NOTES

Seychelles fineliner damselfly not extinct after all

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The delicate little Seychelles damselfly *Teinobasis alluaudi* (Martin, 1896) was feared extinct, not having been seen since 1909. It was recorded from Mahé in 1894 and 1909 (at Mare aux Cochons) and on Silhouette in 1908 (Mare aux Cochons and Pointe Etienne) (Martin 1896; Campion 1909). On 27th June 1997 it was rediscovered on southwestern Mahé, by a small stream in *Terminalia* forest, at sea level. It is clearly threatened because at the turn of the 20th century it was described as "fairly common on Mahé island" (Martin 1896), but with the land transformations that have taken place that is not the case today. It is hanging on apparently in partly shaded streams that have no or little agricultural run-off. Further encouraging discoveries have been made on Silhouette. Dr. Justin Gerlach found the species at Anse Patates on 28th July 1998, at Belle Vue in July 2000 (also observed by Chris and Bill Wain on 18th July 2001), and David Simpson and Audrey Royo located it on 24th May and 14th June 2001 at Grande Barbe. Two other sites have been found on Mahé by Chris and Bill Wain, on the Grande Anse River on 29th October 2000 and at the Plantation Club grounds on 28th July 2001.

This species, like so many stream organisms, appears to be very vulnerable to impacts that are taking place upstream. It makes one realise how important it is to conserve catchments and not simply patches of forest.

As a result of these recent discoveries the species has been downlisted to 'Vulnerable' (B2ab (ii & iii)) (Samways 2002) from its earlier categorisation of 'Critically Endangered'.

References
Campion, H. 1913. *Trans. Linn. Soc., Lond. (2. Zool.)* **15**; 445
Martin, R. 1896. *Mem. Soc. zool. Fr.* **9**; 110
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