



Geographical range

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Amazing Species: Pinstripe Damba

The **<u>Pinstripe Damba</u>**, *Paretroplus menarambo*, is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species[™]. This striking fish is endemic to the island of Madagascar and was discovered in Lake Sarodrano in 1996. However, it has since been lost from this site because of over-fishing and the invasion of exotic fish species. A remnant population of this fish was recently confirmed to occur in Lake Tseny.

Lake Tseny is an important tilapia fishery but the Pinstripe Damba is of low economic importance and is usually eaten, rather than sold, when netted by fishermen. Its survival in Lake Tseny appears to be dependent on the continued high productivity of the tilapia fishery, as well as the presence of sunken forests which act as natural no-fishing areas.

The Pinstripe Damba breeds well in captivity and is present in a number of zoos and aquaria. In the wild it is only known from Lake Tseny, but reports of its occurrence in two other lakes nearby needs to be verified. Lake Tseny has a unique assemblage of endemic fish and a concerted effort is needed to conserve and restore this important wetland.





The production of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species ™ is made possible through the IUCN Red List Partnership.