

Distribución de la musaraña canaria (Crocidura canariensis) en Fuerteventura, Islas Canarias [

Universidad de Málaga (UMA): Sociedad Española para la Conservación y Estudio de los Mamíferos, 2014

text (article)

Analítica

The only endemic non-flying land mammal of the Canary Archipelago, the Canary Shrew, inhabits the two easternmost islands Lanzarote and Fuerteventura, and nearby islets. Based on the poor data available, this study aimed to add knowledge about its distribution using pitfall live-traps, as well as searches for remains in pellets of avian predators, and dead shrews in discarded bottles. In addition, population fluctuations were attempted to register by frequent pitfall live-trapping in three places. Prospection ran from December 2012 to April 2013, accumulating 900 trap-nights in 22 locations. With a global trapping success of 18,3 individuals/1000 trap-nights, 11 shrews were captured in lava fields and five on a mountain ridge, all quite barren areas. No captures occurred in richer habitats. Pellets of avian predators were very scarce. Searches of discarded bottles gave better results, with dead shrews present in three out of eight visited locations, and individuals encountered afterwards by live-trapping in all three. Shrews were missing in four protected areas formerly occupied by the species, but monitoring should take place regularly to confirm local extinctions and (re)colonizations. To ensure conservation of this endemism, investigations of interactions with alien species are needed, and introduction of vertebrates and invertebrates to the islands should be avoided

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