



AV 16.01.004.0006

31 July 2018

Dear Traders

TRADE IN EUROPEAN EEL (*ANGUILLA ANGUILLA*)

The Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) has detected CITES listed European eels (*Anguilla anguilla*) in imported eel consignments without CITES permits during our surveillance.

2 In Jan 2009, we sent a circular to all traders about the European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) being listed under the **Appendix II** of the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ([CITES](#)), to which Singapore is a Party. The circular can be found at www.ava.gov.sg, under 'Newsroom', then select 'Circulars' and 'Year 2009'. The circular was dated 29 Jan 2009 and titled 'Listing of European Eel (*Anguilla Anguilla*) on CITES'.

3 The European eel is also a scheduled species under the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 2006 [ESA 2006]. This means that import, export or re-export of this species and its parts and products requires CITES permits from AVA. Penalties for infringing the Act include fines of up to S\$50,000 per scheduled species (not exceeding an aggregate of S\$500,000) and/or up to 2 years imprisonment.

4 If you are importing European eel, you are required to obtain a CITES export/re-export permit issued by the relevant authorities from the exporting/re-exporting country and apply for a CITES import permit from AVA prior to the import. The permit requirements would be applicable to live fish and the parts and products in frozen, chilled, canned or processed forms of the fish. Please note that the import of CITES specimens must be accompanied by **valid and original** CITES import and export/re-export permits for each consignment.

5 Please apply for the CITES import permit via [LicenceOne](#) and attach a softcopy of the foreign CITES export/re-export permit in your online application at least one working week before arrival of your consignment. The consignment must also be declared using the correct HS and product codes in [TradeNet](#).

6 The CITES import permit, together with the foreign CITES export/re-export permit, Cargo Clearance Permit (CCP), invoice/packing lists must be presented to the AVA (Changi Animal and Plant Quarantine, CAPQ) for inspection of the consignment and endorsement of the relevant permits at the time of import into Singapore. The original foreign CITES export/re-export permit must be surrendered to AVA (CAPQ) at the time clearance of the goods. Failure to comply with the above requirement could result in detention, confiscation or rejection of import of the goods and follow-up action could be taken against the importer.

7 Please remind your suppliers to comply with the proper export/re-export procedure for CITES-listed specimens. For more information on the import procedure of CITES-listed products, please refer to [AVA website](#). The above are for your compliance and noting. Please feel free to contact us at tel: 6805 2992 if you have any queries.

8 If you would like to carry out confirmatory identification test of the eels that are imported, you can bring samples to our laboratory at the below address with a completed laboratory submission form. Please see attached. The test is \$350 per 5 samples or part thereof. Please try to submit the samples in the original packaging.

Address:
Veterinary Public Health Services
10, Perahu Road
Singapore 718837

Yours sincerely



Janice Yap
Wildlife Section
Quarantine and Inspection Group
for Director-General
Agri-Food & Veterinary Services