



Geographical range



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Amazing Species: Madame Berthe's Mouse Lemur

Madame Berthe's Mouse Lemur (*Microcebus berthae*), named after the Malagasy primatologist Berthe Rakotosamimanana, is the smallest primate species in the world.

Native to Madagascar like all lemurs, the species is restricted to the dry forest of Kirindy and Ambadira in west Madagascar. The major threats to this species are habitat loss and degradation due to slash and burn agriculture for maize and peanuts, the felling of trees for charcoal production and illegal logging.

Despite the establishment of the Menabe-Antimena Protected Area over the range of Madame Berthe's Mouse Lemur, as of 2020, the threats to this species are not under control. If deforestation continues at the same rate as during recent years, the remaining habitat and Madame Berthe's Mouse Lemur might be lost before 2030.

Several NGOs and institutions are active with development and conservation projects in the area. For example, Madame Berthe's Mouse Lemur has been a flagship species in an education and awareness programme conducted with local youth. In recent years, there have been more intensive forest patrols across remaining forest fragments.