

Natural Science Collections and the Law

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I am not a solicitor and
NatSCA is definitely NOT
offering legal advice.

CITES – The Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species

- Appendices/Annexes
- Species+



Melo amphora
Not CITES listed
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Species, higher taxon, synonym or common name...

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CITES – The **C**onvention on the **I**nternational **T**rade in **E**ndangered **S**pecies

- Appendices/Annexes
- Species+
- Article 10s, 60s and 30s



Melo amphora

Not CITES listed

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CITES – The **C**onvention on the **I**nternational **T**rade in **E**ndangered **S**pecies

- Worked specimens
- Labels
- Animal and Plant Health Authority
- Ivory and Rhino Horn
- Exiting Europe



Polymita picta
CITES Appendix I
©Leeds Museums and Galleries

European Protected Species

- Otter, Great Crested Newt, Large Blue Butterfly, Bats, Smooth Snake etc.
- It is illegal to possess anything on this list if it was collected after 10 June 1994.
- If you have this material you need to contact Natural England and let them know you are operating under Natural England Class 1 licence (WML-CL01):
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/licence-to-possess-plants-and-animals-for-scientific-purposes>



Calopteryx splendens

Not CITES listed

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Eggs

- It is an offence to possess a British wild bird egg.
- 28 September 1982
- The onus is on you to show that the material was not taken illegally.
- If you are offered illegal eggs you must tell the donor they are illegal and decline the material.
- The best possible thing to do is tell the donor to hand the material over to the police and contact the Natural History Museum.
- If you would like explicit advice on a particular case then you should contact the National Wildlife Crime Unit or local police on 101 for guidance.
- If a potential egg donation was, on a 'balance of probabilities', collected before 1981 then a museum could reasonably accept the material.



Strigops habroptila

CITES Appendix I

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Drugs

- Cannabis, Opium poppy “straw”, residue in chemist’s bottles, archaeological/ethnographic opium pipe residue etc.
- To own drugs you must have a “Controlled Drugs License”.
- Currently £3,133 to apply for a ‘possess controlled drugs’ licence, £326 to renew per year, £1,371 to renew if visit required (visit required every second year).



Ramphastos toco
CITES Appendix II
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<https://www.natsca.org/policies-legislation>

Species+ - Find CITES appendices species

<https://speciesplus.net/species>

For more advice on CITES in the UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency>

1971 Misuse of Drugs Act:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1971/38/contents>

List of European Protected Species

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1994/2716/schedule/2/made>

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Tibia fusus

Not CITES listed

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