



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



# Switzerland and Trade in Songbirds



CITES Workshop on Trade in Songbirds  
Bangkok, December 10th -13th 2023



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



## • Legislation

Import Regulations:

### CITES Legislation

Any import of live wild birds, CITES and non-CITES species, is subjected to requirement of an import permit and physical controls upon import (responsible agency: CITES MA)

Veterinary legislations:

In addition, due to a common Veterinary Agreement with the EU, no wild-taken species may be imported into Switzerland from outside the EU. (responsible agency: Veterinary BIP's)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



## • Legislation

National legislations:

### CITES Legislation

Any breeder is required to be able to provide proof of legal origin of birds in his/her possession and need to "have proper book-keeping. He is also required to provide this information to a new holder upon sale of the specimens (responsible agency: CITES MA)

### Species protection legislation

No taking or trade in wild species originating from Switzerland is permitted (responsible agency: Cantonal agencies)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



- **Availability of trade data**

CITES trade data are publicly available through Annual Report data in CITES Trade database.

Trade data of non-CITES listed species is not easily available.  
Development of a analysis tool of these data is in preperation



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



- **Main trading parties and species**

Trading parties:

Italy, Germany as well as other European Parties

Main species traded:

Different species of Estrildidae, *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* (Bullfinch), *Carduelis carduelis* (Goldfinch). Almost exclusively captive bred species (colour morphs).



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



## • Legislation on keeping of songbirds

Legislation on animal welfare and legislation in combination with legislation on hunting in relation to national species:

Facilities on a commercial scale have to be registered (animal welfare legislation).

Some groups of songbirds need a detention permit from the cantonal authorities but not all (Kolibris, Trogons, Sunbirds, Birds of paradise)

National species can only be taken and kept under very strict conditions



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



- **Types of trade and reasons for keeping songbirds in Switzerland**

Almost exclusively trade in live birds

Keeping is almost exclusively for pets and some Zoos

Mostly for cagebirds and some for competitions



## • Illegal Trade

Very rarely seizures of songbirds at Swiss borders

This year exceptionally two incidents of illegal trade:

28 specimens of captive bred pheasants (10 species, 15 animals App.I, 3 App. III, 10 NC), not songbirds but anyway.....

More than 500 birds were found to be kept and most likely traded illegally, 200 of which were national species. Investigations are ongoing....



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

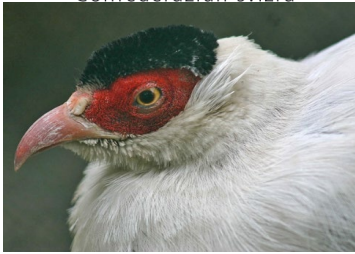
Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



# Tiere

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DH  
Federal Food Safety and Veterin





Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Department of Home Affairs DHA  
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO



# Thank You!

