Import Flowchart

Has the scientific name of the animal or plant been identified?

- No → Check with the exporter for the details.
- Yes ↓

Is the scientific name listed in any of the CITES Appendices (I, II, or III)?

- No → No application is required
- Yes ↓

Is trade suspended for this species/country under CITES?

- Yes → Please refrain from importing.
- No ↓

CITES Appendices

Note: If the species falls under any of the following categories, please check the link. In some cases, importing may be prohibited.

- ■Domestic regulated species under the Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
- ■ Whales and processed whale products
- ■ Species for which Japan has entered a reservation.

Note: Refrain from importing from States not party to CITES, unless the country or region has an authority that is functionally equivalent to a CITES Management Authority.

Is it for personal use (individual exemption)?

- Yes ↓
  - Personal effects (e.g., bags carried while traveling, wristwatches)
  - Occupational tools (e.g., instruments for musicians)
  - Belongings when moving (e.g., household goods, pets)
  - → Yes → Does the destination country offer similar exemptions? Confirm with the Management Authority of the exporting country.
  - Yes ↓
  - Souvenirs for personal use
  - Yes ↓
  - ✓ Is it listed in Appendix II?
  - ✓ Is it a processed product?
  - ✓ Do you have documents from the manufacturer or the seller?
  - → Yes to all → Does the destination country offer similar exemptions? Confirm with the Management Authority of the exporting country.
  - No ↓
- No ↓

Does the destination country offer similar exemptions? Confirm with the Management Authority of the exporting country.

Note: Quantity restrictions apply to souvenir items depending on their type.
For details, please refer to the section on individual exemptions on the right.

- Yes → **[Import Permitted] Not subject to the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act**
  You do not need to apply to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. Please declare your items to Japanese customs. Please contact Customs for required documents.
  For more details, please click here. Individual exceptions
- No ↓

If the specimen falls under the above-mentioned exemption but the exporting country has not adopted a similar system, you must obtain a CITES export permit (or re-export certificate, or pre-Convention certificate, as applicable) from the Management Authority of that country. Please contact the relevant authority for details.

In Japan, if you declare the item to Customs upon arrival, no application under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act is required. (Please consult Customs regarding the declaration procedures.) The issued CITES export permit must be submitted to Japanese Customs.

If you plan to travel abroad with the item in the future, please ensure that you properly keep a copy of the CITES export permit issued by the exporting country, as it will be required for re-export procedures.

If none of the above exemptions apply, you will be subject to the procedures under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act.

Do you have a copy of the original CITES export permit issued by the government of the exporting country (or re-export certificate, pre-Convention certificate, certificate for exhibition, or certificate of captive breeding, hereinafter referred to as a "CITES export permit")?

- Yes ↓
- No →

To import the item, a CITES export permit must be issued by the government of the exporting country. The procedures required under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act may vary depending on the details stated in the permit.

Please first obtain a copy of the CITES export permit from the exporter and confirm the necessary procedures based on its contents.

Appendix I

In principle, commercial trade is prohibited.

Import may be permitted in limited cases

Are you applying under any of the categories listed to the right?

Yes

Source code

- O - Pre-Convention → T - Commercial trade is permitted, regardless of the intended purpose. → Import approval
- D - Specimens of animals or plants bred in commercial breeding operations registered with the CITES Secretariat → T - Commercial trade is permitted, regardless of the intended purpose. → Import approval
- W - Specimens taken from the wild
  F - Animals born in captivity (not coming under C)
  R - Specimens originating from a ranching operation → S - Scientific → Import approval
- A - Plants that are artificially propagated (for non-commercial purposes)
  C- Animals bred in captivity → S - Scientific → Import approval
  → Conservation program → Import approval
  → Q - Circus or traveling exhibition → Import approval

Application procedures under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act are required

No

Import is prohibited unless the above conditions are met.

When importing for academic research purposes, a CITES import permit is not required under the CITES. However, if the exporting country requests it (for example, in the case of excrement from animals listed in Appendix I), it must be obtained. → Import approval

Appendix II

Is it a live animal ?

Yes → Prior confirmation

No → Does it fall under listed species originating from specific countries (Article III 7 (2) of the Import Announcement Prior confirmation)?

- Yes → Prior confirmation
- No → Customs confirmation

No application procedures under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act are required. Please submit the original CITES export permit issued by the government of the exporting country to Japanese Customs.

Application procedures under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act are required

Appendix III

- Specimens that were taken, collected, or bred in a country that has listed the species in Appendix III, including those for which the country of origin is unknown.
  - Is this species listed in Appended Table 1, List 2 of the Order for Enforcement of the Act on Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora? → Yes → Prior confirmation
  - Is it a live animal? → Yes → Prior confirmation
    - No → Does it fall under listed species originating from specific countries (Article III 7 (2) of the Import Announcement Prior confirmation)?
      - Yes → Prior confirmation
      - No → Customs confirmation Certificate of origin, re-export certificate, processing certificate)
- Specimens that were taken, collected, or bred in a country other than the one that has listed the species in Appendix III. → Yes → Customs confirmation Certificate of origin, re-export certificate, processing certificate)

No application procedures under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act are required. Please submit the original CITES export permit issued by the government of the exporting country to Japanese Customs.

The species listed to the right among those subject to the Order for Enforcement of the Act on Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

- Nationally rare species of wild fauna and flora listed in Appended Table 1, List 2 of the Order for Enforcement of the Act on Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, excluding those listed in Appended Table 3 of the same Order → Prior confirmation
- ■Species listed in Appended Table 1, List 1 and Appended Table 2, List 1 of the Order for Enforcement of the Act on Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora that are subject to bilateral migratory bird protection treaties.
  ■Temporarily designated species under Act on Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Article 4(2) → Customs confirmation