Mabuya desiradae (Désirade Skink).

Conservation.

Date of observation: 7 February 2009. Location: Guadeloupe, La Désirade. Coordinates: 16.31, -61.0623. Elevation: 200 m. Voucher: image. This represents only the third time that this threatened species has been encountered on La Désirade. Previously, two specimens were collected in 1963 by Albert Schwartz and Richard Thomas (Hedges, B. & Conn, C.E., 2012, A new skink fauna from Caribbean islands [Squamata, Mabuyidae, Mabuyinae], Zootaxa, 3288, 1-244). One individual was observed in 2000 (Breuil M, 2002, Histoire naturelle des amphibiens et reptiles terrestres de l’archipel Guadeloupéen, Paris, MNHN, 339 p.). The skink population that lives on Terre de Bas, Îles de la Petite Terre (Lorvelec, O. 2011. Mabuya mabouya [Lesser Antillean Skink], conservation, Caribbean Herpetology, 2:19), located 13 km from La Désirade, was tentatively assigned to this species (Hedges, B. & Conn, C.E., 2012). This recent observation of a single individual was made on the southwest slope of the plateau of La Désirade, where the habitat is open forest, with a sparse, low, vegetation and a substrate of leaf litter and dead wood on alveolar limestone.

Photograph by T Paré


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