher who was caught had 1,350 grams of vicuna wool which is that of approximately four animals and also the skins of 14 young vicuna.



Dr Jungius recommends that sufficient funds should be provided to repair and maintain installations, vehicles and radios, and to enable the annual vicuna count and harvest to be carried out. The Ministry wardens should be re-established, wearing uniforms and arms for self-defence and able to control the area in co-operation with the Guardia Civil.

As a result of this report, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, the President of WWF (International) and Vice-President of IUCN, has written to President Belaunde of Peru and it is hoped that some positive action will now be taken.

### Penguins Saved

A Japanese plan to market the skins and meat of 45,000 magellanic penguins (see Bull. IV:1) from the Argentine coast has been cancelled after representations from IUCN and other conservation groups.

*Wildlife, December 1982*

## CITES Seizures in Hong Kong

CITES Resolution Conf. 3.10 recommended that the Annual Reports of the Parties should include particulars of specimens seized under provisions of the Convention. The figures below are derived from the Reports on the

Implementation of CITES in Hong Kong for 1979, 1980 and 1981 with additional information from the answer to a UK Parliamentary Question put down on 20 July, 1982 by Lord Melchett.

	CITES Appendix	1979	1980	1981	1982 (first quarter)
<b>Mammalia</b>					
<b>PRIMATES spp.</b>	I/II			6 live	
Cercopithecidae					
<u>Macaca fascicularis</u>	II			1 live	
<u>Macaca mulatta</u>	II	1 live		2 live	
<b>PHOLIDOTA</b>					
Manidae					
<u>Manis spp.</u>	I/II	23 live 389 skins	6 live, 7 stuffed, 318 skins	41 live, 2 stuffed, 31 carcasses, 1 package of cut pieces	6 live, 1 stuffed, 13 carcasses + 18.6 kg carcasses + 127 pieces of carcasses
<b>CARNIVORA</b>					
Ursidae					
<u>Ursus arctos</u>	I/II	1 live	1 live		
Mustelidae					
<u>Lutra spp.</u>	I/II			107 skins	
Viverridae					
<u>Hemigalus derbyanus</u>	II			1 skin	
<u>Viverra civetta</u>	III			1 skin	
Felidae					
<u>Acinonyx jubatus</u>	I		1 skin		1 skin
<u>Felis bengalensis</u>	I/II			1 live, 393 skins	55 skins
<u>Felis lynx</u>	II			4 skins	57 skins
<u>Felis pardalis</u>	I/II	5 skins	15 skins	2 skins	2 skins
<u>Felis serval</u>	II		1 skin	3 skins	
<u>Felis viverrina</u>	II		2 stuffed	1 stuffed	
<u>Felis wiedii</u>	I/II	28 skins	28 skins	2 skins	1 skin
<u>Neofelis nebulosa</u>	I	221 skins	2 skins	1 skin	
<u>Panthera pardus</u>	I	28 skins	5 skins, 19 skin scraps	4 skins	1 skin
<u>Panthera tigris</u>	I	10 skins	4 skins		
<b>PINNIPEDIA spp.</b>	I/II			60 skins	32 skins
Otariidae					
<u>Arctocephalus pusillus</u>	II			1 skin	

CITES SEIZURES IN HONG KONG (ctd)

	CITES Appendix	1979	1980	1981	1982 (first quarter)
<b>PROBOSCIDEA</b>					
Elephantidae spp.	I/II	90 kg + 21 pieces of tusks 3 pieces of skin	6 tusks, 90 kg ivory pieces, 3 pieces of skin	1800 kg of tusks and ivory pieces	5 tails
<b>PERISSODACTYLA</b>					
Rhinocerotidae spp.	I		4 horns, 21 pieces of skin	1 horn, 1 piece of skin	3 horns
<u>Ceratotherium simum</u>	I			4 horns	
<b>ARTIODACTYLA</b>					
Cervidae					
<u>Moschus 'moschiferus'</u>	I/II			8 lbs musk	1 kg musk
<b>Aves</b>					
FALCONIFORMES spp.	I/II			14 live 2 stuffed	1 live
Accipitridae					
<u>Accipiter virgatus</u>	II		1 stuffed	1 stuffed	
<u>Aquila heliaca</u>	I	1 live			
<u>Aquila rapax</u>	II			1 stuffed	
<u>Buteo buteo</u>	II		8 stuffed	1 live	1 stuffed
<u>Circus spp.</u>	II		1 stuffed		
<u>Spizaetus nanus</u>	II			1 stuffed	
Falconidae					
<u>Falco tinnunculus</u>	II		10 stuffed		
<b>GRUIFORMES</b>					
Gruidae					
<u>Grus vipio</u>	I	14 live			
<b>STRIGIFORMES spp.</b>					
	I/II			27 live 7 carcasses	11 live 11 carcasses
Tytonidae					
<u>Tyto capensis</u>	II		1 live		
Strigidae					
<u>Asio flammeus</u>	II	1 live	3 live	6 live 1 carcass	
<u>Bubo bubo</u>	II		1 live 1 stuffed	1 live	
<u>Glaucidium cuculoides</u>	II			13 live	
<u>Otus bakkamoena</u>	II			1 live	
<u>Otus scops</u>	II			3 live 1 carcass	

## CITES SEIZURES IN HONG KONG (ctd)

	CITES Appendix	1979	1980	1981	1982 (first quarter)
<b>CORACIIFORMES</b>					
Bucerotidae					
<u>Rhinoplax vigil</u>	I		24 casques		
<b>PASSERIFORMES</b>					
Pittidae					
<u>Pitta brachyura</u>	II ssp. nympha	1 live	1 live		
Paradisaeidae spp.					
<u>Paradisaea apoda</u>	II	5 stuffed 1 skin	5 stuffed		
<b>Reptilia</b>					
<b>TESTUDINATA</b>					
Cheloniidae spp.					
	I	136 stuffed 180 eggs, 2065 pieces of scale, 100 kg scale	1 live, 189 stuffed, 2 shells, 184 eggs, 676 kg scales	122 stuffed, 2 shells, 936 eggs 17 kg scales, 211 pieces of skin	22 stuffed, 419 eggs, 210 kg scales
<b>CROCODYLIA spp.</b>					
	I/II			10 stuffed 1381 skins	500 lbs skins
Alligatoridae spp.					
	I/II	6 stuffed 205 skins	29 stuffed 424 skins	8 stuffed 7 skins	
Crocodylidae spp.					
	I/II	4 stuffed	19 stuffed 1 head 30 skins	9 stuffed 1 head 9 skins	
<u>Tomistoma schlegelii</u>	I				1 stuffed
<b>SAURIA</b>					
Varanidae					
<u>Varanus</u> spp.	I/II	6 stuffed	2 skins	5 stuffed 2559 skins	2185 skins
<b>SERPENTES</b>					
Boidae spp.					
	I/II	2 skins		2 live 337 skins	5 skins
<u>Python reticulatus</u>	II		25 skins	2 stuffed	
<b>Amphibia</b>					
<b>URODELA</b>					
Cryptobranchidae					
<u>Andrias davidianus</u>	I			3 live	
<b>FLORA</b>					
Araliaceae					
<u>Panax quinquefolius</u>	II		0.5 lb root	570 kg root	20 kg root

## EEC Regulation on CITES Implementation

by Simon Lyster  
Specialist in international wildlife legislation

On 3 December 1982, the Council of the European Communities adopted a Regulation (EEC No. 3626/82, published in the Official Journal of the European Communities, No. L384/1, 31 December 1982) which will have an important impact on the implementation of CITES in the European Economic Community (EEC). The Regulation applies a uniform set of rules throughout the Community, which in many ways will subject trade in species covered by CITES to much stricter regulation than is required by the Convention. However, with limited exceptions, the Regulation only restricts the transfer of specimens into and out of the Community, exempting inter-Community transfers from all permit requirements. This aspect of the Regulation is causing conservationists some concern because it may be difficult for EEC member states with tight controls on trade in threatened species to maintain those controls. The provisions of the Regulation will come into force on 1 January 1984.

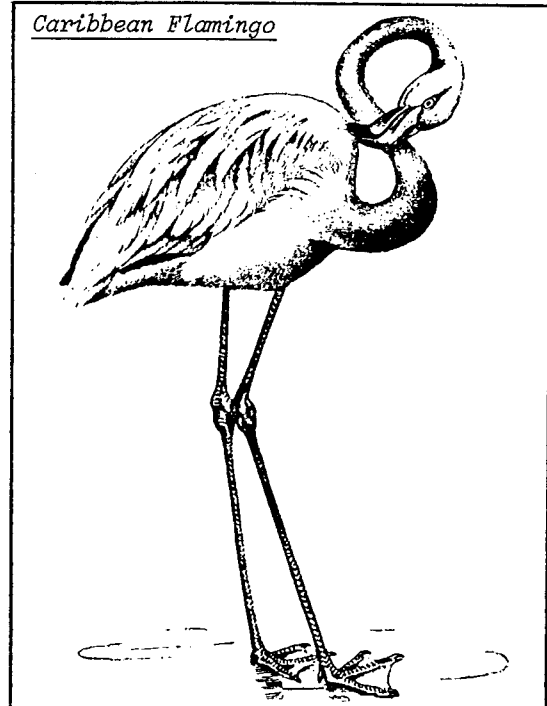
### A. Positive aspects of the Regulation

From a conservation viewpoint, the positive aspects of the Regulation are:-

i). The provisions of the Regulation apply throughout the Community. Therefore, from 1 January 1984, Belgium, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, none of which are Parties to CITES, will be forced to implement the Convention under the terms laid down by the Regulation. The Regulation may have the effect of pushing these countries into formally ratifying or acceding to CITES, as they might as well enjoy the benefits of being a Party.

ii). The Regulation goes beyond the requirement of CITES that specimens of Appendix I species may not be imported for commercial purposes and prohibits "the display to the public for commercial purposes and the sale, keeping for sale, offering for sale or transporting for sale" of specimens of Appendix I species subject to a few limited exceptions relating to captive bred specimens, specimens intended for research or propagation purposes etc. (Article 6(1)). The Regulation also provides that specimens of species listed in Part I of Annex C shall be considered as specimens of species in Appendix I of CITES in addition to those that are actually in Appendix I of CITES (Article 3(1)). Part I of Annex C contains several hundred species including Testudo graeca (Spur thighed tortoise), Testudo hermanni (Hermann's tortoise), Phoenicopterus ruber chilensis (Chilean flamingo), Phoenicopterus ruber ruber (Caribbean flamingo), Ornithoptera spp., Trogonoptera spp., and Troides spp. (Birdwing butterflies), all of which are heavily traded. From 1 January 1984, commercial trade in these species will be prohibited.

iii). While not going so far as deeming them to be Appendix I species, the Regulation imposes special restrictions on the introduction into the Community of species listed in Part 2 of Annex C. Import permits are required and will only be granted where "it is clear, or where the applicant presents trustworthy evidence, that the capture or collection of specimens in the wild will not have a harmful effect on the conservation of species or on the extent of the territory occupied by the



populations in question of the species" and where "there are no other requirements relating to conservation of the species which militate against the issue." The applicant must also prove that the specimen was legally acquired in the country of origin and that, in the case of a live animal, he has adequate facilities for its accommodation (Article 10(1) (b)). It is worth emphasising that the burden of proof is placed firmly on the applicant. Unless he can demonstrate that the import will not harm the conservation of the species concerned, an import permit must not be granted.

Species listed in Part 2 of Annex C include Loxodonta africana (African elephant), Felis pardalis (Ocelot), Felis wiedii (Margay), all Primates, all except three species of Psittacidae (Parrots), all species of Varanus (Monitor lizards) and hundreds of other species which occur in trade. If Article 10(1) (b) is strictly enforced, commercial trade in many of these species could be severely curtailed. One wonders, for example, how an importer could possibly present trustworthy evidence that the capture or collection of an ocelot or an African elephant or a crab-eating macaque in the wild will not have a harmful effect on the conservation of the species. Unless the specimen concerned is taken from a population that is subject to an efficient management programme or is demonstrably taken under a programme of sustained yield utilization, its capture or collection from the wild is almost certain to have a harmful effect on the conservation of the species.

iv). Import permits are only required by CITES for imports of specimens of Appendix I species, but the Regulation requires an import permit or an import certificate for the introduction into the Community of specimens of all species covered by the Regulation (Article 10(2)) - ie. specimens of species in Appendix I, Appendix II or Appendix III of CITES.

### B. Disturbing aspects of the Regulation

The most disturbing aspect of the Regulation is its insistence that the application of CITES "must not affect the free movement of products within the Community and must apply only to trade with third countries". (Preamble).

## WTMU Wildlife Farming/Ranching

### Survey

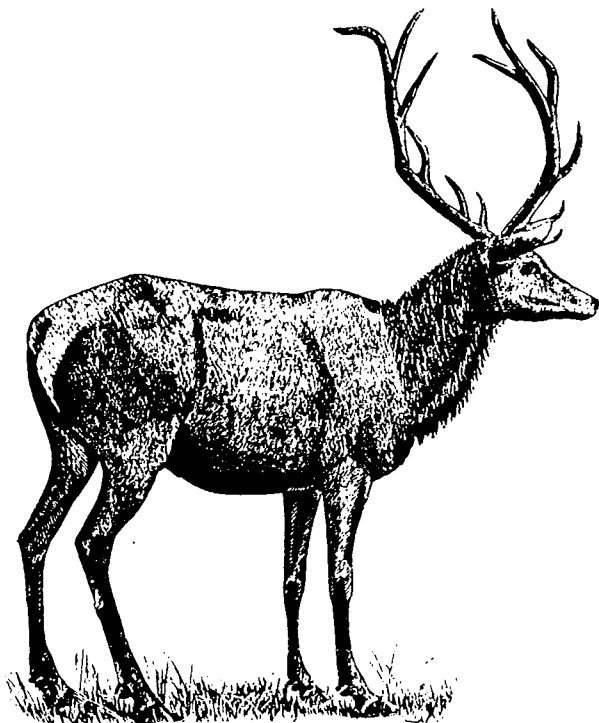
There has been much controversy over the value to turtle conservation of turtle farming and ranching. Even if a farm is a closed cycle operation, taking no animals or eggs from the wild and thus not directly affecting the local population, it may still be indirectly harmful. In the case of marine turtles, some conservationists argue that the marketing strategy that is an inevitable part of any business trying to sell its products may well be stimulating a demand that the farms are unable to satisfy. As a result, trade in products from wild-caught animals might be stimulated.

Furthermore, as all marine turtles are listed on CITES Appendix I, no commercial trade at all would be permitted between Parties were it not for the exemption for farmed specimens; and if no commercial trade were allowed then the enforcement of the Convention with respect to marine turtles would be a great deal easier.

Things are promising, however, to get a lot more complicated in the near future.

In New Delhi (1981) the CITES Parties agreed to recommend that populations of Appendix I species that are not endangered and which might benefit by ranching, with the intention of trade, should be included in Appendix II. "Ranching", they agreed, means "the rearing in a controlled environment of specimens taken from the wild."

So, in Botswana in April the Parties will consider proposals for the transference to Appendix II of green turtle populations being ranched in both Surinam and Réunion. If these proposals are adopted then, of course, the enforcement problems will be significantly increased because of the difficulties of distinguishing farmed or ranched products from those of animals taken from the wild.



*Red Deer*

The green turtle, however, is only one of a vast number of species that is farmed and ranched. Primates are bred for medical experiments, crocodiles and antelope are ranched for meat and skins, deer are farmed for their velvet, antlers and meat, wild cats have been bred for their fur, parrots are bred for the pet trade ... and so on. Unfortunately there is no central information source that can supply details of what ranching or farming operations exist and how they function. So we have no good

estimate of the numbers of different types of operations, and consequently no idea of how they might affect the local and global populations of their target species, nor of how they affect international trade.

In an attempt to rectify the situation the Secretariat of CITES is now compiling a register of captive breeding operations of Appendix I species and, in cooperation with the Secretariat, WTMU is carrying out a global survey of wildlife farming and ranching.

When asked for support for the survey, the International Fur Trade Federation at once agreed to provide half the funds, the rest being provided by IUCN.

The main objective is to compile a directory of operations which are commercially breeding, farming or ranching wild mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

It is intended that the directory should provide a basis for decisions by CITES national Management and Scientific Authorities on which operations may legitimately trade as farms or ranches under the terms of CITES Resolutions. However, the survey will not be restricted to operations involving CITES-listed species and it will be useful as a source of information to conservationists and research workers concerned with farming and ranching wildlife and to governments, companies and private individuals interested in the range of possibilities for farming and ranching.

The survey will not consider in detail animals that have been intensively reared and domesticated, such as mink, and in particular those in which a diversity of variants exists through selective breeding for particular traits.

The survey should be completed in one year and is being carried out at the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, by Jonathan Barzdo, Richard Luxmoore and David Jones. They will welcome information of any nature on wildlife farming and ranching operations, suggestions for contacts and pointers to published or unpublished literature, and all such help will be gratefully acknowledged.

### Rehabilitation for Baby Gorilla ...

On 12 January 1983, Tim Thomas of the RSPCA visited Gatwick Airport to inspect a young female gorilla which was in transit from Belgium to a primate rehabilitation centre in The Gambia. A Dutch magazine, in consultation with the Director of Arnhem Zoo, Holland, was concerned at the ease with which endangered species could be bought in Belgian stores. Along with several organisations, including a Dutch TV company, WWF Holland and a magazine "Nieuwe Revu" the gorilla was purchased with the intention of returning it to the wild. It appears that the animal, which was bought for an unspecified price, came to Belgium from Zaire or Cameroon in May 1981.

The gorilla was in excellent health and showed no signs of ill-treatment. Tim Thomas will be making further enquiries of Mr van Hooff to find out how successful the release in the Gambia was.

\* \* \*

### ... and for Mike Kavanagh

Dr Michael Kavanagh, who spent last year completing a study on international primate trade at WTMU, has now left to work for WWF-Malaysia in Sarawak. Any correspondence should be addressed to:-

Dr M Kavanagh  
c/o National Parks & Wildlife Office  
Forest Dept  
Jalan Gartak  
KUCHING, Sarawak, Malaysia.

## MARINE NEWS

## Seal Hunt Forced into Decline

Because of the poor trading conditions resulting from the ban recently imposed by several EEC countries on the importation of seal pup skins, the spring seal culling off the east coast of Canada is declining.

The principal buyer of sealskins in Newfoundland, Mr Bernard Nygaard of the Norwegian processing company Carino Co Ltd, has decided not to buy any white-coat and blueback pelts (harp and hooded seal pups) this year. Approximately 70-80,000 adult seals are killed each year off Newfoundland and these will continue to be hunted but only half the average \$25 price will be paid. (New Scientist, 3.3.83). Mr Nygaard has also cut his staff to less than half. 70 per cent of Canadian pelts are normally sold to Europe and Canada is now searching for alternative markets for its pelts.

As a result of Mr Nygaard's action, 7000 Newfoundlanders who take part in the annual seal hunt can expect to earn only about a quarter of the \$3 million they earned from last year's harvest.

Likewise, because of the loss of markets for baby seal pelts, the Norwegian Seal Hunt Commission has agreed to halt the killing of 10,000 baby harp and hooded seals off Newfoundland, West Greenland and northern Norway.

## No Objections

Iceland, South Korea and Brazil have decided not to file objections to the 1986 whaling ban.

## Dolphin Mortality

INCIDENTAL TO EAST PACIFIC US TUNA FISHERY

for 1982 up until December 19.

## FRG Press for Sealskin Ban

The West German government has threatened to go ahead with a national ban if the EEC does not complete the action to prohibit the import of skins of baby hooded and harp seals within the Common Market, according to the International Fund for Animal Welfare. West Germany, along with Britain, has been the largest importer of sealskins from Canada.

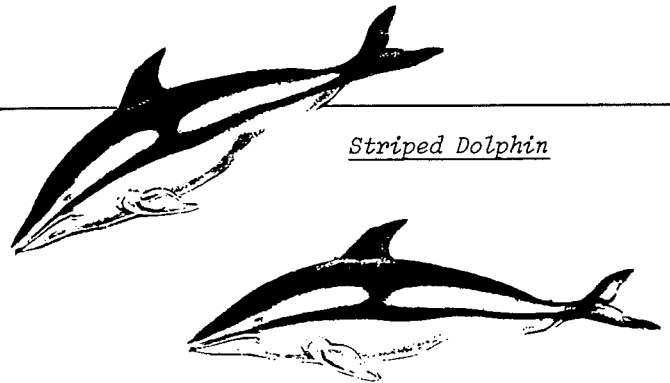
## EEC Compulsory Ban ?

European Ministers have agreed to impose a compulsory two year ban on the importation of seal pup skins from Newfoundland from October unless present voluntary bans prove successful and the Canadians can adopt a more satisfactory way of hunting seals.

The legislation has been approved but not yet adopted and allows for individual member states to apply measures to stop the seal skin trade as it sees fit.

In response to the decision for a ban, Canadian Fisheries minister, Pierre de Bane has declared that he is considering cutting off fishing rights for several European countries.

*The Guardian 1/2/3.3.83*



<u>Species or Stock Management Units</u>	<u>Allowable Mortality<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Estimated Mortality<sup>2</sup></u>
Spotted dolphin (northern offshore)	20,500	11,628
Spotted dolphin (southern offshore)	5,697	3,212
Spinner dolphin (northern whitebelly)	5,321	2,216
Spinner dolphin (southern whitebelly)	2,506	1,117
Common dolphin (northern tropical)	1,890	192
Common dolphin (central tropical)	8,112	359
Common dolphin (southern tropical)	4,045	0
Striped dolphin (northern tropical)	429	0
Striped dolphin (central tropical)	1,822	28
Striped dolphin (southern tropical)	4,095	432
	NOT TO EXCEED	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>20,500</u>	<u>19,184</u>

<sup>1</sup> Quotas on allowable US porpoise mortality for each calendar year 1981-1985 from Rules and Regulations Governing the Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations (45 Federal Register 72178-72196, October 31, 1980). Quotas amended as of August 19, 1981.

<sup>2</sup> Subject to revision following verification of observer records. Mortalities of undetermined stocks of spinner, spotted, and common dolphin are pro-rated among their respective stock units. Does not include an estimated 12 bottlenosed dolphins, 2,116 eastern spinner dolphins, 95 rough-toothed dolphins, 5 short-finned pilot whales, and 537 unidentified animals to be assigned following completion of observer cruises.



## 1980 ALL CITES TRANSACTIONS IN VARANUS AND TUPINAMBIS - WHOLE SKINS ONLY (ctd)

SPECIES	COUNTRY OF			IMPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)	EXPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)
	IMP.	EXP.	ORIGIN		
APPENDIX II					
Varanus salvator	JP	GB	[XX]	100 skins	100 skins
	JP	PH	[XX]	3875 skins	
	JP	SG	[XX]	123600 skins	
	LB	GB	[XX]		70 skins
	NL	GB	[XX]		269 skins
	NO	GB	[XX]		20 skins
	PA	CA			1 skin
	SE	GB		141 skins (C)	
	US	CA			2 skins
	US	CH	[DE]		400 skins
	US	CH	[FR]		60 skins
	US	CH	[ID]	550 skins (C)	
	US	CH	[MY]	460 skins (C)	
	US	DE	[PH]		200 skins
	US	FR	[GB]		140 skins
	US	FR	[ID]		6250 skins
	US	FR	[SG]	2458 skins (C)	36 skins
	US	FR	[XX]	377 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[GB]	513 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[ID]	38641 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[IN]	147 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[MY]	400 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[NG]	3 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[SD]	974 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[SG]	17293 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[TH]	5743 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[XX]	2655 skins (C)	10251 skins
	US	IT	[MY]	8 skins (C)	
	US	JP	[ID]	26870 skins (C)	
	US	JP	[JP]	1298 skins (C)	
	US	JP	[MY]	72 skins (C)	
	US	JP	[PH]	6 skins (C)	
	US	JP	[SG]	11532 skins (C)	
	US	JP	[XX]	769 skins (C)	
	US	PH		124 skins (C)	
	US	TH		2 skins (P)	
	US	TH		2530 skins (C)	
	ZA	GB	[XX]		108 skins

## INDEX OF I.S.O. COUNTRY CODES USED IN THIS REPORT

AE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	MG MADAGASAR
AR ARGENTINA	ML MALI
AT AUSTRIA	MX MEXICO
AU AUSTRALIA	MY MALAYSIA
BE BELGIUM	NG NIGERIA
BR BRAZIL	NL NETHERLANDS
CA CANADA	NO NORWAY
CH SWITZERLAND	PA PANAMA
CM CAMEROON	PE PERU
CO COLOMBIA	PH PHILIPPINES
DE GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF	PY PARAGUAY
DK DENMARK	SD SUDAN
ES SPAIN	SE SWEDEN
FR FRANCE	SG SINGAPORE
GB UNITED KINGDOM	TD CHAD
GR GREECE	TH THAILAND
HK HONG KONG	TW TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF
HU HUNGARY	US UNITED STATES
ID INDONESIA	UY URUGUAY
IE IRELAND	VE VENEZUELA
IN INDIA	XS ASIA
IT ITALY	XX COUNTRY UNKNOWN
JP JAPAN	ZA SOUTH AFRICA
LB LEBANON	

## 1980 ALL CITES TRANSACTIONS IN VARANUS AND TUPINAMBIS - WHOLE SKINS ONLY (ctd)

SPECIES	COUNTRY OF			IMPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)	EXPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)	
	IMP.	EXP.	ORIGIN			
APPENDIX II						
Varanus niloticus	IT	FR	[XX]	99230 skins		
	IT	FR	[ZA]	4078 skins		
	IT	GB	[XX]	379 skins	78 skins	
	IT	NG		309429 skins		
	JP	FR	[XX]	7 skins		
	JP	GB	[XX]		302 skins	
	JP	IT	[XX]	72 skins		
	MX	FR	[SD]		6000 skins	
	US	CH	[FR]		50 skins	
	US	CH	[ID]	1200 skins (C)		
	US	CH	[NG]	50 skins (C)		
	US	FR	[CM]	50 skins (C)	400 skins	
	US	FR		100 skins (C)		
	US	FR	[ML]		125 skins	
	US	FR	[NG]	8497 skins (C)	750 skins	
	US	FR	[SD]	2550 skins (C)	19962 skins	
	US	FR	[XX]	2410 skins (C)		
	US	FR	[ZA]	1500 skins (C)		
	US	GB	[NG]	37 skins (C)		
	US	GB	[XX]	2 skins (C)	88837 skins	
	US	IT	[NG]	56 skins (C)		
	Varanus salvator	AT	GB	[XX]		1490 skins
		AU	GB	[XX]		3159 skins
		CA	FR	[SG]		6188 skins
		CA	GB	[XX]		4836 skins
		CA	US	[XX]		2631 skins (C)
		CH	DE		6000 skins	
CH		DE	[ID]		6000 skins	
CH		GB		1215 skins		
CH		GB	[XX]		963 skins	
CH		NL		4000 skins		
DE		BE	[XX]	1 skin		
DE		GB	[XX]	870 skins	870 skins	
DE		NL	[XX]	9873 skins		
DE		TH		20 skins		
DK		GB	[XX]		654 skins	
FR		CH	[DE]		2527 skins	
FR		CH	[FR]		54 skins	
FR		GB	[XX]		190 skins	
GB		CA			1 skin	
GB		FR	[SG]		12 skins	
GB		HK	[XS]		5 skins	
GB		IN		1 skin (S)		
GB		TH		21000 skins (C)		
HK		GB	[XS]	7543 skins (C)		
HK		JP	[ID]	1590 skins (C)		
HK		SG	[ID]	1000 skins (C)		
HK		US		677 skins (C)		
HK		US	[ID]	2907 skins (C)	1040 skins (C)	
HK		US	[SG]	3567 skins (C)		
HK		US	[XX]		1867 skins (C)	
IT		CH	[DE]		874 skins	
IT		CH	[MY]	131 skins		
IT		CH	[XX]	100 skins		
IT	DE	[GB]		700 skins		
IT	DE	[ID]	700 skins			
IT	FR	[IT]		701 skins		
IT	FR	[XX]	701 skins			
IT	GB	[XX]		1165 skins		
IT	TH		6000 skins			

## 1980 ALL CITES TRANSACTIONS IN VARANUS AND TUPINAMBIS - WHOLE SKINS ONLY (ctd)

SPECIES	COUNTRY OF		IMPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)	EXPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)
	IMP.	EXP. ORIGIN		
APPENDIX II				
Varanus spp	US	TW [XX]	1 skin (C)	
Varanus exanthematicus	CA	GB	1126 skins	
	CA	GB [XX]		598 skins
	CH	DE	2 skins	
	CH	DE [IT]		24 skins
	CH	GB [XX]		26 skins
	CH	IT	8705 skins	
	DE	ES [XX]	48 skins	
	DE	GB [XX]		100 skins
	DE	IT [XX]	4373 skins	
	GB	DE [IT]		12 skins
	GB	ES [XX]	1100 skins (C)	
	GB	JP [XX]	245 skins (C)	
	GB	NG	30000 skins (C)	
	HK	DE [IT]		60 skins
	IT	CH [NG]	84653 skins	
	IT	ES [NG]	281 skins	
	JP	GB [XX]		17 skins
	US	ES [NG]	3982 skins (C)	
	US	GB	5154 skins (C)	
	US	GB [NG]	50 skins (C)	
	US	GB [XX]	9300 skins (C)	25770 skins
	US	IT [NG]	280 skins (C)	
Varanus indicus	CH	FR	645 skins	
	CH	FR [TD]		645 skins
Varanus niloticus	AE	GB [XX]		9 skins
	AT	FR [ML]		3098 skins
	AT	FR [NG]		267 skins
	AT	GB [XX]		4025 skins
	AU	GB [XX]		49 skins
	CA	GB [XX]		77 skins
	CH	DE	40 skins	
	CH	DE [NL]		40 skins
	CH	FR	89789 skins	
	CH	FR [CM]		6500 skins
	CH	FR [IT]		967 skins
	CH	FR [ML]		39033 skins
	CH	FR [NG]		30889 skins
	CH	FR [SD]		6712 skins
	CH	FR [TD]		5500 skins
	CH	GB [XX]		594 skins
	CH	IT	1000 skins	
	DE	BE [XX]	1 skin	
	DE	CH		1 skin
	DE	GB [XX]	696 skins	1790 skins
	DK	FR [ML]		39 skins
	ES	GB [XX]		2135 skins
	FR	CH [FR]		1340 skins
	FR	GB [XX]		1438 skins
	GB	DE [SD]		160 skins
	GB	FR [ML]		682 skins
	GB	FR [XX]	79 skins (C)	
	HK	GB [XX]		18 skins
	IT	CH [XX]	96 skins	
	IT	FR [CM]		10615 skins
	IT	FR [MG]	2829 skins	
	IT	FR [ML]	1470 skins	46028 skins
	IT	FR [NG]	13539 skins	58093 skins
	IT	FR [SD]		11645 skins
	IT	FR [TD]		2000 skins

## 1980 ALL CITES TRANSACTIONS IN VARANUS AND TUPINAMBIS - WHOLE SKINS ONLY (ctd)

SPECIES	COUNTRY OF		IMPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)	EXPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)
	IMP.	EXP. ORIGIN		
APPENDIX II				
Tupinambis teguixin nigropunctatus	PA	CA		1 skin
	US	CA		2 skins
Tupinambis teguixin	US	DE [PY]		200 skins
	US	GB [XX]		52 skins
	CA	GB [XX]		395 skins
	CA	US [AR]		13788 skins (C)
	CA	US [PY]		4992 skins (C)
	CH	DE	50 skins	
	CH	DE [CO]		300 skins
	CH	FR	5330 skins	
	CH	GB	150 skins	
	CH	IT	17045 skins	
	DE	CH [NL]		1950 skins
	DE	GB [XX]		100 skins
	DE	IT [XX]	11279 skins	
	ES	DE [PY]		10850 skins
	ES	US [AR]		7523 skins (C)
	ES	US [PY]		2200 skins (C)
	FR	GB [XX]		269 skins
	FR	US [PY]		103 skins (C)
	GB	IT [AR]	965 skins (C)	
	GB	SE		1000 skins (E)
	GR	CH [IT]		4312 skins
	HK	US [PY]		48 skins (C)
	IE	GB [XX]		216 skins
	IT	AR	221845 skins	
	IT	CH [BR]	30 skins	
	IT	CH [NL]		30 skins
	IT	CH [PY]	1050 skins	
	IT	ES [AR]	2920 skins	
IT	PY	18845 skins		
JP	IT [XX]	4 skins		
MX	US [AR]		14000 skins (C)	
MX	US [GB]		200 skins (C)	
US	AR	247920 skins (C)		
US	AR	18 cases of skins (C)		
US	AR [PY]	63000 skins (C)		
US	CO [AR]	279 pairs of skins (C)		
US	DE [CO]		199 skins	
US	ES [AR]	8006 skins (C)		
US	ES [US]	12 skins (C)		
US	FR [AR]	6981 skins (C)		
US	FR [PY]	103 skins (C)		
US	GB [AR]	20769 skins (C)		
US	GB [GB]	3288 skins (C)		
US	GB [GB]	1 shipment of skin (C)		
US	GB [ID]	820 skins (C)		
US	GB [NG]	2884 skins (C)		
US	GB [XX]	7863 skins (C)	18462 skins	
US	IT [AR]	3581 skins (C)		
US	IT [IT]	679 skins (C)		
US	IT [PY]	9086 skins (C)		
US	MX [AR]	520 skins (C)		
US	MX [PY]	4821 skins (C)		
US	PY	144436 skins (C)		
US	UY [PY]	63500 skins (C)		
Varanus spp	IT	CH [IN]		50 skins
	US	JP [XX]		33752 skins
	US	JP [XX]		21694 m. skins

## 1980 ALL CITES TRANSACTIONS IN VARANUS AND TUPINAMBIS - WHOLE SKINS ONLY

SPECIES	COUNTRY OF			IMPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)	EXPORTS REPORTED (PURPOSE)
	IMP.	EXP.	ORIGIN		
APPENDIX I					
Varanus salvator/bengalensis nebulosus	IT	CH	[IN]	50 skins	
Varanus bengalensis	IT	CH	[IN]	306 skins	
Varanus flavescens	IT	CH	[XX]		306 skins
	GB	IN		1 skin (S)	
	IT	CH	[IN]	100 skins	
Varanus griseus	IT	CH	[XX]		100 skins
	FR	CH	[FR]		61 skins
APPENDIX II					
Tupinambis spp	AT	FR	[AR]		3500 skins
	CA	US	[AR]		1636 skins (C)
	CA	US	[PY]		5279 skins (C)
	CH	AR		2235 skins	
	CH	DE		739 skins	
	CH	FR		8643 skins	
	CH	FR	[AR]		12282 skins
	CH	FR	[PY]		903 skins
	CH	IT		500 skins	
	CO	US	[PY]		14000 skins (C)
	DE	CH	[DE]		300 skins
	ES	US	[AR]		200 skins (C)
	GB	US	[AR]		30000 skins (C)
	GR	US	[AR]		78 pairs of skins (C)
	HK	JP	[XX]		5000 skins
	HK	US	[AR]		6980 skins (C)
	HK	US	[AR]		7500 lbs. skins (C)
	HU	US	[AR]		557 skins (C)
	MX	US	[AR]		3656 skins (C)
	MX	US	[AR]		10 lbs. skins (C)
	MX	US	[AR]		324 sq.ft. skins (C)
	US	AR		571525 skins (C)	
	US	AR	[PY]	168754 skins (C)	
	US	CA	[AR]	376 skins (C)	
	US	ES		7468 skins (C)	
	US	ES	[AR]	42654 skins (C)	
	US	ES	[ES]	5408 skins (C)	
	US	ES	[XX]	3339 skins (C)	
	US	FR	[AR]	10725 skins (C)	84803 skins
	US	FR	[XX]	51190 skins (C)	
	US	GB	[AR]	52 skins (C)	
	US	IT	[PY]	3488 skins (C)	
	US	JP	[AR]	1000 skins (C)	
US	PE		5371 skins (C)		
US	PE	[PY]	20227 skins (C)	2436 skins	
US	PE	[PY]		20297 m. skins	
US	PY		77243 skins (C)		
US	TH		7 skins (P)		
US	TW	[XX]	1 skin (C)		
VE	US	[PY]		450 skins (C)	
XX	US	[AR]		4100 skins (C)	
ZA	JP	[XX]		695 skins	
Tupinambis teguixin nigropunctatus	CA	US		9162 skins	
	DE	US	[XX]	40 skins	
	GB	CA			1 skin
	IT	ES	[PY]	800 skins	
	IT	FR	[PY]	27000 skins	
	IT	US		9249 skins	

Table 2

MINIMUM ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF WHOLE SKINS REPORTED IN TRADE  
MONITOR LIZARDS

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
<u>Varanus spp.</u>	-	- (+)	11,525	39,607 (+)	550 (+)	33,803
<u>V. bengalensis</u>	145	1,385	7,739	6,362	-	306
<u>V. exanthematicus</u>	-	2,074	94,788	16,357	36,198	113,019
<u>V. flavescens</u>	27,661	311,999	102,160	2,631 (+)	60	101
<u>V. flavescens/ griseus</u>	-	-	-	-	183,240	-
<u>V. griseus</u>	10,793	73,997	9,008	2,400	-	61
<u>V. indicus</u>	-	-	1	4,641	1	645
<u>V. niloticus</u>	12,604	42,223	60,926	81,885 (+)	125,170	772,894
<u>V. salvator</u>	12	16,026	42,758	96,185 (+)	103,116	259,888
<u>TOTALS</u>	51,215	447,704 (+)	328,905	250,068 (+)	448,334 (+)	1,032,782

Note: (+) = one or more additional transactions reported with number of skins unspecified.

Table 3

MINIMUM ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF WHOLE SKINS REPORTED IN TRADE  
TEGU LIZARDS

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
<u>Tupinambis spp.</u>	Not listed	Not listed	154,537 (+)	698,302 (+)	616,089 (+)	1,016,642
<u>T. teguixin</u>	on CITES	on CITES	10,000 (+)	601,440	426,107 (+)	864,742
<u>TOTALS</u>	-	-	164,537 (+)	1,299,742 (+)	1,042,196 (+)	1,881,384

Note: (+) = one or more additional transactions reported with number of skins unspecified.

country did not report as an export or re-export). Since 1980 was the year in which Italy first reported import statistics it seems likely that most (or all) of the increase from 1979 to 1980 was due to this increase in reporting (see also under Varanus niloticus below). The country of origin was specified in only a small proportion of instances, and in all such cases the skins originated in Nigeria. This excludes instances where an "impossible" country of origin was specified such as Indonesia, United Kingdom, Italy, etc.

#### Varanus flavescens (CITES Appendix I)

As with other Appendix I species, reported trade in flavescens has decreased to more or less insignificant quantities. In all cases where the country of origin was specified it was India.

#### Varanus flavescens/griseus (CITES Appendix I)

Only one transaction was reported under this "mixed" taxonomic heading, being 183,240 skins exported from Pakistan to Japan in 1979.

#### Varanus griseus (CITES Appendix I)

1976 saw the highest number of skins of this species reported in trade, since when a sharp decrease has occurred. Country of origin was specified in only one transaction and in that instance was India (excluding one case in 1980 when 61 skins re-exported from Switzerland to France were claimed to have originated in France).

#### Varanus indicus (CITES Appendix II)

The only year in which significant trade was reported was 1978 when an estimated 4,641 skins were traded. Of these, 3,237 skins were incorrectly specified as originating in Chad upon re-export from France. A similar error is reported for 645 skins in 1980. It is, of course, possible that the error in these, and in other similar instances, lies in the identification of the species rather than the specification of country of origin. This problem is not easily resolved.

#### Varanus niloticus

Reported trade in skins of this species has risen steadily from an estimated 12,604 in 1975 to 772,894 in 1980. It is this rise that is primarily responsible for the overall increase in the volume of reported trade in all Varanus skins between 1979 and 1980. Examination of the data indicates that Italy is by far the major trading country in this species, and most (if not all) of the dramatic increase can be attributed to the fact that in 1980 Italy became a Party to CITES and submitted an annual report which included data on imports.

Country of origin was specified for a substantial proportion (over 50%) of the skins reported in trade. Nigeria supplied the largest volume (over half the 1980 skins) with Mali, Sudan and Cameroon also producing large quantities.

#### Varanus salvator

The pattern of reported trade in this species was similar to that in niloticus, increasing from 12 in 1975 to around 260,000 in 1980. The major producing countries specified as countries of origin were Indonesia and Thailand. It seems unlikely that Singapore has a sufficient population of this species to supply the tens of thousands of skins specified as having originated there.

#### Tegu lizards



Tupinambis was added to the CITES appendices in early 1977, since when the minimum number of skins estimated from CITES annual reports has risen from c. 165,000 in 1977 to c. 1,881,000 in 1980. As with monitor skins, much (possibly all) of this increase can be attributed to increased reporting by CITES Parties.

In addition to the figures for 1977 to 1980, some data are available for 1981 from the CITES annual reports for that year submitted by Argentina and Uruguay. These data indicate that over 1,894,273 skins entered international trade in 1981 from Argentina and Paraguay. This figure is similar to that for 1980.

Most of the skins reported in trade were specified as originating in Argentina, with smaller quantities also coming from Paraguay, Colombia and Peru. Argentina also re-exports skins originating in Paraguay. As with Varanus, much of the apparent increase in trade in skins of Tupinambis can be attributed to the rise in the number of Party states and to improved reporting.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Trends in the volume and pattern of trade are extremely difficult to analyse as a result of the severe limitations outlined above.

Reported trade in skins of Appendix I Varanus species has decreased from a peak of nearly 400,000 in 1976 to less than 500 in 1980. There has been a substantial increase in reported trade in the skins of the Appendix II species V. niloticus, V. salvator, V. exanthematicus and Tupinambis species. However, the number of CITES Parties has increased and it is also evident that reporting accuracy is improving. Any apparent increase in the volume of trade, therefore, may be due to a large extent to improved implementation of CITES rather than an increase in the number of animals killed.

It is not possible to estimate what proportion, if any, of reported increases in trade in Appendix II species is due to a shift in trade resulting from the reduction in trade in Appendix I species that followed the introduction of CITES controls.

Despite the improvements in reporting, the discrepancies between reported imports and reported exports/re-exports are so large that it is apparent that CITES implementation in respect of skins of monitor and tegu lizards is generally very poor indeed.

Table 1

Year	No. of Parties	No. of Parties Submitting Reports	No. of Parties Reporting Trade in:-	
			Varanus	Tupinambis
1975	19	6	1	-
1976	33	17	2	-
1977	40	27	7	4
1978	47	30	8	6
1979	55	33	8	7
1980	61	23	9	9

\*Insufficient reports have been submitted to produce an analysis for 1981 and 1982.

Estimating the number of skins entering trade each year presents severe problems, mainly because of the incompleteness of the data and the general inadequacies outlined above. In the original report submitted to the CITES Secretariat only maximum estimates were given, calculated by summing all reported transactions except where the comparative tabulation indicated a precise correlation between reported imports and reported exports/re-exports, in which case only one of the two identical figures was included.

However, for the summary report on 1979 international trade in Crocodylia published in the Traffic Bulletin 4(4/5), minimum numbers were calculated by summing the net import figures for all countries that were net importers and by adjusting the figures accordingly where there was partial correlation between reported imports and reported exports/re-exports.

Whilst this technique relies heavily on certain assumptions that will not be valid in all instances, it does at least provide a minimum figure for the number of skins traded and, bearing in mind the overall poor quality of the data, it is probably the best method currently available for providing an estimate of this nature.

## RESULTS

As an example, the comparative tabulation for 1980 is shown in Appendix A. This presents all reported transactions in whole skins of all Varanus species and all Tupinambis species for that year. Similar tabulations were prepared for the years 1975 to 1979 inclusive, but are not included in this article for reasons of economy of space.

Estimates of the minimum numbers of skins reported in trade are given for each year in Table 2 (monitor lizards) and Table 3 (tegu lizards).

### Monitor lizards

The estimated total number of skins reported in trade rose from around 51,000 in 1975 to around 1,033,000 in 1980. However, the proportion of this increase, if any, that represents increased killing of monitors for the skin trade is unknown. Certainly the majority of this increase can be attributed to improved reporting by CITES Parties and to the rise in the number of Party states.

An illustration of the problems involved in interpreting the figures in this respect is found if the government trade statistics are examined for Bangladesh and Japan for the years 1978 and 1979. In those years, neither of these countries was a Party to CITES. The statistics indicate that in these two years, Bangladesh exported a total of 1,890,559 skins of three species of Varanus (bengalensis, flavescens and salvator), an average of about 950,000 skins

per year. This figure is nearly four times the figure for 1978 CITES reported trade for all Varanus species, and over twice that for 1979. From this example alone, it is apparent that we cannot yet give an accurate estimate of the total volume of trade from CITES data alone and that when a country becomes a Party to CITES and begins submitting annual reports it may have a profound effect on the trade statistics.

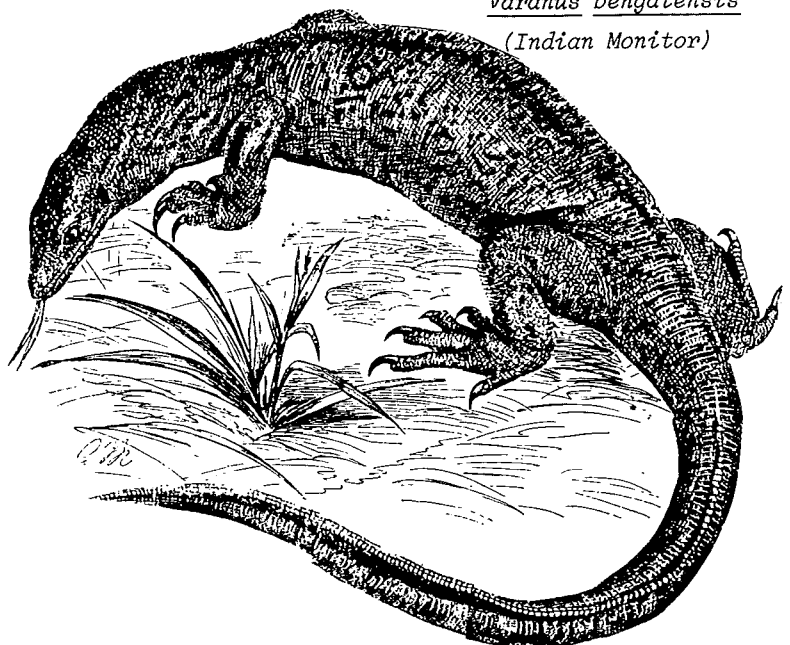
### Varanus bengalensis (CITES Appendix I)

Estimated numbers reported rose to a peak of 7,739 in 1977, since when there has been a sharp decline. The only information available on the country of origin of these skins indicates that 3,000 originated from Thailand and 306 from India.

### Varanus exanthematicus (CITES Appendix II)

The numbers of skins reported in trade in this species appear to have risen (highest estimate = 113,019 in 1980) and this increase might be associated with the decrease in the number of skins of CITES Appendix I species reported in trade. However, about 75% of these skins were reported by Italy as an import from Switzerland (which the latter

Varanus bengalensis  
(Indian Monitor)





## B.C. Leghold Trap Control

A law was passed on October 13 1982 banning the steel jaw leghold trap for seven species in British Columbia. These traps must now be replaced by live box traps or killing traps for the capture of wolverine, martin, fisher, weasel, skunk, squirrel and raccoon.



Raccoon

Fox, wolf, coyote, bobcat and lynx will continue to be exposed to leghold traps providing the traps are padded or offset by  $\frac{3}{16}$  of an inch to reduce the impact. Beaver,

muskrat, mink and otter may be leghold trapped in water as long as the trap is submerged in the water so that the animal is held underwater and drowned to avoid prolonged suffering.

*The Animal Welfare Institute Quarterly*  
Vol 31, No 3

## Synthetic Musk

Musk extracted from musk deer has long been used in the manufacture of perfume. However, research by a professor of chemistry and a leading authority on perfume has shown that musk is also found in human glands, especially in the armpit.

Human musk, though, can only be extracted in minute quantities, but Dr Dodd has recently solved this problem by succeeding in synthetically manufacturing "human" musk. The idea has been taken up by two major perfume companies who will be launching human musk products later this year, which may consequently reduce the killing of musk deer and the illegal trade in musk.

*The Sunday Times* 6.3.83

## International Trade in Skins of Monitor and Tegu Lizards 1975 - 1980

### INTRODUCTION

This article is based on a report submitted by WTMU to the CITES Secretariat in September 1982. The report summarized all trade in monitor lizards (Varanus spp.) and tegu lizards (Tupinambis spp.) and their products as reported by CITES Parties in the years 1975 to 1979. After the report was submitted, further data became available through CITES annual reports for 1980, and this article includes some of these data. Additionally, there are a limited number of reports for 1981 available, and important data from these is also considered here.

The great complexity of the trade and the volume of data available are such that it has been necessary to limit the scope of this article. The trade in live specimens is relatively small, and insignificant in terms of the exploitation of wild populations. This section of the trade has, therefore, been excluded from this article. The trade in manufactured goods is even more complex than that in whole skins, and it is also apparently less adequately reported by CITES Parties. For these reasons, it was decided to limit the scope of this article to trade in whole skins only. This is obviously the most important section of the trade and for the purposes of CITES implementation and the effect of exploitation on the wild populations is the section of greatest concern.

Great caution must be exercised in the use and interpretation of the figures presented in this article in view of the gross inadequacies of the data that arise from several factors (see Table 1).

Parties apparently being able to improve their annual reports from year to year.

- (iv) Correlation between reported imports and reported exports/re-exports is so infinitesimally low that it is conclusively apparent that the data are extremely unreliable.
- (v) The pattern of trade is so complex that it is very difficult to produce realistic figures for the number of skins involved, especially since most of the data comes from importing (ie. entrepot, manufacturing and/or consuming) countries. Skins are not necessarily converted into manufactured articles in the year in which they enter trade, and they may appear in the statistics several times subsequently as they are shipped from country to country in response to market demands. Resolving this problem and obtaining realistic estimates of the number of skins entering trade depends largely upon accurate export statistics being submitted by producer countries.

It should be noted that this article is based entirely on statistics extracted from the annual reports submitted by CITES Parties. The proportion of all international trade this represents is unknown, but as the number of Party states increases, and as the accuracy and quality of the annual reports improves, it must be assumed that the proportion of trade covered by the CITES reports increases.

### METHODS

All relevant data submitted by CITES Parties in their annual reports were processed on a Wang VS computer. The computer is programmed to produce a comparative tabulation of all the data entered (see *Traffic Bulletin* 4(3):27-30). Printouts of such tabulations were obtained for transactions involving whole skins of all Varanus species and all Tupinambis species for the years 1975 to 1980 (inclusive).

- (i) The number of CITES Parties increased substantially from 19 in 1975 to 61 in 1980.
- (ii) The number of Parties submitting annual reports has varied (see Table 1).
- (iii) The accuracy of a Party's reporting procedure is variable with time - most

The import and export of specimens covered by the Regulation into and out of the Community will require the appropriate permit or certificate but, with limited exceptions, permits or certificates that are issued by a member state of the EEC "shall be valid throughout the Community" (Article 9(2)). Therefore, a specimen of a species which is in Appendix II of CITES will have to be accompanied by a CITES export permit if it comes into Greece from Indonesia, but it will not require a CITES re-export permit if it is re-exported from Greece to the Federal Republic of Germany, France or any other member state of the EEC. Equally, an Appendix II specimen originating in Greece will not need a CITES export permit to go to FRG, France, etc. It will be as if the words "export", "re-export" or "import" no longer apply to trade in wildlife between member states of the EEC.

There are four potential problems, from a conservation viewpoint, to the EEC becoming a single trading unit for CITES purposes:

i) It is not at all clear that member states will have to continue to include inter-Community transfers in their annual reports under CITES since such transfers are no longer to be treated as exports, re-exports or imports for CITES purposes.

If so, the amount of information contained in the annual reports of member states of the EEC will be greatly reduced because much of the EEC trade is in re-exports to other member states. Furthermore, if just one member state importing specimens from outside the EEC keeps poor statistics or does not submit a report, it will make any overall EEC statistics very inaccurate. Any loss of information will be particularly unfortunate because present European re-export figures help give a valuable overall picture of movements and trends in international wildlife trade.

ii) It may encourage other groups of countries which enjoy free trade amongst themselves to take similar action. If this occurred in enough instances, the whole purpose of CITES would be undermined.

iii) Member states are only allowed to maintain or take stricter measures than the provisions of the Regulation for purposes of "improvement of conditions of survival of living specimens in recipient countries", "the conservation of native species" and "the conservation of a species or a population of a species in the country of origin" (Article 15(1)). It is not clear how Article 15(1) will be interpreted, although the UK government has indicated that it believes that Article 15(1) will

enable it to maintain the stricter measures which it presently has in force. However, it is possible to envisage circumstances where this may be difficult. If, to take a hypothetical example, Greece gives an import permit for the import of thousands of ocelot skins from South America and they are then re-exported to the UK, "improvement of conditions of survival of living specimens in recipient countries" and the "conservation of native species" clearly do not apply. The only grounds on which the UK could take stricter measures than the Regulation and refuse the shipment would be for the conservation of ocelots in the country of origin. However, as the ocelot is listed in Part 2 of Annex C, the trader who imported the skins into Greece would have already had to satisfy the Greek authorities that the import would not have a harmful effect on the conservation of the species. Once the Greek authorities have given a permit, and must therefore have been satisfied by the trader's claim, it would be very difficult for the UK authorities to refuse the import on the grounds that they were concerned about the conservation of the species in the country of origin.

iv). Traders may find a weak link in the system. If traders can find just one member state in the EEC where import permits are easy to obtain, they may be able to bring large supplies of specimens of threatened species into that country and then re-export them to other member states with impunity.

### C. CONCLUSION

Much of the Regulation is to be welcomed, particularly because it will effectively force the five member states of the EEC that are non-Parties to CITES to implement the Convention and because it will require governments not to allow into the Community specimens of a much wider range of species than at present unless traders can satisfy them that the import will not be detrimental to the conservation of the species concerned. It is too early to say what the practical impact of the disturbing aspects of the Regulation will be, but the Parties to CITES will have an ideal opportunity in Botswana to bring appropriate pressure to bear on member states of the EEC. In particular, it would help clear up the doubts over annual reports if the Conference of the Parties in Botswana recommends that member states of the EEC continue to record inter-Community transfers of specimens of species covered by CITES in their annual reports to the Secretariat.

### Marine Mammal Report References

The following reference was omitted from the 'Review of International Trade in Marine Mammals' featured in the last issue of the Bulletin:-

Barzdo, J. 1980 :

International Trade in Harp and Hooded Seals, Fauna and Flora Preservation Society and International Fund for Animal Welfare.

We would like to thank John Massey-Stewart for the translations to the Russian references which are as follows:-

Filatov, I.E. 1982 :

The rate of reproduction of the Ladoga seal in "The study, conservation and rational use of sea mammals", Astrakhan.

Ivanov, M.K.K. :

Towards the question concerning the role of the seal in the biocoenosis of Baikal [as above].

Popov, L.A. 1979 :

"Scientific research work on sea mammals in the northern part of the Pacific Ocean 1978-79". Project O2.05-61. "Sea mammals" "USSR - USA agreement on co-operation in the sphere of environmental conservation." Moscow. VNIRO. pp.1-77.

Timoshenko, Yu. K. 1982 :

The study of nutrition and the prospects of hunting the ringed seal in the White, Barents and Kara Seas in "The study, conservation and rational use of sea mammals", Astrakhan.

Verzin, Yu. N. :

The state and prospects of hunting the Caspian seal [as above, pp.63-64].

Zeniskii, V.A. (ed) 1980 :

"Atlas of Sea Mammals of the USSR". "Fishing industry". pp.1-184. Moscow.

## Export Permits for Gyr Falcons

In Canada recently, seven permits have been issued for the capture and export of gyr falcons *Falco rusticolus*. This species is listed on Appendix I of CITES apart from the North American population which was transferred to Appendix II at the New Delhi meeting of the Parties in 1981. At that meeting the delegation of Canada reported 'that the use of gyr falcons was the subject of a government programme, which had established a system of priorities for sales to scientific institutions, breeding centres and accredited zoos.' The permits were issued by the Northwest Territories government, and two of the birds were destined for sale in the Middle East for falconry purposes.



*Gyr Falcon*

The proposed sale has enraged the 500,000 member Canadian Wildlife Federation and several members of parliament. One of the latter, Jim Fulton declared that "Once the birds are sold in the Middle East, and they will be, you can be sure of that, we'll be inundated with buyers. Arabs will pay a king's ransom now for a hunting falcon and if they find out the birds can be bought legally here, our falcon population will be wiped out." In Parliament on 20 December 1982, he pointed out to the Prime Minister that the Canadian Wildlife Service, which is both the Management Authority and Scientific Authority for CITES, "vociferously objects to the export of these two young gyr falcons", and asked him to intervene and stop the export.

It was reported last year in a Canadian newspaper that Arctic Inuit hunters were trapping the birds for Middle East handlers for which they were being paid CA\$10,000 (US\$8,000) apiece. The birds were smuggled out to the Middle East, particularly Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, where their value was increased ten-fold.

## Bird Dealers Prosecuted

Six people from Aviexco (Pty) Ltd., were prosecuted last year and fined a total of \$27,900 (Zim) (US\$28,600) and in addition received 44 months suspended prison sentences for illegal dealings in the exportation and importation of birds in Zimbabwe.

## NEWS FROM SINGAPORE

### Arowana Warning

Aquarium fish dealers in Singapore have been advised by the Primary Production Department against buying, selling or having on display the Arowana, or Golden Dragon Fish *Scleropages formosus* (App. I, see Bull. 4(2)). The PPD, the responsible authority in Singapore, will not issue permits for the import, export, transshipment and other commercial transactions of arowanas. A spokesman from the Department said "Although Singapore is not a signatory to the Convention, we support its aims and objectives". Asked what will happen if dealers do not follow this advice he declared "We will take appropriate action against them since aquariums are licensed by the department".

### Cheetah Skins Seized

A correspondent from Singapore has informed us that, in October '82, approximately 47 cheetah skins were seized by customs. The consignment of raw skins is worth between S\$80,000 and S\$100,000 and belonged to an Australian who, if charged and found guilty, could be fined up to S\$47,000 or S\$1,000 per skin. The Primary Production Department is investigating to find out whether this shipment is part of an international ring of illegal smuggling or an isolated case.

S\$1000 = US\$472.00

*Straits Times* 5.1/11.2.83

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