

Vipera monticola

Taxonomic Authority: Saint-Girons, 1954

Synonyms:

Region: 7

Common Names:

Atlas Dwarf Viper English
Vipere de l'Atlas French

Order: Ophidia

Family: Viperidae

Notes on taxonomy: This is considered a valid species (Beerli et al. 1986).

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This relictual species is endemic to the High and Middle Atlas Mountains of Morocco where is restricted to a few mountain valleys. It is found at elevations of between 1,200 to 4,000m asl.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

It inhabits semi-humid montane areas, and can be found in screes, and areas with stones and cushion-like thorny plants.

Conservation Measures:

It has been recorded from the Parc National de Toubkal, Morocco.

Threats:

Habitat destruction resulting from removal of firewood is a major threat to this species.

Species population information:

It is thought to be a rare species.

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"/>

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
3.4 Shrubland - Temperate	1
4.4 Grassland - Temperate	1
6 Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	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"/>
1.3.3.1	Small-scale subsistence	<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"/>
1.3.3.3	Clear-cutting	<input checked="" 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"/>
3.2	Population numbers and range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Habitat status	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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	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: Near Threatened (NT)

Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria:

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Near Threatened because its Extent of Occurrence is probably not much greater than 20,000 km², and the extent and quality of its habitat are probably declining, thus making the species close to qualifying for Vulnerable.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Date of Assessment: 12/17/2004

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

Notes on Red listing:

Bibliography

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