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## Some specific examples of illegal caviar trade

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## Widespread believe that caviar trade is under control

**Seizures have decreased**

**Aquaculture production has increased**

**Universal CITES caviar labelling system**

**Few exploitable sturgeon populations left in the wild**





## Caviar market survey in Romania and Bulgaria

### Analysis of reported seizure data 2000-2009 by TRAFFIC

- **13 cases** reported by EU MSs with Romania or Bulgaria as departure/  
transit country - **no seizures reported by Romania or Bulgaria**

### Undercover market research April 2011 - February 2012

- **30 samples of caviar** from stores, markets, street vendors, restaurants, caviar producers, etc. in major cities, Black Sea resorts, fishing villages; DNA analysis
- **8** were sold **without CITES labels**
- **5** were sold as **from wild sturgeons**
- **4** of these were from ***Huso huso*** (1 sample did not provide results)

## Missing CITES labels

**Austria** – currently 6 registered exporters & processors, 2 were originally selling without licence and labels

Caviar at **Bucharest Airport** from a registered company without label

Many CITES parties still have **no caviar CITES labelling on domestic markets**

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

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**Austria**

Code	Address	Exporter	Processing/Repackaging
0001	Address: Fischhandel Grill und Zisler OEG Neue Heimat Strasse 13, 5082 Grödig Telephone: 43 6246 75492 Website: <a href="http://www.alpescators.at">http://www.alpescators.at</a>	Yes	Yes
0002	Address: Jan Klecka City: Obereggenndorf Postal code: 2601	Yes	Yes
0003	Address: Alpenkaviar Mag. Helmut Schlader Knievas 26 City: 4571 Postal code: Steyrling	Yes	Yes
0004	Address: Fischerei Bayrhammer Ulrike Almgriesweg 1 City: Hallein Postal code: 5400	Yes	Yes
0005	Address: Vadim Tioulpanov City: Obereggenndorf Postal code: 2601	Yes	Yes
0006	Address: Romeo Schemann - Romeo Kaviar, Nr. 122 City: Mariasdorf Postal code: 7433	Yes	Yes

## CITES labels not following requirements & difficulties with codes

Label must **seal the container** or there must be **visual evidence of any opening**, and it must **not be possible to remove the label undamaged or transfer it to another container**

### CITES code:

- 1) Standard species code
- 2) Source code (W, C, etc.)
- 3) Code for country of origin
- 4) Year of harvest or repackaging
- 5) Official registration code
- 6) Lot identification number

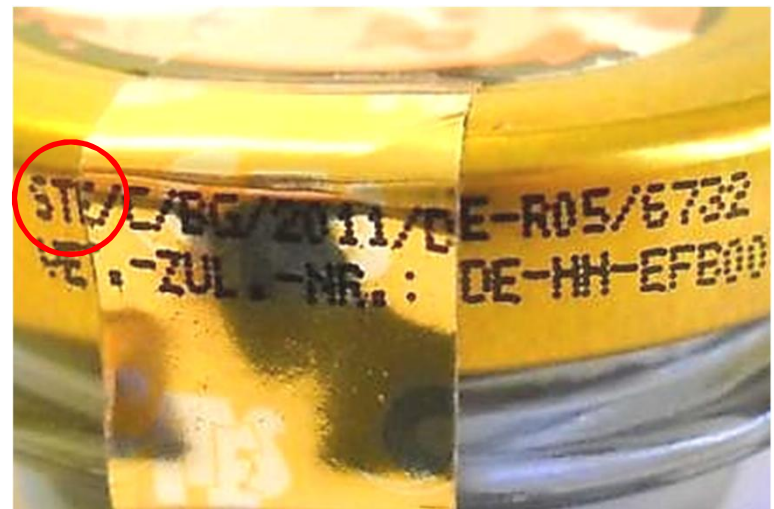


## Mislabelling

In the market survey in Romania and Bulgaria 2011/12, 3 samples were mislabelled

- labelled as HUS was GUE or BAE
  - labelled as STE was GUE or BAE
  - labelled as SCH was DAU
- and 1 sample was mixed

A new sample obtained in Romania 2016 was labelled as RUTxHUS, but was actually pure HUS





# Potential measures to impede illegal caviar trade

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**Improved law enforcement**

**Information work**

**Measures to prevent forgery and improve reliability of CITES labels**

- Enhanced quality of **CITES labels** (higher fraud-resistance, security elements)
- Basic requirements for **CITES codes** (prominently placed, clear to read e.g. minimum font size)
- Caviar CITES labelling system on **domestic markets**

to make discrimination of illegal products easier – both for retailers or consumers and for law enforcement agencies – and impede their entry into the market and strengthen the legal trade