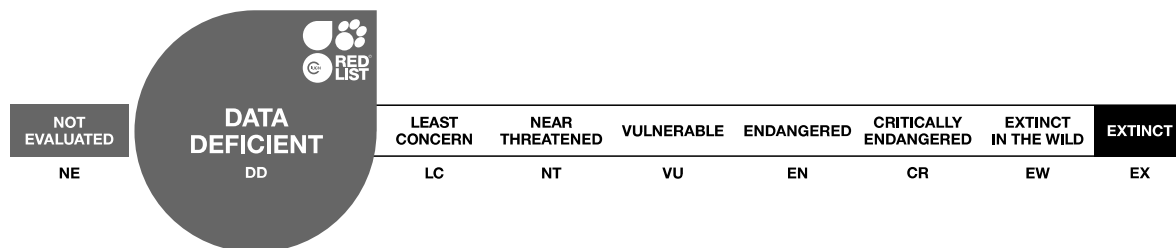


Parachipetria floresiana

Assessment by: Nunes, R. & Borges, P.A.V.



View on www.iucnredlist.org

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Arthropoda	Arachnida	Oribatida	Achipteriidae

Scientific Name: *Parachipteria floresiana* (Pérez-íñigo, 1992)

Synonym(s):

- *Pseudachipteria floresiana* Pérez-íñigo, 1992

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Data Deficient [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2021

Date Assessed: April 1, 2018

Justification:

Parachipteria floresiana is an endemic species of the Azores (Portugal), known from the islands of Flores, Terceira and S. Miguel. From the available data, it would have a relatively small Extent of Occurrence (12,293 km²), and a very small Area of Occupancy (28 km²), but these are likely to be underestimates, as this species probably has a wider distribution through the soil component of the islands. It can be assumed that this species is affected by human activities and invasive plant species that alter the natural structure and composition of the soil; and future climatic changes and increased risk of droughts will also affect this species. The present situation of this species needs to be further assessed and further research is needed into its population, distribution, threats, ecology and life history; while conservation of natural habitats and invasive species control could potentially aid this species' conservation. Despite the seemingly widespread nature of this species, based upon the incomplete knowledge regarding this species' population, distribution, threats and ecology, it is not possible to accurately estimate the extinction risk of the species and it could theoretically fall into any category. Therefore, this species is assessed as Data Deficient (DD).

Geographic Range

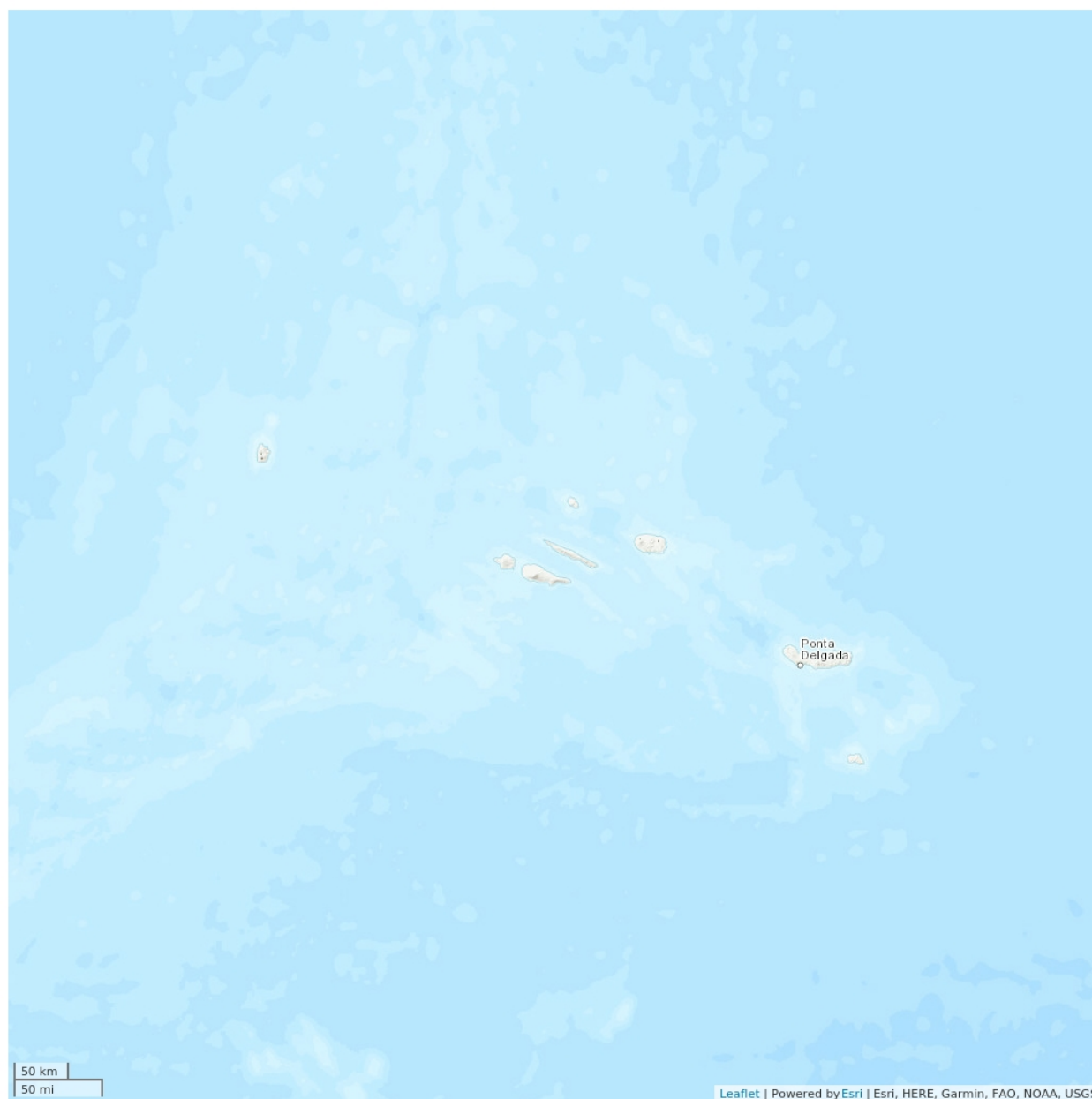
Range Description:

Parachipteria floresiana is an Azorean-endemic oribatid mite species known from Flores, Terceira and S. Miguel islands (Azores, Portugal) (Borges *et al.* 2010), known from natural and disturbed areas. It is present in four Natural Forest Reserves; Caldeiras Funda e Rasa and Morro Alto e Pico da Sé (Flores), Caldeira Sta. Bárbara e Mistérios Negros (Terceira) and Pico da Vara (Tronqueira) (S. Miguel). From the available data, the Extent of Occurrence (EOO) would be *ca.* 12,293 km² and the Area of Occupancy (AOO) would be 28 km².

Country Occurrence:

Native, Extant (resident): Portugal (Azores)

Distribution Map

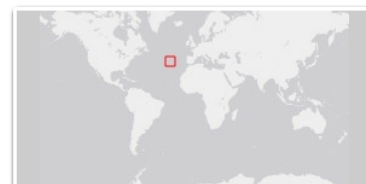
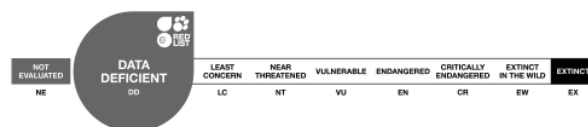


Legend

■ EXTANT (RESIDENT)

Compiled by:

Azorean Biodiversity Group 2018



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

Population

No current population size estimates exist for this species. As an oribatid mite, it is possibly common and widespread in the soil habitat.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

The ecology and traits of this species are unknown. Oribatid mites are associated with organic matter in most terrestrial ecosystems, being found throughout the soil profile, in surface litter, on grasses, shrubs or in the bark and leaves of trees, among other habitats. Oribatida are also one of the most numerically dominant arthropod groups in the organic horizons of most soils (Behan-Pelletier 1999). This species has been found mainly in native vegetation areas, but also in a more disturbed area. Some specimens from Faial were collected from a *Cryptomeria japonica* (production) forest.

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is not utilized.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

A lack of information regarding the present range of this species precludes an assessment of potential threats. Nevertheless, it can be assumed that this species will be affected by future habitat declines as a consequence of climate change (Ferreira *et al.* 2016) and increased droughts. This species has been found in areas of native vegetation but also in disturbed areas, and it can be assumed that factors that degrade habitat quality, in the form of changes in the soil structure and composition (namely land use changes, agricultural practices or invasive plants) might also affect this species.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

The species is not protected by regional law, but part of its habitat is in regionally protected areas (Natural Parks of Flores, Terceira and S. Miguel). Besides climate change and increased risk of droughts, land-use changes and invasive species are likely one of the main current and future threats faced. As such, conservation of native habitats and invasive species control could potentially aid this species' conservation. Further research is needed into its population, distribution, threats, ecology and life history; and it is necessary to develop a monitoring plan for the invertebrate community in order to contribute to the conservation of this species.

Credits

Assessor(s): Nunes, R. & Borges, P.A.V.

Reviewer(s): Danielczak, A.

Authority/Authorities: IUCN SSC Spider and Scorpion Specialist Group

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Behan-Pelletier, V.M. 1999. Oribatid mite biodiversity in agroecosystems: role for bioindication. *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment* 74(1-3): 411-423.

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Ferreira, M.T., Cardoso, P., Borges, P.A.V., Gabriel, R., Azevedo, E.B., Reis, F., Araújo, M.B. and Elias, R.B. 2016. Effects of climate change on the distribution of indigenous species in oceanic islands (Azores). *Climate Change* 138(3-4): 603-615.

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External Resources

For [Supplementary Material](#), and 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	Resident	Suitable	Yes
3. Shrubland -> 3.4. Shrubland - Temperate	Resident	Suitable	Yes
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations	Resident	Unknown	-

Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.2. Wood & pulp plantations -> 2.2.1. Small-holder plantations	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.3. Livestock farming & ranching -> 2.3.2. Small-holder grazing, ranching or farming	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
8. Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species/diseases -> 8.1.1. Unspecified species	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.3. Indirect ecosystem effects		
11. Climate change & severe weather -> 11.1. Habitat shifting & alteration	Future	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.3. Indirect ecosystem effects		
11. Climate change & severe weather -> 11.2. Droughts	Future	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.3. Indirect ecosystem effects		

Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Action in Place
In-place research and monitoring

Conservation Action in Place
Action Recovery Plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-place land/water protection
Conservation sites identified: No
Occurs in at least one protected area: Yes

Conservation Actions Needed

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

Conservation Action Needed
2. Land/water management -> 2.1. Site/area management
2. Land/water management -> 2.2. Invasive/problematic species control
5. Law & policy -> 5.1. Legislation -> 5.1.3. Sub-national level

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
2. Conservation Planning -> 2.2. Area-based Management Plan
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends
3. Monitoring -> 3.4. Habitat trends

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: Unknown

Distribution
Lower elevation limit (m): 200
Upper elevation limit (m): 600
Population
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown

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