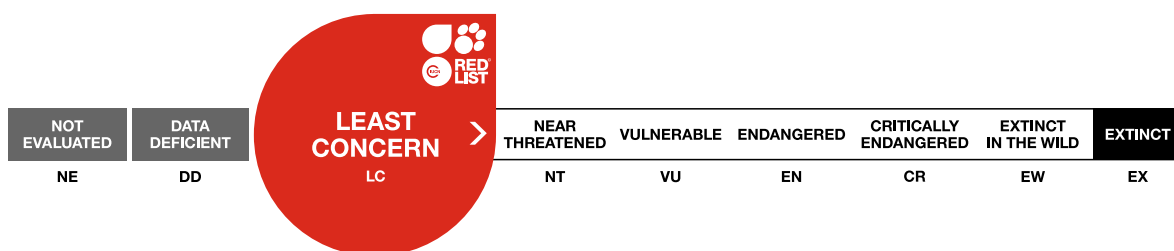




## *Latastia longicaudata*

Assessment by: Howell, K., Msuya, C.A., Ngalason, W., Niagate, B., Wagner, P., Wilms, T., Al Jumaily, M.M., Sindaco, R. & Baha El Din, S.



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## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Reptilia	Squamata	Lacertidae

**Scientific Name:** *Latastia longicaudata* (Reuss, 1834)

### Synonym(s):

- *Lacerta longicaudata* Reuss, 1834

### Common Name(s):

- English: Southern Long-tailed Lizard

### Taxonomic Notes:

Spawls *et al.* (2002) note that the current concept of this species, which ranges from Senegal to East Africa, is probably incorrect, and suggest that the genus *Latastia* is in need of revision.

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2021

**Date Assessed:** July 16, 2012

### Justification:

Listed as Least Concern in view of its wide distribution, presumed large population, and because no major threats have been identified.

## Geographic Range

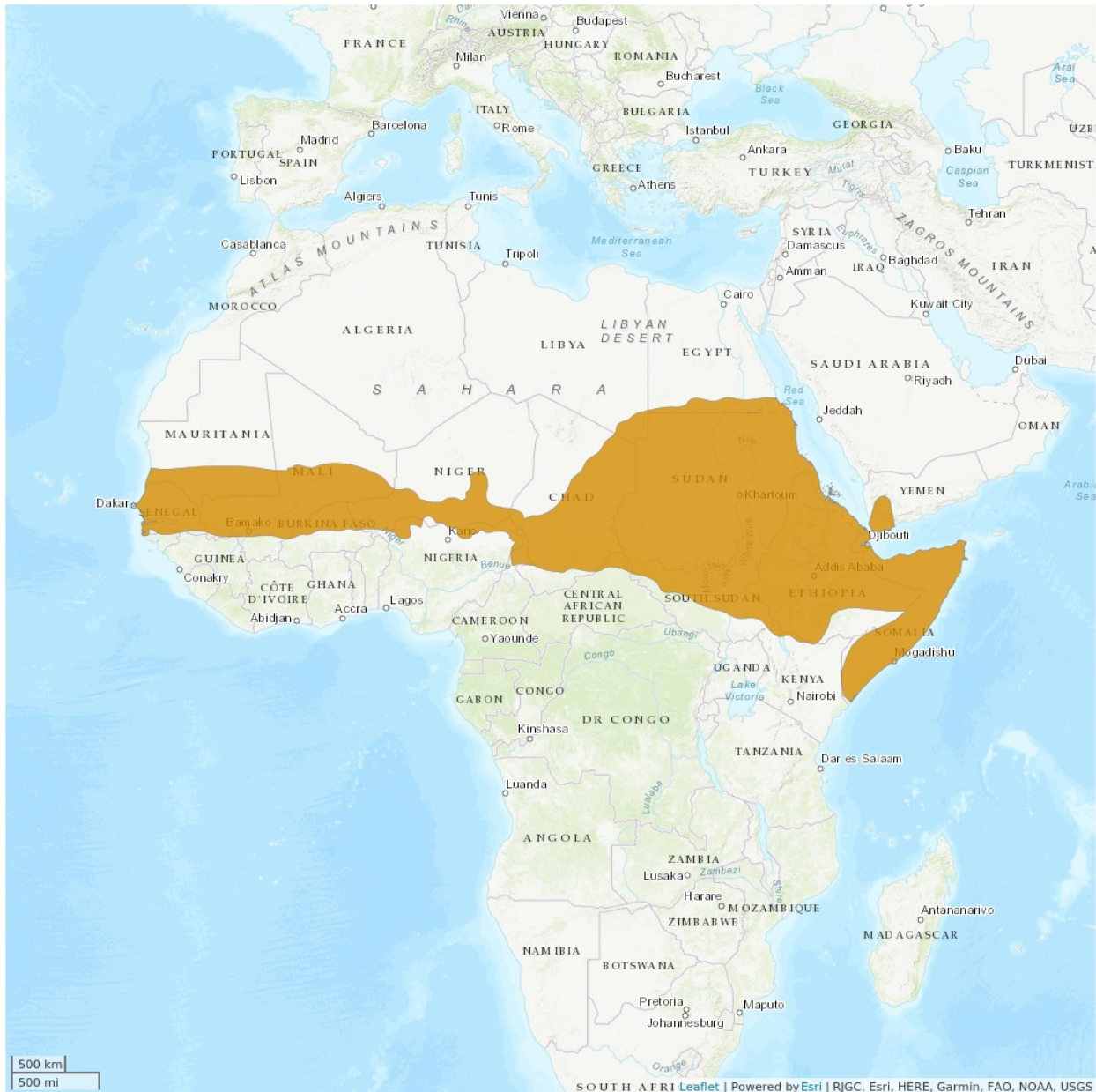
### Range Description:

This species ranges from southern Egypt (a record from Sinai is in error) and Sudan, south through Eritrea (Largen 1997) and Djibouti (Ineich 2001) into Ethiopia, Somalia (where it is widespread and represented by three of the species' four recognized subspecies - Lanza 1990), Kenya and northern Tanzania (with a southern range limit in Ugogo, near Dodoma - Spawls *et al.* 2002), and west through the Sahel to Senegal as far north as the border with Mauritania. In West Africa records exist for the Gambia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon and Chad (Trape *et al.* 2012). On the Arabian Peninsula it has been reported from nine localities in Yemen (R. Sindaco pers. comm. 2012), where it is represented by the endemic subspecies *Latastia longicauda andersoni*. It has been recorded to elevations of more than 2,000 m asl in the vicinity of Harar (Largen and Spawls 2010).

### Country Occurrence:

**Native, Extant (resident):** Cameroon; Chad; Djibouti; Egypt; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Gambia; Kenya; Mali; Niger; Nigeria; Senegal; Somalia; Sudan; Tanzania, United Republic of; Yemen

# Distribution Map

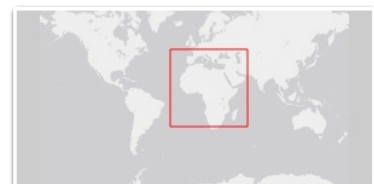
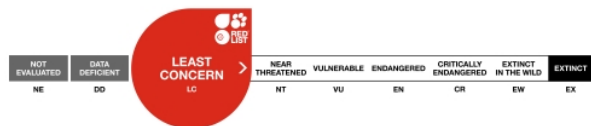


## Legend

EXTANT (RESIDENT)

Compiled by:

IUCN, CI 2012



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

## Population

This lizard is common in East Africa, where it may be the most common large terrestrial lizard observed in open areas (Spawls *et al.* 2002), and also in the Horn of Africa (Ineich 2001, Largen and Spawls 2010). There is no information on its abundance in Yemen, where it is known from fewer than 10 localities and recent records are lacking. There is no information on its population status in West Africa.

**Current Population Trend:** Stable

## Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is found in semi-desert shrubland and deciduous *Acacia-Commiphora* bushland in East Africa (Spawls *et al.* 2002). It is terrestrial, and hides in shady areas close to bushes. In West Africa it is known from sandy plains with sparse vegetation, where it is active in open areas exposed to full sunlight (Trape *et al.* 2012). It adapts readily to disturbance, and will colonize villages (Ineich 2001). It feeds on insects (Trape *et al.* 2012). This species lays eggs but the clutch size is not known (Spawls *et al.* 2002). It is not known whether *Latastia longicauda andersoni* exhibits different habitat preferences.

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Use and Trade

Animals sourced from East African subpopulations are regularly found in the international pet trade, however the Yemeni subspecies has not been encountered in trade (R. Sindaco pers. comm. 2012).

## Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There appear to be no major threats to this widespread species. In Egypt, it may be locally threatened by overgrazing and the collection of firewood. It is collected for the pet trade in parts of its range. There is little ongoing development in southern Yemen, and this lizard is unlikely to be at risk here (M.M. Al Jumaily pers. comm. 2012).

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

It is presumably present in a number of protected areas. More research is needed on the poorly-known Yemeni subspecies *Latastia longicauda andersoni* and surveys are needed to obtain new records of this form.

## Credits

**Assessor(s):** Howell, K., Msuya, C.A., Ngalason, W., Niagate, B., Wagner, P., Wilms, T., Al Jumaily, M.M., Sindaco, R. & Baha El Din, S.

**Reviewer(s):** Bowles, P. & Cox, N.A.

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## External Resources

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## Appendix

### Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry	Resident	Suitable	Yes
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	Resident	Suitable	Yes
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.4. Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens	Resident	Suitable	No

### Use and Trade

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

End Use	Local	National	International
Pets/display animals, horticulture	No	No	Yes

### Threats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.3. Livestock farming & ranching -> 2.3.2. Small-holder grazing, ranching or farming	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.3. Logging & wood harvesting -> 5.3.3. Unintentional effects: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		

### Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Action in Place
In-place land/water protection
Area based regional management plan: Yes
Occurs in at least one protected area: Yes

### Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

<b>Research Needed</b>
1. Research -> 1.1. Taxonomy
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends

## Additional Data Fields

<b>Distribution</b>
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 2,000
<b>Population</b>
Population severely fragmented: No



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