

Gallotia auaritae

Region: 1

Taxonomic Authority: Mateo, García Márquez, López Jurado and Barahona, 2001

Synonyms:

Common Names:

Order: Sauria

Family: Lacertidae

Notes on taxonomy: This taxon was originally described as a subspecies of *Gallotia simonyi* by Mateo et al. (2001), but we follow Afonso and Mateo (2003) in treating it as a full species.

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This extinct species occurred from sea-level up to 800m in the littoral zone of La Palma in the Canary Islands (Spain). Its decline started 2,000 years ago with the arrival of humans on La Palma. It appears to have become extinct in the last 500 years.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

It apparently occurred through the littoral zone of La Palma, and probably lived in xerophytic vegetation. It was presumably an egg-laying species.

Conservation Measures:

Not applicable.

Threats:

The main causes of extinction appear to have been introduced cats, consumption by people, and agriculture.

Species population information:

The species is believed to be extinct, though, like other giant lizards of the Canary Islands, there is a remote chance that it could be rediscovered in a remote or inaccessible location.

Country Distribution

Spain Native - Presence Confirmed Native - Presence Possible Extinct Reintroduced Introduced Vagrant

FAO Marine Habitats

Native - Presence Confirmed Native - Presence Possible Extinct Reintroduced Introduced

Major Lakes

Major Rivers

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

Score

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

3.5 Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry 1
3.8 Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation 1
6 Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks) 1

Major threats

Conservation Measures

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future	Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.1.1	Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.1.1.2	Small-holder farming	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
2	Invasive alien species (directly affecting the species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
2.2	Predators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
3	Harvesting (hunting/gathering)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
3.1	Food	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
3.1.1	Subsistence use/local trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use	Subsistence	National	International	Other purpose:
Primary forms removed from the wild	100% >75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%	Other forms removed from the wild:
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100% >75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%	Other source of specimens:

Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:

Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:

Trend in conservation status produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years.

CITES:

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Extinct (EX)

Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria:

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Extinct because it has not been recorded for around 500 years, and recent surveys have failed to locate any individuals.

Current Population Trend:

Date of Assessment: 12/17/2004

Assessor(s): Jose Antonio Mateo Miras

Notes on Red listing:

Bibliography

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Mateo, J.A., García Márquez, M., López Jurado, L.F. and Barahona, F., 2001, Descripción del lagarto gigante de La Palma (Islas Canarias) a partir de restos subfósiles., Revista Española de Herpetología, , , 15, 53-59., ,

Afonso, O.M. and Mateo, J.A., 2003, Los lagartos gigantes canarios: conservación creativa de poblaciones mínimas., , Al Borde de la Extinción: Integrando Ciencia, Política y Sociedad en la Recuperación de Especies Amenazadas., Jiménez, I. and Delibes, M., , , Evren, Valencia