

Hierophis cypriensis

Region: 8

Taxonomic Authority: (Schätti, 1985)

Synonyms:

Common Names:

Cyprus Whip Snake English
Zypern-Schlanknatter English

Order: Ophidia

Family: Colubridae

Notes on taxonomy: This species is included in Hierophis following Utiger and Schätti (2004).

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This species is limited to the Troodos massif and foothills of western Cyprus. It ranges from around 500 to 1,400m asl.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

This snake can be found in humid areas with dense bushes, close to water or within forests. Irregularly feeds on amphibians, and may be found close to dams and similar areas where prey are often more abundant.

Conservation Measures:

Much of its range is within a State Forest protected area. There is some public education through a local snake park.

Threats:

It is generally threatened by persecution by local people and tourists, and through ongoing logging of forest habitat in the Troodos Mountains.

Species population information:

It is an uncommon species.

Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
Cyprus	<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
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Major Lakes

Major Rivers

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

	Score
1.4 Forest - Temperate	1
3.8 Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	1
5.7 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1
5.8 Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1
12.1 Artificial/Aquatic - Water Storage Areas (over 8ha)	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"/>
1.3	Extraction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.3	Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.3.2	Selective logging	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Persecution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Conservation Measures

Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
2	Communication and Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Awareness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Research actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Population numbers and range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.5	Threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.8	Conservation measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.9	Trends/Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Habitat and site-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Protected areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4.2	Establishment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4.3	Management	<input checked="" 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:

CITES:

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Endangered (EN) Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria: B1ab(iii)

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Endangered because its Extent of Occurrence is less than 5,000 km², all individuals are in fewer than five locations, and there is continuing decline in the extent and quality of its habitat.

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

Assessor(s): Wolfgang Böhme, Petros Lymberakis, Pierre-André Crochet

Notes on Red listing:

Bibliography

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