



# DCI arrests 3 suspects found in possession of pangolin in Kwale

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**News**

23 August 2022 - 21:34

*The DCI cautioned the public against the trade.*

## In Summary

- They were transported to DCI headquarters, where they are being interrogated further to reveal their financiers.
- DCI said the pangolin has since been handed over to the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) personnel at the Nairobi Animal Orphanage.



*The three suspects arrested in possession of a pangolin in Kwale on Tuesday, August 23, 2022.*

*Image: DCI/TWITTER*

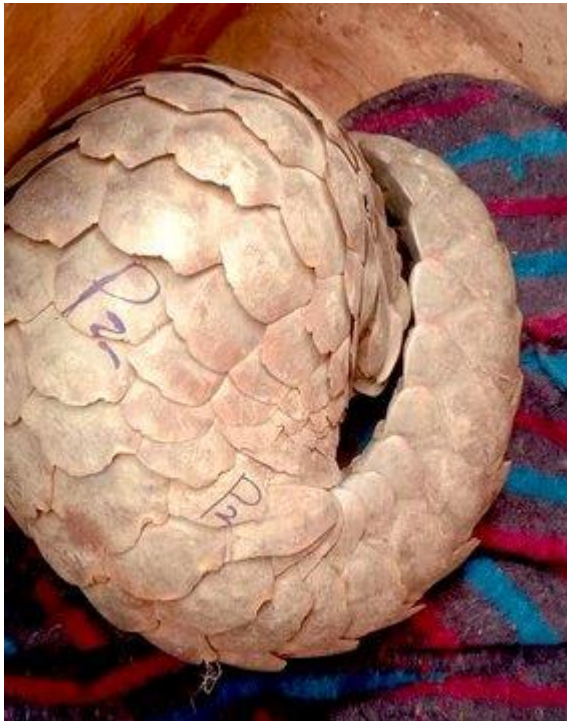
DCI detectives based at the Serious Crimes Unit on Tuesday arrested three suspects in Kinango, Kwale County, after being found in possession of a male pangolin.

The three Pas Mwiti, 30, Kabwere Tembe, 26, and Salim Nduria, 22 were arrested after the public tipped off the detectives.

DCI said the detectives lured the suspects from their hideout by posing as businessmen in the illegal trade of endangered species.

However, after the arrest in Vugurungani village, two of the suspects attempted to set the animal free and escape but were captured.

They were transported to DCI headquarters, where they are being interrogated further to reveal their financiers.



*Pangolin with marked scales. They cost approximately Sh4 million.*

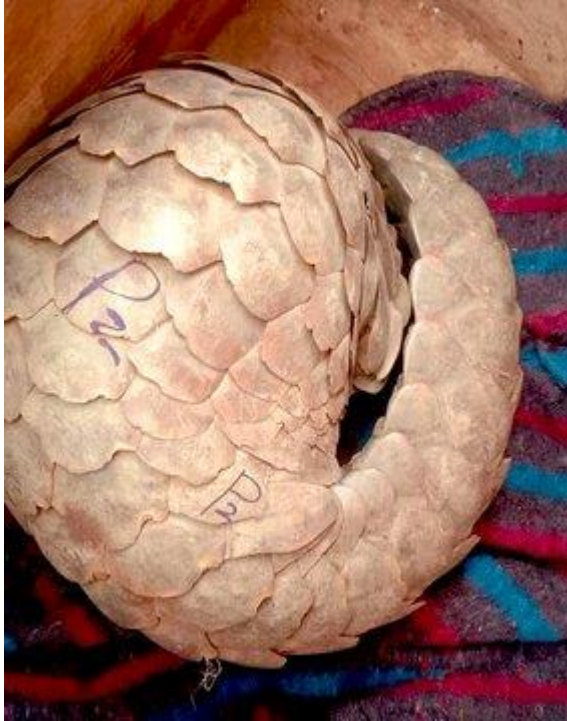
*Image: DCI/TWITTER*

DCI said the pangolin has since been handed over to the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) personnel at the Nairobi Animal Orphanage.

"Pangolins fetch a fortune in the black market since their scales are used for spiritual protection and financial rituals, making the nocturnal mammal that feeds on ants one of the most trafficked in the world," it added.

DCI further said the animals go for approximately Sh4 million in Kenya, as it cautioned the public against the trade.

"Don't go hunting for one, our men are on high alert."



*Pangolin with marked scales. They cost approximately Sh4 million.  
Image: DCI/TWITTER*