

# Chalcides polylepis

Region: 7

**Taxonomic Authority:** Boulenger, 1890

**Synonyms:**

Chalcides simonyi Steindachner, 1889

**Common Names:**

Many-scaled Cylindrical Skink English  
 Vielschuppiger Walzenskink German  
 Seps à écailles nombreuses French

**Order:** Sauria

**Family:** Scincidae

**Notes on taxonomy:** Chalcides simonyi used to be considered as a subspecies of Chalcides polylepis, but it was separated as a full species by (Pasteur et al. 1988; Brown and Pestano 1998).

## General Information

**Biome**  Terrestrial  Freshwater  Marine

**Geographic Range of species:**

This species occurs in northern, western and southern Morocco, and has also been recorded from one or two localities in northwestern Western Sahara. It occurs from sea level to 1,950m asl.

**Habitat and Ecology Information:**

This is a diurnal, terrestrial species. It is found under rocks and stones and in thickets of dense vegetation (but it is absent from dense woodland). It is also found in Argan forests and in pasture lands. The females give birth to four to seven fully formed young. Montane populations are known to have a period of hibernation..

**Conservation Measures:**

It occurs in several protected areas in Morocco, including Souss-Massa National Park, Marais Larache, Dunes d'Essaouira, Perdicaris, Bouhachem, Bou Iblane, Bou Naceur, Jbel Tichoukt, and Jaaba.

**Threats:**

This species is threatened by habitat loss resulting from ongoing agricultural expansion and urbanization. In coastal areas it is threatened by habitat loss caused by the development of tourism facilities.

**Species population information:**

This species is locally abundant.

## Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
Morocco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western Sahara	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## FAO Marine Habitats

Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced
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## Major Lakes

## Major Rivers

## Upper Level Habitat Preferences

	Score
1.4 Forest - Temperate	1
3.4 Shrubland - Temperate	1
3.8 Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	1
6 Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	1
10.2 Coastline - Sand, Shingle or Pebble Shores (incl. sand bars, spits, sandy islets, dune systems)	1
11.2 Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland	1

## Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

## Major threats

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1	Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1.3	Agro-industry farming	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4	Livestock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4.1	Nomadic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4	Infrastructure development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4.3	Tourism/recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Conservation Measures

Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
3	Research actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Habitat and site-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Protected areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4.2	Establishment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4.3	Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use      Substances      National      International      Other purposes

<b>Purpose/type or use</b>	<b>Subsistence</b>	<b>National</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Other purpose:</b>		
<b>Primary forms removed from the wild</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>&gt;75%</b>	<b>51-75%</b>	<b>26-50%</b>	<b>&lt;25%</b>	<b>Other forms removed from the wild:</b>
<b>Source of specimens in commercial trade</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>&gt;75%</b>	<b>51-75%</b>	<b>26-50%</b>	<b>&lt;25%</b>	<b>Other source of specimens:</b>

**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:**

**CITES:**

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## **Red Listing**

**Red List Assessment:** Least Concern (LC)  Possibly Extinct

### **Red List Criteria:**

**Rationale for the Red List Assessment:** Listed as Least Concern in view of its wide distribution, tolerance of a range of habitats, presumed large population, and because it is unlikely to be declining fast enough to qualify for listing in a more threatened category.

**Current Population Trend:** Decreasing **Date of Assessment:** 12/17/2004

**Assessor(s):** Philippe Geniez, Jose Antonio Mateo Miras, Ulrich Joger, Juan Pleguezuelos, Tahar Slimani, El Hassan El Mouden

### **Notes on Red listing:**

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