

## *Leptaxis azorica*

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## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Mollusca	Gastropoda	Stylommatophora	Hygromiidae

**Taxon Name:** *Leptaxis azorica* (Albers, 1852)

### Taxonomic Notes:

Morelet (1860) extended the range of *L. azorica* to Santa Maria as variety  $\gamma$  minor, which Backhuys (1975) elevated to subspecific level; the latter author extended the range of the species to Flores island. van Riel *et al.* (2005), using molecular data, found evidence for specific separation of the populations from Santa Maria (*L. minor* Backhuys1975) and Flores (undescribed), as well as for splitting the eastern population of São Miguel from the western population, the latter being *L. azorica*. The subgeneric status of the Azorean *Leptaxis* is in need of revision (Bank *et al.* 2002).

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2013

**Date Assessed:** October 11, 2010

### Justification:

This endemic species is relatively widespread on São Miguel island, Azores. There is no major threat, as it is a quite adaptable species. It is therefore assessed as Least Concern (LC).

## Geographic Range

### Range Description:

This species is endemic to the island of São Miguel, in the Azores (Portugal). Until proper taxonomic treatment is given to van Riel *et al.*'s (2005) evidence of east-west separation in São Miguel, and thus properly assessing the range for each taxonomic unit, the range of *L. azorica* should include the entire island.

### Country Occurrence:

**Native:** Portugal (Azores)

# Distribution Map



## *Leptaxis azorica*

Range

■ Extant (resident)

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The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



## Population

There is no data on population trends for this species.

**Current Population Trend:** Unknown

## Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species lives in the forests and native vegetation, preferentially at high altitudes (for example Pico da Vara, north 37° 48' 24"; west 025° 12' 43"; 1050 m), but has also been found at lower altitudes (for example near Mosteiros, north 37° 52' 31"; west 025° 49' 28"; 240 m).

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Use and Trade

This species is not utilized.

## Threats

This species is widespread on São Miguel, and has quickly adapted to forest of introduced species (e.g. *Cryptomeria*), therefore no threats are foreseen.

## Conservation Actions

There are no conservation actions in place, but more research on the taxonomy is needed.

## Credits

**Assessor(s):** Frias Martins, A.

**Reviewer(s):** Neubert, E., Cuttelod, A. & Nichols, C.

## Bibliography

Backhuys, W. 1975. *Land & Fresh-water Molluscs of the Azores*. Backhuys & Meesters, Amsterdam.

Bank, R.A., Groh, K. and Ripken, T.E. 2002. Catalogue and Bibliography of the non-marine Mollusca of Macronesia. In: M. Falkner, K. Grah and M.C.D. Speight (eds), *Collectanea Malacologica*, pp. 89-235.

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Morelet, A. 1860. *Notice sur l'histoire naturelle des Açores suivie d'une description des mollusques terrestres de cet archipel*. Baillière, Paris.

Van Riel, P., Jordaens, K., Van Houtte, N., Frias Martins A.M., Verhagen, R. and Backeljau, T. 2005. Molecular systematics of the endemic Leptaxini (Gastropoda :Pulmonata) on the Azores islands. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 37: 132-143.

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## External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

# Appendix

## Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.4. Forest - Temperate	-	Suitable	Yes

## Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.1. Taxonomy

## Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 759
Population
Population severely fragmented: No

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