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Geographical range

Amazing Species: Brown Leaf Chameleon

The **Brown Leaf Chameleon**, *Brookesia superciliaris*, is listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This chameleon is endemic to Madagascar, where it widely occurs in the humid east, ranging from Midongy du Sud to Ambolokaptrika. When threatened it is the master of disguise, using the 'freeze-and-roll' technique by folding its legs underneath its belly, rolling over to one side and remaining very still, mimicking a dead leaf.

Knowledge
Experts
Action
Get Involved

Throughout its range, the main threat to the Brown Leaf Chameleon is the destruction of its lowland forest habitat resulting from agriculture expansion, logging and mining. This species is harvested for the international pet trade, but it is unlikely that this poses a significant threat (200 species are allocated to its yearly export quota).

This chameleon occurs in a number of well-managed protected areas where harvesting is prohibited. Protection is also afforded through its listing on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES), which strictly regulates its international trade. Although more tolerant to forest disturbance than other leaf chameleons, future monitoring and research would help to ensure its continued survival.



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