

CITES news - Prague



Czech Environmental Inspectorate



12.12.2011 – A year ago we informed you about seizure of tins, which should according to their description contain caviar from sturgeons *Huso huso* and *Acipenser guldenstaedti* (CITES II/B). Some of you wrote us that time, that eggs are too large and price is too low (cca 70-80 Euro for 113g) to be from sturgeon. You were right. Analysis identified in caviar only DNA from cuttlefish (*Sepia hierredda*) - its ink was probably used to color eggs. We do not know from which species these eggs are, it is not even sure, that they are from fish. But it is sure, that eggs are not from any species of sturgeon. Anyway CEI seized the tins and fined their distributor because there was written, that they contain sturgeon caviar, so according to article 2, letter t) of Council Regulation 338/1997 we act as if the tins were CITES specimen. We also asked State veterinary administration to fine distributor for deceiving customers (article 16 of Council Regulation 178/2002).

More information:

CITES team

Department of Protected Species and CITES
Czech Environmental Inspectorate
Na Brehu 267, 190 00 Prague 9

tel.: 00420 222860308-311

fax: 00420 222860227

cites@cizp.cz

CZECH REPUBLIC