

ATTENTION:

GINSENG HARVESTERS

There are some important things you should know prior to harvesting ginseng. Wild ginseng is relatively rare, highly sought after, and therefore expensive. Thus, there are regulations governing the harvest and sale of wild ginseng.

Wild ginseng may be harvested from National Forests and from selected Wisconsin state properties under off-reservation treaty gathering rules (see gathering booklet for a summary, or the Model Code for details).

Harvest Season - from September 1 through October 31.

Harvest for personal use – If you wish to harvest ginseng for personal use from off-reservation areas, first obtain a ginseng harvest permit. Harvest only within the prescribed season. No certification is needed.

Harvest for Sale - Ginseng is listed as an Appendix II species of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Ginseng needs to have a CITES certification in order to sell it for export, similar to otters and bobcats that require a CITES tag to be sold.

Licensed ginseng dealers will only buy ginseng that comes with this certification as the ginseng cannot be exported without the certification. Wisconsin State regulations prohibit the WI certification of ginseng unless it was harvested from private land (public land harvest is prohibited to state licensed harvesters).

GLIFWC is applying to obtain CITES certification authority from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, but does not have this authority currently. **This means that tribally harvested ginseng cannot be certified for sale and export.**

If you have any questions about ginseng please contact:

Alexandra Wrobel 715-682-6619 or awrobel@glifwc.org