



Geographical range



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Amazing Species: Seychelles Forest Scorpion

In the image above, a female Seychelles Forest Scorpion (*Lychas braueri*) can be seen caring for her young. She carries them on her back until they are old enough to live independently.

This species was endemic to the Seychelles islands of Mahé, Praslin, and Silhouette. It now appears to only survive on Silhouette, restricted to less than 5 km² of woodland. The species is presumed to be extinct on the other islands.

Its woodland habitats are deteriorating due to the effects of invasive plant species, in particular True Cinnamon (*Cinnamomum verum*). The Seychelles Forest Scorpion is restricted to the least invaded areas, as its prey – small animals living in leaf litter – are less abundant in areas of high invasion. In 1990, one Seychelles Forest Scorpion was found killed by invasive ants, which could represent an additional threat. Due to its small distribution and rapid deterioration of the habitat, this species is Critically Endangered.

Although the Seychelles Forest Scorpion has been found in the Silhouette National Park, the park is not managed to protect this species.