

FSVO - CITES Import live plants EU

1. General

1.1 Background

The CITES Convention is an international trade convention designed to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of animal and plant populations. International cooperation is intended to prevent international trade from resulting in overexploitation of animal and plant species that are endangered or threatened with extinction.

Live artificially propagated plants covered by species protection which are imported to Switzerland from or via the EU must be accompanied by a species protection certificate, and are not subject to any permit obligation from the [FSVO](#).

These consignments are subject to a document inspection by the species protection control post (flora).

1.2 Legal basis and information

- Federal Act on the Trade in Protected Animal and Plant Species (FA-CITES; [SR 453](#));
- Ordinance on the Trade in Protected Animal and Plant Species (O-CITES; [SR 453.0](#));
- FDHA Ordinance on the Control of the Trade in Protected Animal and Plant Species (CITES Control Ordinance; [SR 453.1](#));
- [List](#) of items to be declared.

1.3 Reference in Tares

Tariff items that are often relevant under species protection law contain the note "NZE mandatory code: FSVO - CITES Import live plants EU".

1.4 Definitions

Live plants	- Goods with tariff headings 0601.1090, 0601.2020, 0601.2091, 0601.2099, 0602.1000, 0602.9019, 0602.9091, 0602.9099/911, 0602.9099/999
Protected plant species	- Plant species listed in appendices I to III to the CITES Convention

2. Information in the customs/goods declaration

Anyone importing artificially propagated live plants covered by species protection from or via the EU, must provide an indication in the goods declaration regarding the regulation requirement and enter the species protection certificate and the relevant licence exemption.

Identification Regulation	e-dec: - NZE mandatory code "yes" - NZE type code "FSVO - CITES Import live plants EU"
	Passar: - Regulation "yes" - Regulation code 311 (FSVO - CITES Import live plants EU) - Licence exemption "Live specimens of artificially propagated plants from species listed in appendices I to III to the CITES Convention"
Additional details	- Species protection certificate ("Documentation" section) - Invoice ("Documentation" section)

3. Further information

3.1 Dossier for the document inspection

For all consignments containing live plants with tariff headings 0601.1090, 0601.2020, 0601.2091, 0601.2099, 0602.1000, 0602.9019, 0602.9091 and 0602.9099 that are imported from or via the EU and declared in e-dec, the person at the local level who is subject to the declaration obligation must submit a dossier containing the following:

- a copy of the import customs declaration;
- a copy of the invoice;
- the original species protection certificate, if applicable;
- any other accompanying documents.

3.2 Fees

The FSVO levies a fee for consignments that are subject to the inspection requirement. Species protection inspection fees should not be entered in the goods declaration.