

## Inclusion of *Adenia subsessifolia* in Appendix II

### Proponent: Madagascar

**Summary:** *Adenia subsessilifolia* (the name *subsessifolia* in the proposal is evidently a typographic error) is a succulent found in Madagascar, one of around 100 species of *Adenia*, a genus widespread in Madagascar and Africa, of which around 18 species are endemic to Madagascar. It produces stems up to 1.5 m long from a tuberous rootstock up to 30 cm in diameter. It grows on rocky substrates in open scrub and is reasonably widespread in south and south-west Madagascar at altitudes of up to 300 m. At least one population is known in a protected area (Cap Ste Marie). The number of mature individuals recorded at three sites in field work in 2006 was low (100 at one site, fewer than 50 at each of the other two), although the species has also been reported as at least locally common. The species is in international trade as a horticultural plant, chiefly grown by specialist collectors of succulents. The CITES Management Authority of Madagascar has recorded a small number of specimens (126) exported in the period 2003–2006, virtually all (115) in 2004. Collection of wild specimens reportedly takes place on the Table de Toliara Mountain where there are apparently indications of local depletion. Propagation is by seed. The species is available as artificially propagated plants at relatively low prices in both the USA (USD8) and Europe (EUR12).

**Analysis:** *Adenia subsessilifolia* is a reasonably widespread plant in south and south-west Madagascar. There are conflicting reports regarding its abundance. The species is in trade, although reported volumes of trade are small, and artificially propagated plants are available at relatively low prices in market countries. Although there are reports of local depletion at one locality, it seems unlikely that harvest for trade is reducing the species to a level at which it might become eligible for inclusion in Appendix I in the near future, or that such regulation is needed to ensure that harvest from the wild is not reducing the wild 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 (*Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14) Annex 2 a*)**

**A) Trade regulation needed to prevent future inclusion in Appendix I**

Known from south and south-west Madagascar, from the Table de Toliara Mountain, Cap Ste Marie Special Reserve and Behara Amboasary Sud. Three sub-populations are known. The wild population is believed to be small. Around 100 specimens have been counted on the Tulear Plateau and there may be fewer than 50 mature individuals at both Cap Ste Marie and Behara Amboasary Sud. Regeneration is poor because of habitat disturbance. Collection takes place on the Table de Toliara Mountain, where there is evidence of depletion of wild populations. It is difficult to distinguish juvenile from mature plants in the wild and collection may reduce the number of seed-bearing plants in the population.

*Hearn (2009) reports the species to be at least locally common and to be more widespread than is indicated in the supporting statement.*

Assessed as meeting the IUCN criteria for Vulnerable on the basis of field studies carried out in 2006.

Reported exports: none in 2003; 115 in 2004; three in 2005; eight in 2006.

**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**

The tuber is not edible. Powdered stem is used to treat wounds.

**Inclusion in Appendix II to improve control of other listed species**

**A) Specimens in trade resemble those of species listed in Appendix II under *Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14) Annex 2 a* or listed in Appendix I**

**B) Compelling other reasons to ensure that effective control of trade in currently listed species is achieved**

**Other information**

**Threats**

*Natural habitats in southern Madagascar 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.*

**Conservation, management and legislation**

Supporting Statement (SS)	Additional information
---------------------------	------------------------

Occurs in Cap Ste Marie special reserve.

**Captive Breeding/Artificial Propagation**

*Propagation is by seed, which is commercially available.*

**Other comments**

*There are currently around 18 recognized species of Adenia native to Madagascar, all of which are endemic (efloras website, Hearn, 2004).*

**Reviewers:**

TRAFFIC East/Southern Africa.

**References:**

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.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora\\_id=12&taxon\\_id=100532](http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=12&taxon_id=100532)

[http://www.plantemania.com/page26/files/stock\\_220808.htm](http://www.plantemania.com/page26/files/stock_220808.htm) (*A. subsessilifolia* 9x9 for EUR12.00)

<http://www.cactusplaza.com/adenia-subsessilifolia-seeds-p-22624.html> (20 seeds for EUR9.95).