

Building evidence for conservation globally

Journal of Threatened Taxa

40 **zoo**reach
Zoo Outreach Organisation
Years

10.11609/jott.2025.17.4.26763-26938

www.threatenedtaxa.org

26 April 2025 (Online & Print)

17(4): 26763-26938

ISSN 0974-7907 (Online)

ISSN 0974-7893 (Print)



Open Access





ISSN 0974-7907 (Online); ISSN 0974-7893 (Print)

Publisher
Wildlife Information Liaison Development Society
www.wild.zooreach.org

Host
Zoo Outreach Organization
www.zooreach.org

Srivari Illam, No. 61, Karthik Nagar, 10th Street, Saravanampatti, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641035, India
Registered Office: 3A2 Varadarajulu Nagar, FCI Road, Ganapathy, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641006, India
Ph: +91 9385339863 | www.threatenedtaxa.org
Email: sanjay@threatenedtaxa.org

EDITORS

Founder & Chief Editor

Dr. Sanjay Molur

Wildlife Information Liaison Development (WILD) Society & Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO),
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641006, India

Assistant Editor

Dr. Chaithra Shree J., WILD/ZOO, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641006, India

Managing Editor

Mr. B. Ravichandran, WILD/ZOO, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641006, India

Associate Editors

Dr. Mandar Paingankar, Government Science College Gadchiroli, Maharashtra 442605, India

Dr. Ulrike Streicher, Wildlife Veterinarian, Eugene, Oregon, USA

Ms. Priyanka Iyer, ZOO/WILD, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641006, India

Board of Editors

Dr. Russel Mittermeier

Executive Vice Chair, Conservation International, Arlington, Virginia 22202, USA

Prof. Mewa Singh Ph.D., FASc, FNA, FNAsc, FNAPsy

Ramanna Fellow and Life-Long Distinguished Professor, Biopsychology Laboratory, and
Institute of Excellence, University of Mysore, Mysuru, Karnataka 570006, India; Honorary
Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore; and Adjunct
Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore

Stephen D. Nash

Scientific Illustrator, Conservation International, Dept. of Anatomical Sciences, Health Sciences
Center, T-8, Room 045, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794-8081, USA

Dr. Fred Pluthero

Toronto, Canada

Dr. Priya Davidar

Sigur Nature Trust, Chadapatti, Mavinhalla PO, Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu 643223, India

Dr. John Fellowes

Honorary Assistant Professor, The Kadoorie Institute, 8/F, T.T. Tsui Building, The University of
Hong Kong, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong

Prof. Dr. Mirco Solé

Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz, Departamento de Ciências Biológicas, Vice-coordenador
do Programa de Pós-Graduação em Zoologia, Rodovia Ilhéus/Itabuna, Km 16 (45662-000)
Salobrinho, Ilhéus - Bahia - Brasil

Dr. Rajeev Raghavan

Professor of Taxonomy, Kerala University of Fisheries & Ocean Studies, Kochi, Kerala, India

English Editors

Mrs. Mira Bhojwani, Pune, India

Dr. Fred Pluthero, Toronto, Canada

Copy Editors

Ms. Usha Madgunaki, Zooreach, Coimbatore, India

Ms. Trisa Bhattacharjee, Zooreach, Coimbatore, India

Ms. Paloma Noronha, Daman & Diu, India

Web Development

Mrs. Latha G. Ravikumar, ZOO/WILD, Coimbatore, India

Typesetting

Mrs. Radhika, Zooreach, Coimbatore, India

Mrs. Geetha, Zooreach, Coimbatore, India

Fundraising/Communications

Mrs. Payal B. Molur, Coimbatore, India

Subject Editors 2021–2023

Fungi

Dr. B. Shivaraju, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Dr. R.K. Verma, Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur, India

Dr. Vatsavaya S. Raju, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Andhra Pradesh, India

Dr. M. Krishnappa, Jnana Sahyadri, Kuvempu University, Shimoga, Karnataka, India

Dr. K.R. Sridhar, Mangalore University, Mangalagangothri, Mangalore, Karnataka, India

Dr. Gunjan Biswas, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, West Bengal, India

Dr. Kiran Ramchandra Ranadive, Annasaheb Magar Mahavidyalaya, Maharashtra, India

Plants

Dr. G.P. Sinha, Botanical Survey of India, Allahabad, India

Dr. N.P. Balakrishnan, Ret. Joint Director, BSI, Coimbatore, India

Dr. Shonil Bhagwat, Open University and University of Oxford, UK

Prof. D.J. Bhat, Retd. Professor, Goa University, Goa, India

Dr. Ferdinando Boero, Università del Salento, Lecce, Italy

Dr. Dale R. Calder, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Cleofas Cervancia, Univ. of Philippines Los Baños College Laguna, Philippines

Dr. F.B. Vincent Florens, University of Mauritius, Mauritius

Dr. Merlin Franco, Curtin University, Malaysia

Dr. V. Irudayaraj, St. Xavier's College, Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu, India

Dr. B.S. Kholia, Botanical Survey of India, Gangtok, Sikkim, India

Dr. Pankaj Kumar, Department of Plant and Soil Science, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, USA.

Dr. V. Sampath Kumar, Botanical Survey of India, Howrah, West Bengal, India

Dr. A.J. Solomon Raju, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India

Dr. Vijayasankar Raman, University of Mississippi, USA

Dr. B. Ravi Prasad Rao, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantpur, India

Dr. K. Ravikumar, FRLHT, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Dr. Aparna Watve, Pune, Maharashtra, India

Dr. Qiang Liu, Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Yunnan, China

Dr. Noor Azhar Mohamed Shazili, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia

Dr. M.K. Vasudeva Rao, Shiv Ranjani Housing Society, Pune, Maharashtra, India

Prof. A.J. Solomon Raju, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India

Dr. Mandar Datar, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, Maharashtra, India

Dr. M.K. Janarthanam, Goa University, Goa, India

Dr. K. Karthikeyan, Botanical Survey of India, India

Dr. Errol Vela, University of Montpellier, Montpellier, France

Dr. P. Lakshminarasimhan, Botanical Survey of India, Howrah, India

Dr. Larry R. Noblick, Montgomery Botanical Center, Miami, USA

Dr. K. Haridasan, Pallavur, Palakkad District, Kerala, India

Dr. Analinda Manila-Fajard, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines

Dr. P.A. Sinu, Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod, Kerala, India

Dr. Afroz Alam, Banasthali Vidyapith (accredited A grade by NAAC), Rajasthan, India

Dr. K.P. Rajesh, Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College, GA College PO, Kozhikode, Kerala, India

Dr. David E. Boufford, Harvard University Herbaria, Cambridge, MA 02138-2020, USA

Dr. Ritesh Kumar Choudhary, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, Maharashtra, India

Dr. A.G. Pandurangan, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India

Dr. Navendu Page, Wildlife Institute of India, Chandrabani, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

Dr. Kannan C.S. Warriar, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Tamil Nadu, India

Invertebrates

Dr. R.K. Avasthi, Rohtak University, Haryana, India

Dr. D.B. Bastawade, Maharashtra, India

Dr. Partha Pratim Bhattacharjee, Tripura University, Suryamaninagar, India

Dr. Kailash Chandra, Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, India

Dr. Ansie Dippenaar-Schoeman, University of Pretoria, Queenswood, South Africa

Dr. Rory Dow, National Museum of Natural History Naturalis, The Netherlands

Dr. Brian Fisher, California Academy of Sciences, USA

Dr. Richard Gallon, Llandudno, North Wales, LL30 1UP

Dr. Hemant V. Ghate, Modern College, Pune, India

Dr. M. Monwar Hossain, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

For Focus, Scope, Aims, and Policies, visit https://threatenedtaxa.org/index.php/JoTT/aims_scope

For Article Submission Guidelines, visit <https://threatenedtaxa.org/index.php/JoTT/about/submissions>

For Policies against Scientific Misconduct, visit https://threatenedtaxa.org/index.php/JoTT/policies_various

continued on the back inside cover

Cover: Nilgiri Large Burrowing Spider *Haploclostus nilgirinus*. Acrylic on canvas. © Aakanksha Komanduri.



Distribution, perception, and conservation challenges of endemic Madras Hedgehog *Paraechinus nudiventris* in Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu: insights from questionnaire surveys

Brawin Kumar¹ & Abinеш Muthaiyan²

^{1,2} Hedgehog Conservation Alliance, 4–58/2, South Street, Swamithoppu, Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu 629704, India.

² Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, School of Life Sciences, Pondicherry University, Puducherry 605014, India.

¹ brawinkumarwildlife@gmail.com (corresponding author), ² abe.fosjc@gmail.com

Abstract: The distribution patterns, recent sightings and people's perception of the endemic small mammal, Madras Hedgehog *Paraechinus nudiventris* of Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu were identified through questionnaire surveys. This study gathered insights into the perceptions and interactions with 1,141 participants from 38 villages in Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu. A total of 867 respondents provided valuable information, revealing that 34% had observed hedgehogs in their villages. Notably, 38% people reported night as the optimal time for sighting and while only 11% reported sighting in the afternoon. The rainy season, chosen by 53% of respondents, emerged as the key period for hedgehog sightings, likely associated with hedgehog breeding and increased foraging opportunities. Therefore, the traditional medicinal applications of using various hedgehog body parts, raising critical concerns regarding hunting practices and the ethical treatment of these animals. The combined pressures of increased urbanization, habitat loss, and hunting are contributing to a potential decline in populations of the Madras Hedgehog. Reports of roadkill and poaching urges the need for conservation efforts. The reliance on hedgehogs in local remedies, particularly for conditions such as coughs and rheumatism, exacerbates the threats to their survival. Therefore, these factors necessitate immediate action to implement effective conservation strategies that address both the preservation of this endemic species and the ethical considerations surrounding its use in traditional practices.

Keywords: Biodiversity, community engagement, conservation strategies, ecological awareness, human-wildlife interaction, traditional knowledge, wildlife protection.

Tamil: தமிழ்நாட்டின் தென்காசி மாவட்டத்தில் காணப்படும் சிறிய பாலூட்டியான தென்இந்திய முள்ளெலியின் (பராச்சினஸ் நுடிவென்ட்ரிசி) பரவல் முறைகள், வெவ்வேறு இடங்களிலும் அவற்றைப் பார்க்கப்பட்ட பதிவுகள் மற்றும் மக்களின் கண்ணோட்டம் ஆகியன கேள்வித்தாள் ஆய்வுகள் மூலம் வெளிக்கொணரப்பட்டது. இந்த ஆய்வில், தென்காசி மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள 38 கிராமங்களைச் சேர்ந்த 1,141 பங்கேற்பாளர்களின் கருத்துக்கள், பட்டறிவுகள், கலந்துரையாடல் மூலம் சேகரிக்கப்பட்டது. மொத்தம் 867 நபர்கள் இந்த கணக்கெடுப்பில் பங்கேற்று மதிப்புமிக்க தகவல்களை வழங்கினர். 34% பேர் தங்கள் கிராமங்களில் முள்ளெலியைப் பார்த்ததாகத் தெரிவித்தனர். குறிப்பாக, 38% பேர் இரவு நேரத்தில் கண்டதாகவும், 11% பேர் நண்பகல் வேளையில் பார்த்ததாகவும் தெரிவித்தனர். 53% பேர் மழைக்காலத்தில் முள்ளெலிகள் கூடுதலாகத் தென்பட்டதாகத் தெரிவித்தனர். மழைக்காலமானது முள்ளெலிகளின் இனப்பெருக்கத்துடன் தொடர்புடையதாகவும், உணவு தேடிக் கூடுதலாக இங்கும் அங்கும் செல்வதாலும் அதனைப் பார்க்கும் வாப்புகள் அதிகரித்திருக்கலாம். பாரம்பரிய மருத்துவத்தில் முள்ளெலியின் பல்வேறு பாகங்களையும் இவர்கள் பயன்படுத்துவதாக தெரிய வந்தது. பாரம்பரிய மருத்துவத்திற்காக இந்த விலங்குகளை வேட்டையாடும் நடைமுறைகளும், நெறிமுறைகளும் கவலை அளிப்பதாக உள்ளன. நகரமயமாக்கல், வாழ்விடச்சிதைவு மற்றும் வேட்டையாடுதல் ஆகியவற்றின் ஒருங்கிணைந்த அழுத்தத்தால் முள்ளெலிகளின் எண்ணிக்கை சரிவை நோக்கி சென்று கொண்டிருக்கின்றது. வாணிகரத்தில் சிக்கி சாஸலையில் அடிபடுதல், வேட்டை போன்ற காரணிகளும் இவற்றின் பாதுகாப்புக்கு அச்சுறுத்தலாக உள்ளன. இருமல் மற்றும் வாத நோயைப் போக்கும் மருந்து என நம்பப்படுவதால் முள்ளெலிகள் வேட்டையாடப் படலாம். இதனால் அவை அழிந்து போவதற்கான அச்சுறுத்தல்கள் மேலும் அதிகரிக்கிறது. மேற்கூறிய காரணிகள் யாவும் இந்த ஒரிடவாழ் உயிரினத்தின் பாதுகாப்பு மற்றும் அதனைச் சார்ந்திருக்கும் பாரம்பரிய நடைமுறைகளையும் காக்கும் வகையிலான மேம்பட்ட செயல்திட்டங்களை உடனடியாகச் செயல்படுத்த வேண்டும் என்பதை இந்த ஆய்வின் முடிவுகள் உணர்த்துகிறது.

Editor: S.S. Talmale, Zoological Survey of India, Pune, India.

Date of publication: 26 April 2025 (online & print)

Citation: Kumar, B. & A. Muthaiyan (2025). Distribution, perception, and conservation challenges of endemic Madras Hedgehog *Paraechinus nudiventris* in Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu: insights from questionnaire surveys. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 17(4): 26872–26878. <https://doi.org/10.11609/jott.9545.17.4.26872-26878>

Copyright: © Kumar & Muthaiyan 2025. Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. JoTT allows unrestricted use, reproduction, and distribution of this article in any medium by providing adequate credit to the author(s) and the source of publication.

Funding: TAAL Tech India Private Limited.

Competing interests: The authors declare no competing interests.

Author details, Author contributions & Acknowledgements: See end of this article.



INTRODUCTION

Small mammals are an important part of the global ecosystem, but there is a lack of data on their populations and the threats they face. This is partly due to their small size, nocturnal habits, and cryptic lifestyles, which make them difficult to study (Molur et al. 2005). Additionally, small mammals are often overlooked in conservation efforts, which tend to focus on larger, more charismatic animals. The lack of data on small mammals makes it difficult to assess the full extent of their decline for conservation strategies. Climate change, habitat fragmentation, and invasive species are some of the factors influencing their decline (Bertolino et al. 2015).

Tenkasi District, which was bifurcated from Tirunelveli District in the year of 2019 and emerged as the 33rd district in Tamil Nadu (Revenue Administration Jurisdiction, Bifurcation of Tirunelveli District (2019)), is located at the southern tip of the Western Ghats, serving as a haven for both flora and fauna. Adjacent to Tenkasi District, the Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR), Nellai Wildlife Sanctuary, Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) and small pockets of reserve forest in the plains such as Uttumalai, Sivalar Kulam, and Mayamankurichi provide thriving habitats for faunal communities. The open grasslands and savannah in the region are characterized by tropical dry forests, tropical thorn forest and plains of vast expanses of low-lying vegetation, providing crucial habitats for a variety of wildlife. The tropical thorn forest exhibits an environment with petite, prickly trees that typically lose their leaves during the dry season. The ground level is comprised of lush, water-retaining plants, grasses adapted to arid conditions, and shrubs adorned with thorns. This region primarily receives its annual rainfall during the northeastern monsoon season (October–December) and faces dry from April to September. Notable species found in the tropical thorn forest area of this region include *Acacia*, *Chloroxylon*, *Commiphora*, and *Dalbergia* (Jha & Singh 1990). Historically, the Cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus venaticus* and Blackbucks *Antelope cervicapra* were recorded from the plains of this district, and now they are completely extinct (Rangarajan 1998). These grasslands not only support numerous plant and animal species but also provides a feeding ground for the cattle and livelihood for the communities (Image 1a). The mix of grasses and scattered trees, creating a unique ecosystem, is home to a rich assortment of flora and fauna, including grazing herbivores and the predators that rely on them for sustenance. These regions receive less rainfall, and vegetation tends to be adapted to the

scarcity of water. Despite the challenging conditions, these areas still host an array of resilient plant species and wildlife specially adapted to the semi-arid climate, mainly small mammals.

The Madras Hedgehog belongs to the order Eulipotyphla of family Erinacidae, is one of India's small mammals, and is known to occur in plains and semi-arid parts of southern India. Although it was widely distributed in the plains of Tamil Nadu and has restricted distribution in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, rigorous hunting of this species over a century throughout its range has led to a rapid and ongoing population collapse. It prefers open grasslands to forage; thorny scrubs and hedgerows to reproduce and nesting. Despite its ecological significance, this species faces numerous challenges, including habitat loss and illegal trade (Kumar & Nijman 2016; Kumar et al. 2018a,b). On the other hand, it is threatened by anthropogenic degradations, habitat loss and deforestation. Despite the widespread conversion of *P. nudiventris* habitat into agriculture, some small patches of grassland habitat still exist in agricultural fields as they are important for the population to survive (Kumar et al. 2018b). Nearly 70% of small mammal species in the Western Ghats of India are declining due to anthropogenic activities such as habitat loss, fragmentation, deforestation and mining (Nameer et al. 2001). Therefore, understanding their presence, perception and awareness in their habitat is crucial for future conservation efforts.

METHODS

Questionnaires have been valuable in assessing the presence and absence of hedgehogs (Hof 2009; Hof & Bright 2012; Williams et al. 2015). Specific geographic surveys were used to identify regional distributions and historical sightings, aiding in presence determination. While negative responses are equally important (Sjöström et al. 1999) as when people report absence, it confirms where the species isn't found, enhancing distribution mapping. Semi-structured questionnaires cover behaviour and activity, offering insights into ecological roles.

The results of a questionnaire survey were analysed that was conducted in 38 villages in Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu, involving 1,141 participants and aimed to assess various aspects, like the presence of Madras Hedgehogs and also their activity patterns. These locations include human-dominated areas, to gauge the local population's perception of Madras Hedgehogs (Figure 1).

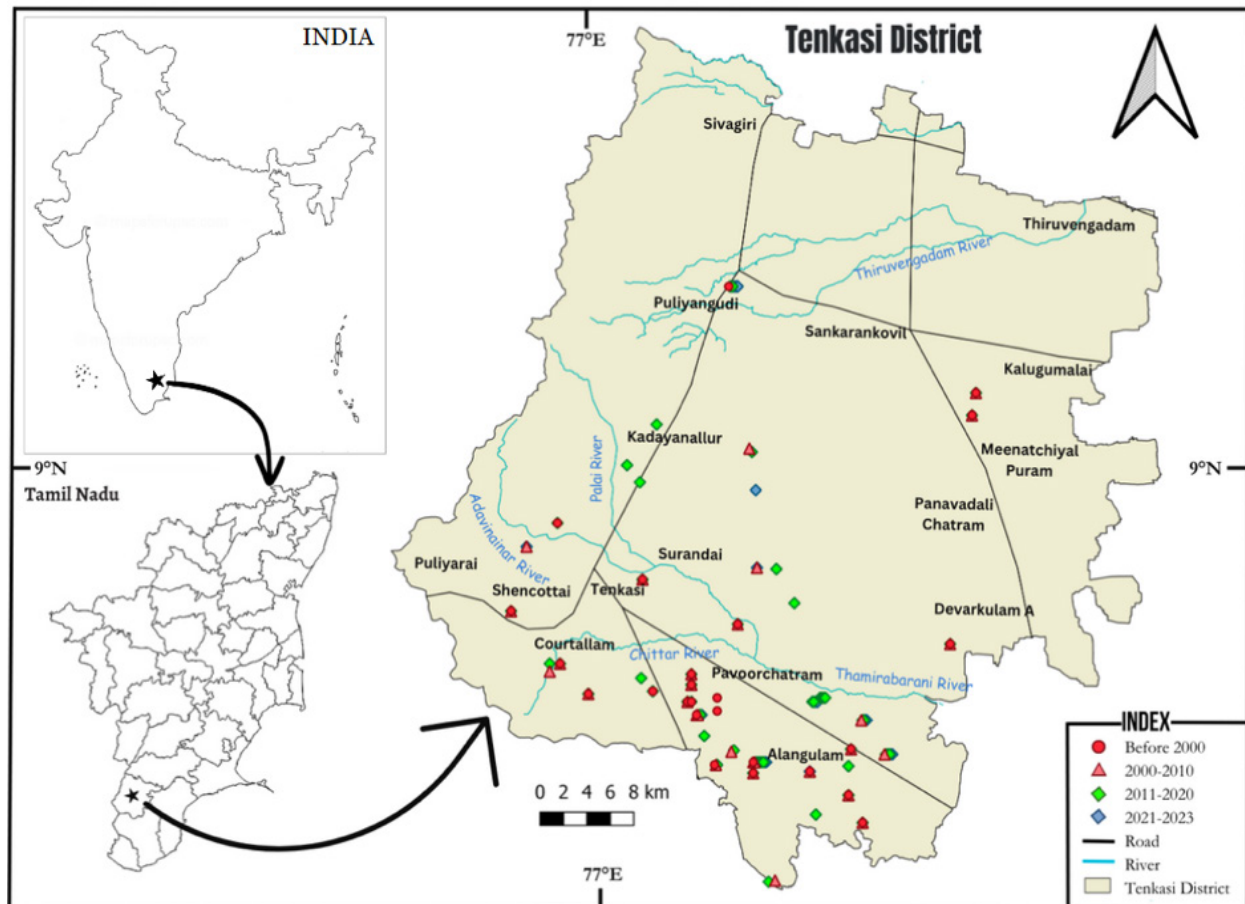


Figure 1. A Comparison of the *Paraechinus nudiventris* sighting between the current decade and previous years in Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu. (Map source: <https://www.istockphoto.com>).

Questionnaire surveys efficiently gather insights from local communities (Kitchenham & Pflieger 2002; Sirivongs et al. 2012) from their extensive experience in the hedgehog's habitat, which provides valuable data (Roopa & Rani 2012). The study area was classified into zones, such as villages and carried out random sampling surveys. Face-to-face interviews in the local language (Tamil) ensured effective communication, with prior informed consent from all respondents. The questionnaire covered respondent demographics, behavioural observations, traditional beliefs, presence and absence of hedgehogs, population changes, hunting, and recent sightings (pre- and post-2000). Microsoft Excel 2016 was used to analyse the data, while QGIS 3.32 LIMA was used for mapping the reported sightings in the listed villages.

RESULTS

In this survey, 1,141 respondents from 38 villages participated between July 2021 and September 2023. It's important to note that the data relies on self-reports, potentially influenced by recall bias. Filtering responses revealed that out of 867 participants, 295 (34%) reported Madras Hedgehog presence and 399 (46%) could distinguish Madras Hedgehogs from porcupines. As for preferred observation times, 104 (17%) suggested the early morning (0000–0600 h) in line with hedgehogs' nocturnal habits, meanwhile, 125 (20%) favoured morning hours (0600–1200 h), 70 (11%) opted for afternoons (1200–1600 h), and furthermore, 78 (12%) preferred early evenings (1600–1800 h), capturing the transition from rest to activity. A majority of 233 (38%) chose night-time (1800–0000 h) to see hedgehogs, aligning with their nocturnal nature. The rainy season received the highest response (53%), possibly due to mating and the abundance of invertebrate prey. Winter (25.3%) also exhibited favourable conditions, with the

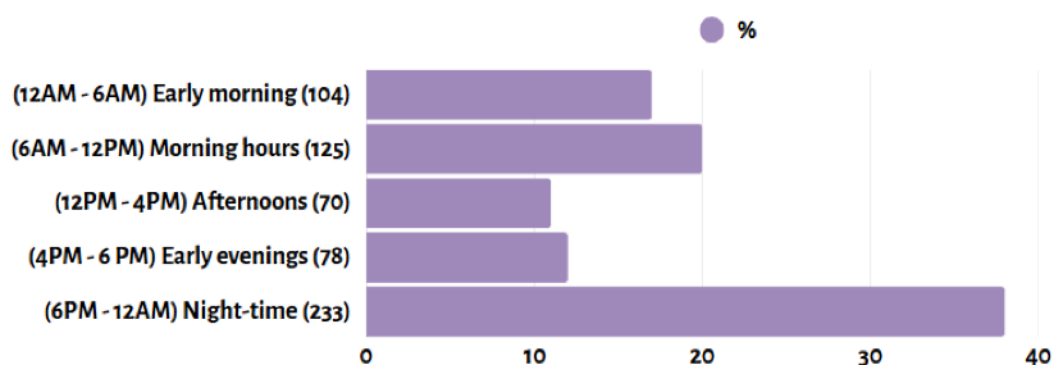


Figure 2. Temporal patterns of Madras Hedgehog sightings.

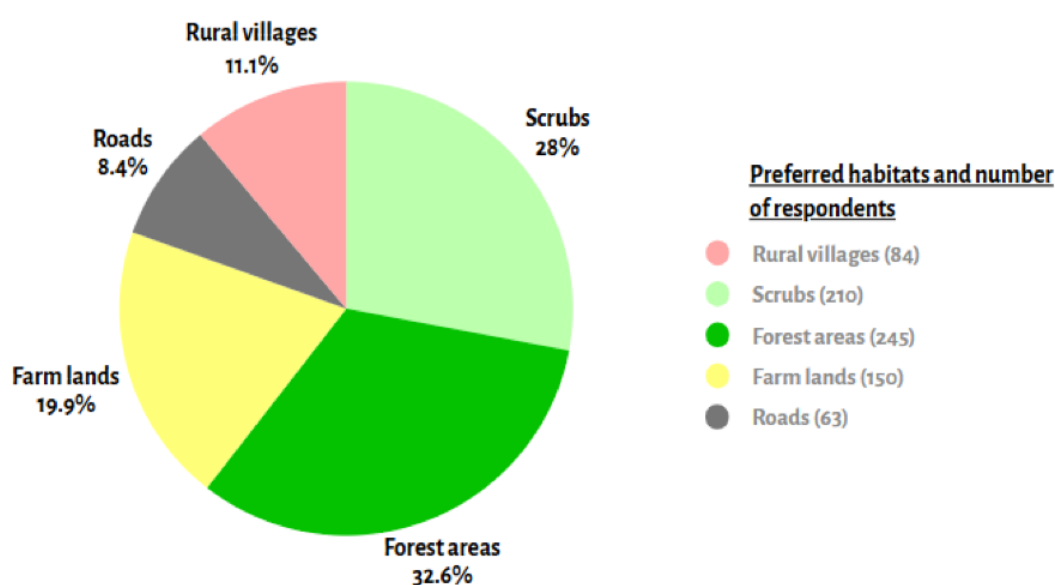


Figure 3. Madras Hedgehog sightings reported by the participants across different habitat types.

summer season (21%) being the least favoured.

Regarding habitat, the species is exclusively found in the lowlands of the eastern region of the southern Western Ghats (Kumara et al. 2023). The respondents identified potential sighting locations as follows: 84 (11.1%) in rural villages, 150 (19.9%) in farmlands, 210 (27.9%) in scrublands, 245 (32.5%) in forest areas, and 63 (8.4%) on roads.

The utilization of hedgehog body parts is believed to have various traditional and medicinal purposes, with certain body parts believed to possess specific properties to deal with whooping cough and other abnormalities. A significant number of respondents, 250 people (38%), indicated that hedgehogs are hunted for their skins, and 268 people (41%) for their spines. This practice is often associated with the use of hedgehog spines and skins in the production of traditional medicines, which are highly

valued and not only available in black markets in Tenkasi, Tirunelveli, and Kanyakumari of Tamil Nadu State; but also traded both locally and across states. Cultural and traditional beliefs in the efficacy of hedgehog spines for medicinal purposes, which aids in treating various diseases like whooping cough, asthma, stomach aches, ear aches, and childcare medicines, as well as ritualistic purposes. Dried skin is believed to keep evil spirits from entering the home. A notable number of 123 people (19%) acknowledged that hunting hedgehogs for meat consumption is still practiced. Additionally, 79 (9%) reported keeping hedgehogs as pets, and 275 (31%) acknowledged using hedgehog body parts for traditional medicines. While it's essential to consider cultural and regional differences, this practice raises concerns about the ethical treatment of animals and potential impacts on local hedgehog populations (Figure 4).



Image 1. a—Open grasslands with sparsely distributed *Acacia* spp. and other thorny shrubs form one of the notable habitats of *Paraechinus nudiventris* | b—*Borassus flabellifer*, being the prominent tree found in these landscapes and people often sight hedgehog under piles of fallen Palmyra leaves | c—*Cereus pterogonus* are often used as live fences by local people where the hedgehogs are occasionally seen | d—they are often victims of road kill | e—they are rarely found in the daytime foraging near human settlements. © Abinesh Muthaiyan.

Inadequate road signage and high-speed traffic elevate the risk of hedgehog roadkill due to their heat-basking behaviour, small size, and nocturnal habits (Image 1d). Anthropogenic activities in hedgehog habitats in Ayikudy, Alangulam, and Surandai areas,

pushing hedgehogs closer to human settlements, windfarms, and roads in search of food and shelter (Image 1e). Moreover, 106 respondents (12%) acknowledged poaching in this district, highlighting the urgent need for increased protective measures. Additionally, 126 people (28%) perceived hedgehogs

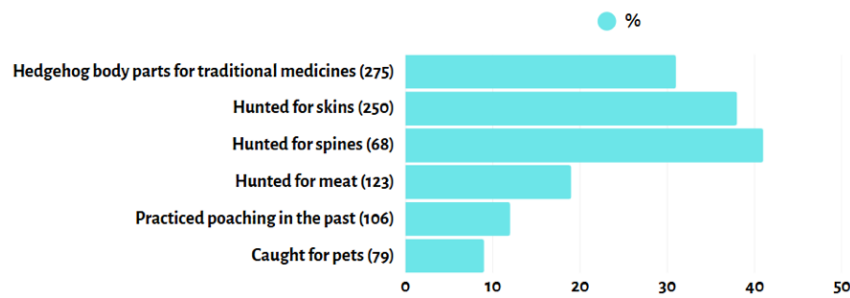


Figure 4. Consumption and use of Madras Hedgehog among people in and around the villages of the Tenkasi District.

Table 1. List of villages included in this survey.

	Surveyed villages in Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu	GPS Co-ordinates
1	Ammaiyapuram	9.009, 77.447
2	Anavankudiyuruppu	8.720, 77.368
3	Arunachalapuram	9.101, 77.424
4	Avadaiyanoor	8.880, 77.386
5	Chinakumarpatti	8.856, 77.404
6	Chinanadanur	8.885, 77.399
7	Ilnaji	8.960, 77.278
8	Kalluthoor	8.902, 77.461
9	Kandapatti	8.815, 77.513
10	Karisalur	8.868, 77.405
11	Karumbanoor	8.855, 77.468
12	Karuthalingapuram	8.844, 77.405
13	Kulayaneri	9.006, 77.430
14	Gunaramanallur	8.931, 77.343
15	Malayankulam	9.146, 77.600
16	Mathalambaarai	8.906, 77.378
17	Mayamankurichi	8.893, 77.511
18	Mylapuram	8.779, 77.430
19	Nannagaram	8.945, 77.292
20	Nellaiyappurem	8.863, 77.417
21	Nettur	8.918, 77.531
22	Pa. Elanthakulam	9.126, 77.597
23	Pethanadarpatti	8.886, 77.408
24	Podiyunoor	8.881, 77.382
25	Poolangulam	8.861, 77.427
26	Pudupatti	8.835, 77.502
27	Salaiputhur	8.893, 77.422
28	Chellathayarapuram	8.872, 77.413
29	Sivalarkulam	8.868, 77.527
30	Sivalingapuram	8.913, 77.478
31	South Mylappuram	8.775, 77.431
32	Subramaniyapuram (Kattur)	8.985, 77.258
33	Thippanampatti	8.903, 77.375
34	Thirikoodapuram	9.125, 77.356
35	Thuppakudi	8.773, 77.445
36	Thuthikulam	8.910, 77.475
37	Vadamalaipatti	8.841, 77.425
38	Velliyammalapuram	9.015, 77.324

as rare, which may be influenced by factors like habitat loss, hunting, and environmental changes impacting hedgehog populations and biodiversity (Hof & Bright 2012). This indicates a decline in hedgehog sightings over the years from 2000 to 2023 due to various anthropogenic activities. The species is protected under Schedule II of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (amendment 2022); urgent conservation measures such as habitat protection, population research, prohibition of hunting and trading, as well as awareness campaigns for hedgehog conservation are necessary to reverse this declining trend.

REFERENCES

- Bertolino, S., P. Colangelo, E. Mori & D. Capizzi (2015). Good for management, not for conservation: an overview of research, conservation and management of Italian small mammals. *Hystrix* 26(1): 1–11. <https://doi.org/10.4404/hystrix-26.1-10263>
- Hof, A.R. (2009). A study of the current status of the hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus* and its decline in Great Britain since 1960. PhD Thesis, University of London.
- Hof, A.R. & P.W. Bright (2012). Factors affecting hedgehog presence on farmland as assessed by a questionnaire survey. *Acta Theriologica* 57: 79–88. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13364-011-0044-y>
- Jha, C.S. & J.S. Singh (1990). Composition and dynamics of dry tropical forest in relation to soil texture. *Journal of Vegetation Sciences* 1(5): 609–614. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3235566>
- Kitchenham, B. & S.L. Pfleeger (2002). Principles of survey research part 4: questionnaire evaluation. *ACM SIGSOFT. Software Engineering Notes* 27(3): 20–23.
- Kumar, B., J. Togo & R. Singh (2018a). The South Indian Hedgehog *Paraechinus nudiventris* (Horsfield, 1851): review of distribution data, additional localities and comments on habitat and conservation. *Mammalia* 83(4): 399–409. <https://doi.org/10.1515/mammalia-2018-0128>
- Kumar, B. & V. Nijman (2016). Medicinal uses and trade of Madras Hedgehogs *Paraechinus nudiventris* in Tamil Nadu, India. *Traffic Bulletin* 28(1): 7–10.
- Kumar, B., S. Babu & H.N. Kumara (2018b). Predicting the potential distribution of the lesser-known endemic Madras Hedgehog *Paraechinus nudiventris* (Order: Eulipotyphla, Family: Erinaceidae) in southern India. *Mammalia* 83(5): 470–478. <https://doi.org/10.1515/mammalia-2018-0101>
- Kumara, H.N., S. Mahato, M. Singh, S. Molur & A.D. Velankar (2023). Mammalian diversity, distribution and potential key conservation areas in the Western Ghats. *Current Science* 124(1): 38–49.
- Molur, S., C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S. Walker, P.O. Nameer &

- L. Ravikumar (2005). *Status of South Asian Non-volant Small Mammals: Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP) Workshop Report*. Zoo Outreach Organization/CBSG-south Asia, Coimbatore, India, 618 pp.
- Nameer, P.O., S. Molur & S. Walker (2001). Mammals of Western Ghats: a simplistic overview. *Zoos' Print Journal* 16(11): 629–639. <https://doi.org/10.11609/JoTT.ZPJ.16.11.629-39>
- Rangarajan, M. (1998). The role of administration in extermination: fresh evidence on the cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus* in India. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 95: 328–332.
- Revenue Administration Jurisdiction, Bifurcation of Tirunelveli District (2019). Creation of Tenkasi new district—ordered – notification under Tamil Nadu District Limits Act, 1865 – Issued. G.O.(Ms). No. 427 Dt: November 12, 2019.
- Roopa, S. & M.S. Rani (2012). Questionnaire designing for a survey. *Journal of Indian Orthodontic Society* 46: 273–277. <https://doi.org/10.5005/jp-journals-10021-1104>
- Sjöström, O., D. Holst & S.O. Lind (1999). Validity of a questionnaire survey: the role of non-response and incorrect answers. *Acta Odontologica Scandinavica* 57(5): 242–246. <https://doi.org/10.1080/000163599428643>
- Sirivongs, K. & T. Tsuchiya (2012). Relationship between local residents' perceptions, attitudes and participation towards national protected areas: a case study of Phou Khao Khouay National Protected Area, central Lao PDR. *Forest Policy and Economics* 21: 92–100. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2012.04.003>
- Williams, R.L., R. Stafford & A.E. Goodenough (2015). Biodiversity in urban gardens: assessing the accuracy of citizen science data on garden hedgehogs. *Urban Ecosystem* 18(3): 819–833. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-014-0431-7>

Author details: BRAWIN KUMAR's research focuses on lesser known threatened small mammal ecology, population genetics, biogeography and field conservation. ABINESH MUTHAIYAN is a PhD scholar at Pondicherry University. His current research focuses on the behavioural ecology and habitat selection of the Madras Hedgehog, using ecological techniques to understand how this threatened species adapted to survive in highly fragmented and human-altered landscape.

Author contributions: BK & AM—field work and research design; BK—concept, funding acquisition, supervision and final review; AM—data collection, manuscript writing and data analysis.

Acknowledgements: We sincerely express our gratitude to the Tamil Nadu Forest Department for granting us the necessary permissions to conduct our fieldwork (proceedings number: WL5(A)31710/2021; permission no: 92/2022). We would like to thank IUCN Small Mammal Specialist Group and People's Trust for Endangered Species for their support and encouragement. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Anitha Eswari and the dedicated team of volunteers who contributed in various stages of our fieldwork. We are deeply appreciative of our funding partner, TAAL Tech Private Limited, whose generous financial support made this project possible. We wish to acknowledge and thank all the local community members who generously shared their traditional knowledge and insights about the hedgehogs and their habitats. Their willingness to engage with us and contribute their perspectives enriched our understanding and significantly informed our study.



Mr. Jatishwor Singh Irungbam, Biology Centre CAS, Branišovská, Czech Republic.
Dr. Ian J. Kitching, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, UK
Dr. George Mathew, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, India
Dr. John Noyes, Natural History Museum, London, UK
Dr. Albert G. Orr, Griffith University, Nathan, Australia
Dr. Sameer Padhye, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
Dr. Nancy van der Poorten, Toronto, Canada
Dr. Kareen Schnabel, NIWA, Wellington, New Zealand
Dr. R.M. Sharma, (Retd.) Scientist, Zoological Survey of India, Pune, India
Dr. Manju Siliwal, WILD, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. G.P. Sinha, Botanical Survey of India, Allahabad, India
Dr. K.A. Subramanian, Zoological Survey of India, New Alipore, Kolkata, India
Dr. P.M. Sureshan, Zoological Survey of India, Kozhikode, Kerala, India
Dr. R. Varatharajan, Manipur University, Imphal, Manipur, India
Dr. Eduard Vives, Museu de Ciències Naturals de Barcelona, Terrassa, Spain
Dr. James Young, Hong Kong Lepidopterists' Society, Hong Kong
Dr. R. Sundararaj, Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bengaluru, India
Dr. M. Nithyanandan, Environmental Department, La Ala Al Kuwait Real Estate. Co. K.S.C., Kuwait
Dr. Himender Bharti, Punjabi University, Punjab, India
Mr. Purnendu Roy, London, UK
Dr. Saito Motoki, The Butterfly Society of Japan, Tokyo, Japan
Dr. Sanjay Sondhi, TITLI TRUST, Kalpavriksh, Dehradun, India
Dr. Nguyen Thi Phuong Lien, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam
Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Tropical Research Institute, Jabalpur, India
Dr. Robin Wen Jiang Ngiam, National Parks Board, Singapore
Dr. Lionel Monod, Natural History Museum of Geneva, Genève, Switzerland.
Dr. Asheesh Shivam, Nehru Gram Bharti University, Allahabad, India
Dr. Rosana Moreira da Rocha, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Brasil
Dr. Kurt R. Arnold, North Dakota State University, Saxony, Germany
Dr. James M. Carpenter, American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA
Dr. David M. Claborn, Missouri State University, Springfield, USA
Dr. Kareen Schnabel, Marine Biologist, Wellington, New Zealand
Dr. Amazonas Chagas Júnior, Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso, Cuiabá, Brasil
Mr. Monsoon Jyoti Gogoi, Assam University, Silchar, Assam, India
Dr. Heo Chong Chin, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Selangor, Malaysia
Dr. R.J. Shiel, University of Adelaide, SA 5005, Australia
Dr. Siddharth Kulkarni, The George Washington University, Washington, USA
Dr. Priyadarsanan Dharma Rajan, ATREE, Bengaluru, India
Dr. Phil Alderslade, CSIRO Marine And Atmospheric Research, Hobart, Australia
Dr. John E.N. Veron, Coral Reef Research, Townsville, Australia
Dr. Daniel Whitmore, State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart, Rosenstein, Germany.
Dr. Yu-Feng Hsu, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei City, Taiwan
Dr. Keith V. Wolfe, Antioch, California, USA
Dr. Siddharth Kulkarni, The Hormiga Lab, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., USA
Dr. Tomas Ditrich, Faculty of Education, University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic
Dr. Mihaly Foldvari, Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, Norway
Dr. V.P. Uniyal, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Uttarakhand 248001, India
Dr. John D.D. Caleb, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, West Bengal, India
Dr. Priyadarsanan Dharma Rajan, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Royal Enclave, Bangalore, Karnataka, India

Fishes

Dr. Topiltzin Contreras MacBeath, Universidad Autónoma del estado de Morelos, México
Dr. Heok Hee Ng, National University of Singapore, Science Drive, Singapore
Dr. Rajeev Raghavan, St. Albert's College, Kochi, Kerala, India
Dr. Robert D. Sluka, Chiltern Gateway Project, A Rocha UK, Southall, Middlesex, UK
Dr. E. Vivekanandan, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Chennai, India
Dr. Davor Zanella, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia
Dr. A. Biju Kumar, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India
Dr. Akhilesh K.V., ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Mumbai Research Centre, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Dr. J.A. Johnson, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India
Dr. R. Ravinesh, Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology, Gujarat, India

Amphibians

Dr. Sushil K. Dutta, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India
Dr. Annemarie Ohler, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France

Reptiles

Dr. Gernot Vogel, Heidelberg, Germany
Dr. Raju Vyas, Vadodara, Gujarat, India
Dr. Pritpal S. Soorae, Environment Agency, Abu Dubai, UAE.
Prof. Dr. Wayne J. Fuller, Near East University, Mersin, Turkey
Prof. Chandrashekher U. Rivonker, Goa University, Taleigao Plateau, Goa. India
Dr. S.R. Ganesh, Chennai Snake Park, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. Himansu Sekhar Das, Terrestrial & Marine Biodiversity, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Birds

Dr. Hem Sagar Baral, Charles Sturt University, NSW Australia
Mr. H. Byju, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. Chris Bowden, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sandy, UK
Dr. Priya Davidar, Pondicherry University, Kalapet, Puducherry, India
Dr. J.W. Duckworth, IUCN SSC, Bath, UK
Dr. Rajah Jayapal, SAGON, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. Rajiv S. Kalsi, M.L.N. College, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana, India
Dr. V. Santharam, Rishi Valley Education Centre, Chittoor Dt., Andhra Pradesh, India
Dr. S. Balachandran, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai, India
Mr. J. Praveen, Bengaluru, India
Dr. C. Srinivasulu, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India
Dr. K.S. Gopi Sundar, International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, USA
Dr. Gombobaatar Sunde, Professor of Ornithology, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
Prof. Reuven Yosef, International Birding & Research Centre, Eilat, Israel
Dr. Taej Mundkur, Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands
Dr. Carol Inskipp, Bishop Auckland Co., Durham, UK
Dr. Tim Inskipp, Bishop Auckland Co., Durham, UK
Dr. V. Gokula, National College, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. Arkady Lelej, Russian Academy of Sciences, Vladivostok, Russia
Dr. Simon Dowell, Science Director, Chester Zoo, UK
Dr. Mário Gabriel Santiago dos Santos, Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Quinta de Prados, Vila Real, Portugal
Dr. Grant Connette, Smithsonian Institution, Royal, VA, USA
Dr. P.A. Azeez, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India

Mammals

Dr. Giovanni Amori, CNR - Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Rome, Italy
Dr. Anwaruddin Chowdhury, Guwahati, India
Dr. David Mallon, Zoological Society of London, UK
Dr. Shomita Mukherjee, SAGON, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. Angie Appel, Wild Cat Network, Germany
Dr. P.O. Nameer, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Kerala, India
Dr. Ian Redmond, UNEP Convention on Migratory Species, Lansdown, UK
Dr. Heidi S. Riddle, Riddle's Elephant and Wildlife Sanctuary, Arkansas, USA
Dr. Karin Schwartz, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia.
Dr. Lala A.K. Singh, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India
Dr. Mewa Singh, Mysore University, Mysore, India
Dr. Paul Racey, University of Exeter, Devon, UK
Dr. Honnavalli N. Kumara, SAGON, Anaikatty P.O., Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. Nishith Dharaiya, HNG University, Patan, Gujarat, India
Dr. Spartaco Gippoliti, Socio Onorario Società Italiana per la Storia della Fauna "Giuseppe Altobello", Rome, Italy
Dr. Justus Joshua, Green Future Foundation, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. H. Raghuram, The American College, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India
Dr. Paul Bates, Harison Institute, Kent, UK
Dr. Jim Sanderson, Small Wild Cat Conservation Foundation, Hartford, USA
Dr. Dan Challender, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK
Dr. David Mallon, Manchester Metropolitan University, Derbyshire, UK
Dr. Brian L. Cypher, California State University-Stanislaus, Bakersfield, CA
Dr. S.S. Talmale, Zoological Survey of India, Pune, Maharashtra, India
Prof. Karan Bahadur Shah, Budhanilakantha Municipality, Kathmandu, Nepal
Dr. Susan Cheyne, Borneo Nature Foundation International, Palangkaraja, Indonesia
Dr. Hemanta Kafley, Wildlife Sciences, Tarleton State University, Texas, USA

Other Disciplines

Dr. Aniruddha Belsare, Columbia MO 65203, USA (Veterinary)
Dr. Mandar S. Paingankar, University of Pune, Pune, Maharashtra, India (Molecular)
Dr. Jack Tordoff, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, Arlington, USA (Communities)
Dr. Ulrike Streicher, University of Oregon, Eugene, USA (Veterinary)
Dr. Hari Balasubramanian, EcoAdvisors, Nova Scotia, Canada (Communities)
Dr. Rayanna Hellem Santos Bezerra, Universidade Federal de Sergipe, São Cristóvão, Brazil
Dr. Jamie R. Wood, Landcare Research, Canterbury, New Zealand
Dr. Wendy Collinson-Jonker, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Gauteng, South Africa
Dr. Rajeshkumar G. Jani, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat, India
Dr. O.N. Tiwari, Senior Scientist, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi, India
Dr. L.D. Singla, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana, India
Dr. Rupika S. Rajakaruna, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
Dr. Bahar Baviskar, Wild-CER, Nagpur, Maharashtra 440013, India

Reviewers 2021–2023

Due to pausity of space, the list of reviewers for 2021–2023 is available online.

The opinions expressed by the authors do not reflect the views of the Journal of Threatened Taxa, Wildlife Information Liaison Development Society, Zoo Outreach Organization, or any of the partners. The journal, the publisher, the host, and the partners are not responsible for the accuracy of the political boundaries shown in the maps by the authors.

Print copies of the Journal are available at cost. Write to:
The Managing Editor, JoTT,
c/o Wildlife Information Liaison Development Society,
3A2 Varadarajulu Nagar, FCI Road, Ganapathy, Coimbatore,
Tamil Nadu 641006, India
ravi@threatenedtaxa.org & ravi@zooreach.org

Journal of Threatened Taxa is indexed/abstracted in Bibliography of Systematic Mycology, Biological Abstracts, BIOSIS Previews, CAB Abstracts, EBSCO, Google Scholar, Index Copernicus, Index Fungorum, JournalSeek, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, NewJour, OCLC WorldCat, SCOPUS, Stanford University Libraries, Virtual Library of Biology, Zoological Records.

NAAS rating (India) 5.64



OPEN ACCESS



The Journal of Threatened Taxa (JoTT) is dedicated to building evidence for conservation globally by publishing peer-reviewed articles online every month at a reasonably rapid rate at www.threatenedtaxa.org. All articles published in JoTT are registered under [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) unless otherwise mentioned. JoTT allows unrestricted use, reproduction, and distribution of articles in any medium by providing adequate credit to the author(s) and the source of publication.

ISSN 0974-7907 (Online) | ISSN 0974-7893 (Print)

April 2025 | Vol. 17 | No. 4 | Pages: 26763–26938

Date of Publication: 26 April 2025 (Online & Print)

DOI: 10.11609/jott.2025.17.4.26763-26938

www.threatenedtaxa.org

Articles

Biodiversity in Garh Panchkot and surroundings (Purulia, West Bengal) of residential and migratory land vertebrates with special reference to endangered species

– Amrita Panja, Biplab Kahar & Sujoy Chattaraj, Pp. 26763–26779

Evaluating wildlife activity and corridor functionality: a study of underpasses in and around Rajaji National Park, India

– Nishant Verma, Saket Badola & Samrat Mondol, Pp. 26780–26788

Avifaunal diversity and conservation status of waterbirds in Pillaimadam Lagoon, Palk Bay, India

– H. Byju, H. Maitreyi, N. Raveendran, S. Ravichandran & Reshmi Vijayan, Pp. 26789–26802

Comments on the systematics and morphology of *Smithophis bicolor* (Blyth, 1855) (Reptilia: Squamata: Natricidae) based on topotypical specimens from Meghalaya, India

– Jayaditya Purkayastha, Bipin Meetei Asem, Hmar Tlawmte Lalremsanga, Madhurima Das, Holiness Warjri, Goldenstar Thongni & Sanath Chandra Bohra, Pp. 26803–26813

Diversity and distribution of fish in rivers Chinnar and Thenar and their tributary, southern Western Ghats, Tamil Nadu, India

– K. Mahesh Kumar, T. Ajayla Karthika & K. Anvar, Pp. 26814–26823

Diversity and habitat preferences of butterflies (Insecta: Lepidoptera) in Dzongu, Mangan, Sikkim, India

– Sonam Wangchuk Lepcha & Monish Kumar Thapa, Pp. 26824–26849

Seasonal study on succession of forensically significant entomofauna under indoor environment in Punjab, India

– Pawandeep Kaur & Madhu Bala, Pp. 26850–26856

Communications

First photographic record of ferret badger *Melogale* sp. (Mammalia: Carnivora: Mustelidae) from the state of Tripura, India

– Omkar Patil, Ashutosh Joshi & Amey Parkar, Pp. 26857–26863

An update on the status of some Data Deficient bat species from India

– Uttam Saikia, Manuel Ruedi & Rohit Chakravarty, Pp. 26864–26871

Distribution, perception, and conservation challenges of endemic Madras Hedgehog *Paraechinus nudiventris* in Tenkasi District, Tamil Nadu: insights from questionnaire surveys

– Brawin Kumar & Abinash Muthaiyan, Pp. 26872–26878

Notes on the interesting species *Tacca leontopetaloides* (L.) Kuntze

– Sk. Md. Abu Imam Saadi, Meheub Sarwar Hossain, Debasis Bhunia, Sk. Rasidul Islam, Sayantan Tripathi, Sanjit Sinha & Amal Kumar Mondal, Pp. 26879–26886

Extended distribution of the rare basidiolichen *Sulzbacheromyces yunnanensis* (Lichenized Basidiomycota) from Mizoram, India

– V.L. Thachunglura, Prabhat Kumar Rai, Zohmangaiha Chawngthu, Lallawmkima Bochung, P.C. Vanlalhluna & John Zothanzama, Pp. 26887–26892

Short Communications

First photographic record of a Leopard Cat *Prionailurus bengalensis* (Kerr, 1792) (Mammalia: Carnivora: Felidae) in central India

– Prabhu Nath Shukla, Bilal Habib, Virendra Kumar Mishra, Sumedh Lomesh Bobade, Eshaan Chaitanya Rao & Kanishka, Pp. 26893–26897

New record of Mysore Slender Loris *Loris lydekkerianus* near Puducherry, India

– Shanmugam Mani, P. Aravind Aathi, K. Sivakumar, Aurosyll Bystrom & D. Saravanan, Pp. 26898–26902

The brachypterous endemic genus *Ardistomopsis* (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Panagaeinae) of the Indian subcontinent: first report of *Ardistomopsis batesi* Straneo & Ball, 1989 and *Ardistomopsis marginicollis* (Schaum, 1864) (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Panagaeinae) from the Western Ghats and the biogeographical significance

– V.A. Jithmon, M. Divya & Thomas K. Sabu, Pp. 26903–26907

First report of *Jauravia assamensis* Kapur, 1961 (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) from West Bengal, India

– Tamoghno Majumder, Aloy Adak & Kusal Roy, Pp. 26908–26911

First record of *Hycleus marcipoli* Pan & Bologna, 2014 (Coleoptera: Meloidae) as a pest of Common Beans in Kashmir Himalaya, India

– Farhana Shafi & Altaf Hussain Mir, Pp. 26912–26916

***Sonerila bababudangiriensis* (Melastomataceae), a new species of herb from the Western Ghats of India**

– Prashant Karadakatti & Siddappa B. Kakkalameli, Pp. 26917–26922

Rediscovery of *Phallus aurantiacus* Mont. from India and new distribution record from Odisha, India

– Malay Prithwiraj Sahoo, Supriya Sahu, Samarendra Narayan Mallick, Prabhat Kumar Das, Yasaswinee Rout, Subrat Dalabehera, Sitaram Prasad Panda & Vinaykumar Hallur, Pp. 26923–26927

Occurrence of a rare desmid *Tetmemorus laevis* Ralfs ex Ralfs from Yumthang Valley, northern Sikkim with a note on the genus in India

– Debjyoti Das, Jay Mal & Jai Prakash Keshri, Pp. 26928–26931

Notes

***Ophiorrhiza japonica* Blume (Rubiaceae): a new record for India**

– Ngasheppam Malemnganbi Chanu, Peimichon Langkan, Thongam Nourenpai Khanganba & Thongam Biseshwori, Pp. 26932–26935

***Isodon neorensis* Ranjan, G. Krishna & Anant Kumar (Lamiaceae): a new record for Sikkim Himalaya, India**

– Pramod Rai, Pp. 26936–26938

Publisher & Host



Threatened Taxa