GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: ***Macaca fascicularis***

Macaca fascicularis 简体中文 正體中文

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Primates	Cercopithecidae

Common name crab-eating macaque (English), long-tailed macaque (English)

Synonym *Macaca irus* , F. (Cuvier, 1818)

Similar species

Summary Macaca fascicularis (crab-eating macaque) are native to south-east Asia and have been introduced into Mauritius, Palau (Angaur Island), Hong Kong and parts of Indonesia (Tinjil Island and Papua). They are considered to be invasive, or potentially invasive, throughout their introduced range and management may be needed to prevent them from becoming invasive in areas such as Papua and Tinjil. They are opportunistic mammals and reach higher densities in degraded forest areas, including habitats disturbed by humans. They have few natural predators in their introduced ranges. Macaca fascicularis impact native biodiversity by consuming native plants and competing with birds for fruit and seed resources. In addition, they facilitate the dispersal of seeds of exotic plants. Macaca fascicularis may also impact on the commercial sector through their consuming of agriculturally important plant species and damaging of crops.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Species Description
Upper parts dark brown with light golden brown tips, under parts light grey; tail dark grey/brown and equal to head and body length. Crown hairs directed backwards; sometimes forming short crest on mid-line. Skin is black on feet and ears, muzzle light greyish pink. Eyelids often with prominent white markings, white spots sometimes seen on ears. No perineal swelling. Males 3.5kg - 8.3kg; Females 2.5kg - 5.7kg.

Notes
Natural predators of crab-eating macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) include large carnivores (panthers and sun-bears in Java), snakes and possibly large raptors. Some primate taxonomists consider *M. fascicularis* to be more of a species group or superspecies, as it has a complex relationship with other species such as *M. mulatto*, *M. cyclopis*, and *M. fuscata*.

Lifecycle Stages
Gestation 167 days. Lactation 14-18 months. Duration of oestrus 11 days. Females become sexually mature at 4. Live up to 25 years on average; up to 37 years in captivity. Sex ratios within troops usually biased towards females.

Uses
In their natural range, crab-eating macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) are occasionally used as a food source for some indigenous forest dwelling peoples. In Mauritius, they are sold to the pharmaceutical industry with a value of approximately US$1500 per individual, and in Angaur, Palau they are sold as pets.

Habitat Description
Crab-eating macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) inhabit a wide range of habitats including riverine, secondary and primary forest, forest periphery, mangrove and nipa swamp, coastal forest, and urban and agricultural settings, in both their natural and introduced range. They have a preference for secondary habitats which have been disturbed by human activity and are highly adaptive to new environments. Occur from sea level to 1200m and can travel at least 1828m in their natural range.

Reproduction
Placental. Sexual. Polyoestrous. May breed at any time of year. They typically give birth to single young, rarely twins, every two years.

Nutrition
Herbivorous: Fruit and seeds make up 60 - 90% of the dietry intake of macaques. They will also eat leaves, flowers, roots and bark.
Carnivorous: They prey on vertebrates (including bird chicks and nesting female birds) and invertebrates.
Omnivorous: In Mauritius they have been recorded eating bird eggs.

General Impacts
Crab-eating macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) may negatively impact biodiversity by eating the eggs and chicks of endangered forest birds. They compete with native birds for resources such as native fruits. They may aggravate the negative effects of exotic plant species by consuming their fruits and aiding dispersal of their seeds. Macaques feed on sugar cane and other crops, affecting agriculture and livelihoods, and can be aggressive towards humans. Macaques may carry potentially fatal human diseases, including B-virus.

Management Info
Preventative measures: Plantations of Japanese red cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica*) appear to provide protection to native birds (and eggs) from the predation and scavenging of macaques. Quarantine measures need to be more effective in places such as Papua (Indonesia) to prevent the range expansion of the current population.
Physical: In Mauritius live-trapping has been carried out for export and research. Socio-religious reasons may mean this solution is not appropriate. Animals may become trap-shy. Local communities in Papua and Palau have hunted macaques with some success.
Biological: The immuno-vaccine Porcine Zona Pellucida (PZP) (which causes infertility in females) is currently being trialled in Hong Kong to investigate its use as a population control.

Pathway
Introduced by acclimatisation societies.

Principal source: Kemp, N.J. and Burnett, J.B. (2003). Final Report: A biodiversity risk assessment and recommendations for risk management of Long-tailed Macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) in New Guinea. December 2003. Washington, DC: Indo-Pacific Conservation Alliance.

Compiler: Steve Carter, Ecologist, Wildlife Disease Ecology Team, Central Science Laboratory UK & IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Review: Neville Kemp, Indo-Pacific Conservation Alliance.

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ALIEN RANGE

[1] HONG KONG

[1] INDONESIA

[1] MAURITIUS

[1] PALAU

Red List assessed species 7: EX = 1; EN = 4; VU = 2;

Coffea myrtifolia **EN**
Foudia rubra **EN**
Lophopsittacus mauritianus **EX**
Psittacula eques **EN**
Falco punctatus **VU**
Hypsipetes olivaceus **VU**
Nesoenas mayeri **EN**

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