CITES news - Prague



Czech Environmental Inspectorate





Probosciger atterimus

Amazona auropalliata

LARGE CITES EVENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC (found stamp of UK MA CITES and blank EU certificates!!!)

26.7.2011 – Within **twelve house searches** in different breeder's facilities that took place throughout the Czech Republic customs officers in collaboration with wildlife inspectors from CEI seized **34 very rare parrots and 56 turtles** (**Appendix A, CITES I**). Specifically 19x *Probosciger atterimus*, 5x *Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*, 6x *Amazona brasiliensis*, 2x *Amazona auropalliata*, 1x *Amazona vinacea*, 1x *Amazona pretrei* and 56x *Testudo hermanni*.

This seizure is part of "Operation Festival", which has been prepared after the important seizure of Anodorhynchus leari during the "Operation Lora" last year -



focused on illegal trade of rare parrots, use and production of false CITES EU documents, wrong marking, etc.

The recent realization started early in the morning of 26th July and the last house search finished on the 27th July around 1 a.m. The price of seized animals is approximately nine million Czech crowns (373 000 €).

Amazona brasiliensis

All seized birds were placed to rescue centres around the Czech Republic. Two persons were charged with a criminal offense of unauthorized use of protected wild fauna and flora, and five persons suspected of committing a crime. The investigation is still continuing.

The most important is seizure of an official stamp of the UK CITES Management Authority (Bristol) and blank originals of UK certificates.



Stamp of the CITES Management Authority of Bristol





First health check of seized specimen at the rescue center



Seized specimens weighing at the rescue centre

Please, be aware of similar certificates with a stamp mentioned above. These certificates can be invalid (falsified). In case of any doubts of its validity, please, contact UK CITES Management Authority for verification. More details about the case will be sent through Interpol NCBs.

Example of forged certificate

More information:

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CZECH REPUBLIC