

# CITES news - Prague

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## Czech Environmental Inspectorate



### Ornithoptera

A year ago 10.5.2011 in CITESnews-Prague 87 we informed you about seizure of 27 dried specimens of the species **Queen Victoria's Birdwing (II/B) (*Ornithoptera victoriae*)** which were posted from Solomon Islands. The packet was seized but the importer was not fined, as he declared he had not ordered this protected species. CEI got no reaction from Solomon Islands Management or Scientific Authority concerning this matter when requested it.

This year 13.3.2012 – customs officers at the post office warehouse in Prague with the cooperation of CEI inspectors checked one consignment of butterflies for the same importer, from the same locality (Solomon Islands) and found 8 dried specimens of the same species ***Ornithoptera victoriae***. Paper triangles with these specimens and without any description were hidden under number of triangles with non-CITES specimens which were described precisely. No documents were attached to this consignment and no import permit was issued.

The species *Ornithoptera victoriae* is found only in the Solomon Islands and Bougainville Island (Papua New Guinea) and is listed in the Annex of the Commission regulation (EU) No 828/2011 as a species whose introduction (both wild and ranched) from the Solomon Islands into the Union is suspended.  
The specimens will be seized again. The investigation of the importer will be done.

*More information:*

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