

Inclusion of *Adenia olaboensis* in Appendix II

Proponent: Madagascar

Summary: *Adenia olaboensis* is a large, trunk-forming vine from Madagascar. It is one of around 100 species in *Adenia*, a genus that is widespread in Africa and Madagascar, of which around 18 species are endemic to Madagascar. It has a generally trailing main stem, which may reach a length of around four metres and diameter of 40 cm, from which grow secondary trunks and lianas that may reach lengths of several metres. The species is reported to be widely distributed in central and western Madagascar, with records from the provinces of Mahajanga in the north-west, Toliara in the south-west and Fianarantsoa in the south-east. It apparently grows on a wide range of substrates, including both calcareous soils and sandstones, in dry forests, scrub and secondary forest, and grassy savanna. The species is regarded as a fetish plant by the Sakalava people and is cultivated around houses and tombs. It is in some demand internationally as a horticultural plant, grown chiefly by specialist collectors of succulents. The Malagasy CITES Management Authority has recorded limited export in the period 2003–2006 (approximately 100 in 2003, 400 in 2004, 200 in 2005 and none in 2006). A significant proportion and possibly all of these are very likely to have been wild-collected. It is currently available internationally, though not widely, at moderate prices (EUR50, USD 50–175). The species resembles *A. firingalavensis*, which is proposed for inclusion in Appendix II (see Prop. 34), and a number of other Malagasy *Adenia* species, which are not proposed for inclusion in the Appendices, some of which are very rare and some of which may be exported under its name.

Analysis: *Adenia olaboensis* is a widespread and locally common plant, known to occur in at least one protected area and probably others. It is cultivated locally and is recorded as exported in relatively small numbers, almost certainly as wild plants, for the international horticultural trade. It reaches a considerable size, and large mature specimens are highly unlikely to be collected for export. It seems unlikely that regulation of international trade is needed to ensure that the species does not become eligible for inclusion in Appendix I, or to ensure that harvest for trade does not reduce the population to a level at which its survival might be threatened by continued harvesting or other influences.

Supporting Statement (SS)	Additional information
Madagascar	<u>Taxonomy</u>
	<u>Range</u>
	<u>IUCN Global Category</u>
	 <i>Not assessed</i>

Supporting Statement (SS)	Additional information
Biological and trade criteria for inclusion in Appendix II (<i>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14) Annex 2 a</i>)	
<u>A) Trade regulation needed to prevent future inclusion in Appendix I</u>	
<p>Widely distributed in Madagascar; found in the provinces of Toliary, Mahajanga and Fianarantsoa. Recorded in the district of Betioky at Ampandrandava, north of Belo sur Tsiribihina and at Antsalova.</p> <p>Reported exports: 109 in 2003; 387 in 2004; 184 in 2005; 0 in 2006.</p>	<p><i>Occurs to 1000 m, possibly 1500 m (Eggli, 2002).</i></p> <p><i>The species is locally common and more widespread than is indicated in the supporting statement (Hearn, 2009).</i></p> <p><i>It occurs in secondary forest (www.madagascar.com).</i></p>
<u>B) Regulation of trade required to ensure that harvest from the wild is not reducing population to level where survival might be threatened by continued harvest or other influences</u>	
<p>The plant is cultivated by the Sakalava people, who regard it as a fetish plant, of symbolic importance.</p>	
Inclusion in Appendix II to improve control of other listed species	
<u>A) Specimens in trade resemble those of species listed in Appendix II under <i>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14) Annex 2 a</i> or listed in Appendix I</u>	
<u>B) Compelling other reasons to ensure that effective control of trade in currently listed species is achieved</u>	
Other information	
<u>Threats</u>	
<p><i>Natural habitats in Madagascar in general are affected by fire, charcoal and fuelwood extraction, over-grazing and conversion to agriculture. It is not known to what extent these affect this species.</i></p>	
<u>Conservation, management and legislation</u>	
<p>Known to occur in Andohahela National Park in the south-east of Madagascar.</p>	
<u>Captive Breeding/Artificial Propagation</u>	
<p><i>Propagation is reportedly by seed (caudiciform website).</i></p>	
<u>Other comments</u>	

Supporting Statement (SS)	Additional information
	<p>The Sakalava people believe that this species should be cultivated on the eastern side of a house (www.madagaskar.com).</p> <p>Currently around 18 species of <i>Adenia</i> native to Madagascar are recognized, all endemic (efloras website, Hearn, 2004).</p> <p>Hearn (2009) notes that there are Malagasy <i>Adenia</i> species (<i>A. epigea</i>, <i>A. litoralis</i>, <i>A. stylosa</i>, <i>A. boivinii</i>, <i>A. lapiazicola</i>, <i>A. metamorpha</i>) resembling <i>A. firingalavensis</i> and <i>A. olaboensis</i> that are exceptionally rare and/or locally endemic. Based on his observations of the succulent trade, many very rare <i>Adenia</i> are imported as <i>Adenia</i> sp. (or <i>Adenia firingalavensis</i>).</p>

Reviewers:

TRAFFIC East/Southern Africa.

References:

Eggle, E. (2002). Illustrated Handbook of Succulent Plants: Dicotyledons. Springer, Berlin, Germany.

Hearn, D.J. (2004). *Adenia* (Passifloraceae) and its adaptive radiation: phylogeny and growth form diversification. *Systematic Botany* 31: 805–821.

Hearn, D.J. (2009). *In litt.* to IUCN/TRAFFIC Analyses Team, Cambridge, UK.

Viewed December 16, 2009

<http://www.bihmann.com/caudiciforms/subs/ade-ola-sub.asp>

http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=12&taxon_id=100532

http://www.madagaskar.com/pagina_06/catalogue_part5.html