

Applying for Commercial Registration of African Greys with CITES (Switzerland)

Why register?

Both species of Grey Parrots are listed on CITES Appendix I. They are Congo / Cameroun / Red Tail Greys *Psittacus erithacus* and Timneh / Maroon Tail Greys *Psittacus timneh*.

CITES Appendix I species may not be commercially traded across international borders, unless they originate from a breeding operation that is registered with CITES in Switzerland under Resolution 12.10 (Revised CoP 15). Such registered specimens may be commercially traded just like CITES Appendix II specimens.

Most exporters pay more for Greys from commercial registered breeders and some exporters don't buy Greys at all from non-commercial registered breeders.

It is recommendable that even those breeders with only a few pairs of Greys also register as commercial breeding operations.

Basic requirements that your application must demonstrate for registration:

- Breeding stock must be of legal origin.
- You must prove that you have bred African Greys from at least 1 pair of closed ring breeding stock (F2), as DEA does not implement Res. Conf. 12.10 par 8b, therefore applications that have not yet bred F2 African Greys are not evaluated.
- The record keeping system and monitoring by you Provincial Nature Conservation of your breeding operation must demonstrate that it does not pose a threat to the African Greys in the wild.
- You must contribute to the conservation of wild African Greys.
- Animals at your breeding operation are humanely cared for and maintained.

How to register:

The application form can be downloaded from PASA web www.aviculturesa.co.za under the ABOUT – FORMS tab. This form is a MS Word document that needs to be completed in English. PASA can provide some guidance for its members to register successfully step by step.

1. First an applicant must be registered for non-commercial export through his Province at the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in Pretoria and a certificate issued to him/her with a DEA/xxxx/xxxx/xx/xxxxxx registration number. Application form on www.aviculturesa.co.za under the ABOUT – FORMS tab.
2. You must prove legal origin of all your breeding stock by attaching copies of the following documents to your application form:
 - Greys purchased before 2017 (2016 or earlier): an affidavit stating where and when you bought each bird with its ring number. (PASA members can request an example affidavit from pvs@aviculturesa.co.za)
 - Bought from a commercial registered breeder: a certificate or receipt with his name, address, A-ZA-xxx number, ring numbers of each bird and date on a certificate of origin or receipt.

- Bought from a non-commercial registered breeder: a certificate or receipt with his name, address, DEA/xxxx/xxxx/xx number, ring numbers of each bird and date on a certificate or receipt.
 - Bought from an un-registered breeder/source after 2016 (2017 onwards): the seller must supply you with an affidavit with the ring numbers, name, place and date of purchase of each individual bird that he sold/is selling to you and his own full details.
 - Imported by yourself: a copy of the CITES import permit with your name, address and ring number of each bird on it.
3. Download and complete the African Grey Stock list and instructions how to complete it, from www.aviculturesa.co.za under the ABOUT – FORMS tab “African Grey Stock List” and “African Grey Stock List Protocols”. There is one for those that breed Congo Greys only and another for those that breed Congos and Timnehs. Members may email their stock lists in MS Excel format to PASA antonie@netactive.co.za for free evaluation thereof before building your application. It is essential that your stock list is accurate, as it must be attached to your application and your entire application is built around it.
 4. After completion of your stock list, you must start completing your application form. On your request, PASA can refer you to 3rd parties, who may charge you a fee, to assist you with the application.
 5. Other attachments required for your application:
 - Breeding records of at least 1 pair closed ring breeding stock that produced F2 offspring showing at least: parental ring numbers, cage number, date (month/year of breeding activity), number of chicks and their ring numbers.
 - DEA Non-commercial registration certificate.
 6. Other attachments that may be attached are: copy of your PASA membership certificate, example of certificates of origin or receipts that you will issue for offspring sold and some photos of your cages, rearing facilities, security measures, feed etc.
 7. After completion of your application, you may send you application to PASA to check for mistakes or omissions before submitting it to your nearest Provincial Nature Conservation office, and arrange for inspection of your facility. Please make sure to receive confirmation of submission from them and keep a duplicate copy of your entire application as backup. The inspecting officer must complete an inspection check list downloadable at www.aviculturesa.co.za under the ABOUT – FORMS tab “African Grey Commercial Registration – DEA inspection check list”
 8. After inspection, your application will undergo various evaluations and approvals by your Provincial Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities, DEA, SANBI and lastly the CITES Secretariat in Switzerland over a period of 3 – 9 months. Once your application is approved by all, then CITES notify all Parties of the approval and allow 90 days for objections by any Party. If no valid objections are received during this time, your breeding operation will be listed on the CITES register of Captive Breeding Operations with your A-ZA-xxx registration number.

What to do after Registration:

CITES does not issue any certificate to registered breeding operations. The official confirmation to check the validity of a breeding operation’s registration is on the CITES web

<https://www.cites.org/eng/common/reg/cb/ZA> If a breeding operation's name and registration number is listed on the CITES web page, then the registration is valid. As soon as a breeding operation's registration is revoked or cancelled, it is immediately removed by the CITES Secretariat from the list on the web.

PASA decided to issue certificates to members that successfully register their breeding operations with CITES and contribute to the African Grey Conservation Fund established by PASA.

Registered breeding operations must maintain a stock list / inventory of each bird in stock and submit an annual report to their Provincial Nature Conservation of all acquisitions (chicks bred and birds bought) and disposals (deaths and birds sold). Some provinces require a report every 2 months or within 2 weeks of an acquisition or disposal.

Breeding records must be maintained and made available for inspection by your province when requested.

For ease and speedy issue of export permits, it is recommendable to notify your province of offspring intended for export, as soon as they are rung. For this purpose, the "CITES I Verification for Export" form can be downloaded from PASA's web www.aviculturesa.co.za under the ABOUT – FORMS tab.

When offspring, breeding stock or other stock is sold to other breeders, you must supply them with a certificate of origin or receipt must be issued with your name, address, A-ZA-xxx number, ring numbers of each bird and date on it. Download the "CITES I Certificate of Origin" from PASA's web www.aviculturesa.co.za under the ABOUT – FORMS tab.

New breeding stock can be purchased and added to your stock list / inventory, provided you obtain the required documents as per Proof of Legal acquisition in par. 2 and submit them with your report of acquisition to your Province.

Change of ownership or address must be notified to your Province, who must inspect the change and make recommendation to DEA to effect the changes on the CITES register in Switzerland. Simultaneous change of ownership and address, may require a new application to be submitted.