



UEBT
SOURCING[®]
WITH RESPECT

GUIDANCE FOR ACTIONS ON REGENERATION OF WILD COLLECTED SPECIES

INDIAN PENNYWORT - CENTELLA ASIATICA

Principle 2 of the UEBT standard promotes sustainable use of biodiversity. One key aspect of this principle is the regeneration of wild collected species¹ over time and the prevention or mitigation of negative impact of wild collection² on interdependent species.

What does criterion 2.1 cover?

Criterion 2.1 covers different practices related to sustainable use of the wild collected species and prevention or mitigation of negative impact on other species. It covers practices such as complying with regulations on trade of rare, threatened or endangered species (e.g., CITES), not carrying out wild collection activities in protected areas where those activities are not allowed, or not introducing invasive species or using Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).

However, the focus of this fact sheet is on the regeneration of the wild collected species.

REFERENCES

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) www.cites.org

IUCN Red List www.iucnredlist.org

Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species, 2006 www.griis.org/about.php

REFERENCES

¹ **Species:** A type of plant, animal or other biological organism having certain characteristics that differentiate it from other members of the genus.

² **Wild collection:** Collection of non-cultivated natural raw material from natural habitats.

³ **Wild collection site:** Terrestrial or aquatic area where wild collection of natural raw material is taking place.

A DEEPER LOOK AT CRITERION 2.1 AND REGENERATION OF WILD COLLECTED SPECIES IN THE UEBT STANDARD

Let us look at some indicators for 2.1 related to regeneration of wild collected species and explore some additional guidance:

2.1.8 Critical stepwise Characteristics of wild collection sites³ are identified using field observations, existing studies or local knowledge.



Tips and guidance

- Carry out or commission analysis to:
 - locate the wild collection site(s) - using GPS if possible,
 - determine its size,
 - identify key characteristics (e.g., non-collection areas, presence of relevant habitats and patches with relevant species), and
 - account for land use changes over time.
- Gather information on the wild collection sites that can be used to define practices to ensure the regeneration of wild collected species and no negative impact on other species and relevant habitats.
- Make sure information gathered considers field experience, local and scientific knowledge.
- Use the UEBT Biodiversity Action Plan Tool and Templates to gather and report all relevant information.

2.1.9 Critical Stepwise Information is available on the status of the wild collected species within the wild collection site.



Tips and guidance

- Carry out or commission analysis to:
 - identify the varieties of the species collected,
 - determine their conservation status, reproduction and replacement rate,
 - locate different communities of the sourced species within the wild collection sites,
 - understand their reproduction system and population structure, and
 - ascertain interdependencies with species in close proximity.
- Gather information on the wild collected species that can be used to define practices to ensure the regeneration of wild collected species and no negative impact on other species and relevant habitats.
- Make sure information gathered considers field experience, local and scientific knowledge.
- Use the UEBT Biodiversity Action Plan Tool and Templates to gather and report all relevant information.

Example a company might encounter

When practices are followed by some collectors/field operators and not by others.

In some cases, practices have been identified to ensure long-term survival of the collected species and no negative impact on interdependent species. Those practices are followed by the wild collectors (workers operating in the field to collect the species) included in certification program. However, other wild collectors use the same wild collection site and do not respect the identified practice.

In such cases, the wild collectors' groups or the organisations buying from them can initiate actions to raise awareness about the relevance of those practices and require that all collectors apply the practices. When possible, these types of actions have better results when implemented in collaboration with local authorities or other local organisations.

2.1.10 Critical Wild collection practices are based on scientific information or local knowledge to avoid negatively affecting the long-term survival of the population of wild collected species or its interdependent species.



Tips and guidance

- Define practices that are coherent with the information gathered on wild collection sites and cultivated species.
- Follow practices that contribute to ensure that collected and interdependent species are maintained over time and habitats are not negatively impacted, including, among others:
 - respect of legal requirements and possession of authorisation for wild collection when such authorisation exists, and
 - ensure the collected quantities and the intensity of collection guarantee regeneration over time:
 - a** the frequency of collection should at least not exceed the rate of replacement of adult individual plants or plant parts
 - b** for plants that reproduce by seed or spore, sufficient plants should be left to reach the reproductive age
 - c** for plants that reproduce by bulb or corms, root or rhizome, sufficient numbers should be left on site
 - collection happens during seasons that allow for maximising effective use of the plants, considering for instance reproductive cycles, biological age/size of sourced species, precipitation cycle
 - collection is done of only those plant parts required for production
 - if bark is collected, collection is done in ways appropriate to the species, and removal of bark from limbs rather than trunks of living trees is preferred
 - avoidance of contamination or degradation of habitats, food sources, and water provision for wild animals, insects, other plants
 - resolving of human-wildlife conflicts arising in wild collection sites in ways that do not harm wildlife (e.g., no animal hunting/killing or keeping in captivity)

Example a company might encounter

When a collected species is used as a food source by wildlife.

In some cases, wild collection activities come into conflict with wild animals for food as they use the same resources. Quantities that can be collected to ensure the long-term survival of the plant should also consider the quantities used by wild animals for feeding purposes.

In addition, collaboration with local organisations or local authorities can be initiated or supported to restore or expand natural habitats where wild animals can find other sources of food reserved for them.



HIBISCUS SABDARIFFA VAR. SABDARIFFA

2.1.13 Regular Stepwise Wild collection practices are assessed for performance and impact and adjusted with a view to continuous improvement, changing conditions and/or addressing unintended negative effects.



Tips and guidance

- Make sure to monitor yearly the progress in implementation of wild collection practices to ensure long term survival of wild collected species and no negative impact on interdependent species.
- Assess the regeneration rate of wild collected species and the status of interdependent species every three years.
- Set up monitoring systems inside your organisation or commission such monitoring to external experts (e.g., universities/researchers).
- Adjust collections practices if monitoring results show unwanted negative effects on the wild collected or interdependent species or show lower results in terms of long-term survival of collected and interdependent species than what was expected.
- Use the UEBT Biodiversity Action Plan Tools and Templates to identify appropriate indicators for monitoring. Report information on the progress and impacts and interpret the results.

Roles and Responsibilities

Actions to ensure biodiversity conservation, restoration, enhancement can be carried out by:

- **Producers:** People or organisations directly involved in the wild collection of plants, including farmers, pickers, farmer and picker's groups and cooperatives.
- **Suppliers:** People and organisations in the supply chain that provide natural raw material for further processing or manufacturing.

Companies buying and processing natural raw material from producers or suppliers at source support these actions by commissioning analysis of biodiversity, providing training to producers on the actions they are asked to implement, making expertise available to monitor progress and impact of those actions, covering costs associated with the improvement needed.

For more guidance and training, please contact UEBT at certification@ethicalbiotrade.org or biodiversity@ethicalbiotrade.org



UEBT

De Ruijterkade 6, 1013 AA, Amsterdam, The Netherlands | Telephone: +31 20 22 34567 | Email: info@uebt.org

Representation in Brazil France India Madagascar Vietnam

Connect with us www.uebt.org | www.linkedin.com/company/uebt

Published December 2021