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## Amazing Species: Tiger Chameleon

The <u>Tiger Chameleon</u>, *Archaius tigris*, is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species<sup>™</sup>. This small chameleon is endemic to the Seychelles islands of Mahé, Silhouette and Praslin, and can be found in tropical forest up to elevations of 550 metres.

The Tiger Chameleon is threatened by habitat degradation caused by introduced alien plants such as Cinnamon, *Cinnamomum verum*, especially on Mahé and Praslin. As an island endemic with a restricted range of just three small islands, and a population thought to number only 2,000 individuals, this species of chameleon is particularly vulnerable to any changes to its habitat.

Through its listing under Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), any international trade of the Tiger Chameloen should be carefully monitored and controlled. Its habitat is protected within the Morne Seychelles and Praslin National Parks, and alien plant control on Praslin and habitat restoration programmes on Silhouette are being undertaken to help to conserve this species.





