

Figure 1. Félicité: physical, showing locations of vegetation plots.

FÉLICITÉ

BY

MICHAEL J. HILL¹, DAVID R. CURRIE¹, TERENCE M. VEL¹ and RODNEY FANCHETTE¹

GEOLOGY, TOPOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Félicité, covering 268 ha, is the sixth largest of the granitic Seychelles Islands. At its highest point it reaches 231.5 m above sea level although most of the island is below 100 m (Table 1). Much of the island is high and rocky, made up of reddish-grey granites similar to those of Praslin (Braithwaite, 1984). In the north and east are two small lowlying "plateau" areas of more recent origin. The plateaux are made up of calcareous sediments, in part overlain by marsh and alluvial deposits.

Large parts of the upland area are rocky with poor conditions for soil creation and retention. In glacis and rocky areas, soils are restricted to pockets between boulders. However, lateritic red earth soils are present over at least half of the hill area (D.O.S., 1966). There are also small areas of alluvial soil associated with temporary stream beds. The plateaux (apart from marshy areas) are made up of Shioya soils.

There are no permanent water bodies on the island, although seasonal stream beds exist (all were dry at the time of survey), and there is a small marsh on the plateau at Petite Anse (grid ref. CL 743 222); this too was without standing water at the time of the survey. The nearest large inhabited island is La Digue, 3.2km from Félicité. Praslin is 8.6km away.

Few weather records exist for Félicité, but rainfall data for 1958 and 1959 suggest that the island is drier than low-altitude sites on Praslin or Silhouette; mean annual total rainfall for these years was 1,428 mm on Félicité (Table 2). Annual rainfall at Praslin Grande Anse in 1958 was 1,847.1 mm (compared to 1,491.0 mm on Félicité) and mean annual total rainfall for 1958-9 on Silhouette (La Passe) was 1,609.4 mm (Seychelles Meteorological Office, Unpublished data).

Table 1. Area of Félicité by altitude (calculated from map published by UK Directorate of Overseas Survey/Seychelles Government, 1980).

Altitude range (m. asl.)	Area (ha)	Percentage total area
200 - 250	7	2.6
150 - 200	41	15.3
100 - 150	45	16.8
50 - 100	82	30.6
10 - 50	58	21.6
0 - 10	35	13.1

¹ Nature Seychelles, PO Box 1310, Mahé, Seychelles. Email: birdlife@seychelles.net

Table 2. Félicité: monthly rainfall (mm), 1958-1959.

(Data: National Meteorological Services, Seychelles, unpublished data).

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
1958	177.0	84.3	101.1	41.7	309.9	387.1	53.3	32.3	21.8	48.8	113.3	120.4	1491.0
1959	269.5	46.5	84.1	112.8	57.7	22.6	22.6	42.2	206.3	112.0	191.8	196.9	1365.0
mean	223.3	65.4	92.6	77.3	183.8	204.9	38.0	37.3	114.1	80.4	152.6	158.7	1428.0

HISTORY

Early records of Félicité suggest that it was a rather dry barren island. The Marion Dufresne expedition of 1768 (prior to settlement of the Seychelles) visited the island, although records were restricted to the exploitable resources. It was noted that the island was not as well wooded as La Digue, and that timber was poorer (Lionnet, 1984). In 1787, the island was said to be well wooded with bwa-d-nat *Mimusops sechellarum* and takamaka *Calophyllum inophyllum* (the latter on the coast only), with endemic giant tortoises on the hill, but lacking any fresh water in the dry season (Malavois, 1787 in Fauvel, 1909). Following the permanent settlement of the Seychelles, Félicité became a private estate. In the nineteenth century, the estate was abandoned and annexed by the colonial government (in Mauritius) before 1866. Timber from the island was used by the colonial government (Newton, 1867).

When the island was visited by Edward Newton in 1866, rats and cats had already been introduced (Newton, 1867). Although there was still "very considerable forest" on the south west side of the island, Newton found only two species of land bird, the Seychelles sunbird *Nectarinia dussumieri* and feral chickens *Gallus gallus*. In contrast, the nearby island of Marianne (still predator-free) had 12 species of Seychelles endemic birds. At that time, Félicité was leased to small farmers, with the government retaining control of forest reserves over part of the island for the protection of timber and water supplies. In 1895 a 30-year lease was given to Harold Baty, who extended the existing coconut plantations. In 1898, Harold Baty wrote (in a letter to the Administrator of Seychelles) that the island produced 30,000 coconuts per month and that he had introduced "valuable plants" to the island including cloves *Syzygium aromaticum*, rubber *Hevea brasiliensis*, bamboo (probably *Bambusa vulgaris*), raffia *Raphia farinifera*, vacoa *Pandanus utilis* and pepper *Piper nigrum*. He added that experiments with coffee (*Coffea liberica*) had been unsuccessful (letter of 23/10/1898 in Seychelles Archive).

In 1908, Félicité was reputed to support 100–150 acres (60.8 ha) of native forest, dominated by *Mimusops sechellarum* and *Intsia bijuga*, with over 1,000 trees reaching 18 inches (46 cm) in diameter (Anon. 1908). In 1910, the lessees applied for the right to fell some of the forest trees remaining on the island and were granted the use of 130 acres (52.6 ha) of forest land, the government reserving the right to purchase all timber felled. This area was later planted with coconuts by the lessee.

In 1921-24 the government itself felled takamaka trees on approximately 100 acres (40.5 ha). In 1923, representatives of the lessee illegally cut timber (*Mimusops* and *Intsia*) within the government reserve, some being removed to Grande Soeur Island

(which was managed by the same lessee, the Society des Iles Soeurs) and some sent to Mauritius. The trees were regarded as valuable as they were "getting extremely scarce".

In 1927, the lessee Louis Bessin applied for, and received, permission to fell most of the forest trees remaining in the reserve areas. An area of 29 acres (11.7 ha) at Glacis Rouillé was to be left untouched. In addition, he introduced herds of free-roaming cattle and goats. In 1934, the Director of Agriculture, Mr P. R. Dupont, visited Felicité and found that the forest reserve had been exhausted and, with the exception of a few hundred trees left standing, was only fit for firewood. Undercropping had inhibited natural regeneration and encouraged erosion, and even trees bordering streams had been felled. He suggested replanting with Albizzia (probably *Paraserianthes falcataria*), sangdragon *Pterocarpus indicus*, bois de table *Heritiera littoralis* and agati *Adenanthera pavonina*, which had little commercial value but would survive on the dry island. It is unclear whether these suggestions were acted upon.

By 1959, coconuts were planted throughout the island although some takamaka *Calophyllum inophyllum*, kapisen *Northea hornei*, gayac and bwa-d-nat survived (Swabey, 1961). Although goats appear to have become extinct on the island (as elsewhere in the granitic islands), it appears that the free-ranging cattle introduced in the 1930s persisted until the late 1980s, when they were culled (island manager, *pers. comm.*). In 1984, there were 33 animals (Racey & Nicoll, 1984).

Currently the island is managed as a small and exclusive resort with a staff of around ten permanent inhabitants. Settlement is now restricted to the plateau area to the north east of the island and many of the buildings dating from the plantation period are now abandoned. Some coconuts are still harvested from the palms (particularly around the settlement), and plateau vegetation is managed, but the majority of the former plantation has been abandoned.

FLORA AND VEGETATION

Flora

A total of 187 plant species were recorded on Félicité, including 11 ferns, one gymnosperm (cultivated), and 175 angiosperms (Appendix 1). Of the angiosperms, 86 (49.1%) were introduced, 73 (41.7%) native and 23 of these (13.1% of total) endemic. Compared to other islands on the survey, the proportion of the total flora made up of introduced species was small while the proportion of Seychelles endemics was high (for the total Seychelles flora, around 54% is introduced and 9% endemic: Procter, 1984). The high proportion of endemic species reflects Félicité's topography and history. For much of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, parts of the island were protected as forest reserves (see above). The size of the island and inaccessibility of some areas allowed a number of endemic species to survive the expansion of agriculture on the island. One endemic species, coco-de-mer *Lodoicea maldivica*, was introduced to Félicité (its natural range appears restricted to Praslin, Curieuse, and nearby islets). However, the Félicité coco-de-mer population includes mature fruiting palms and young plants suggesting that it is established on the island.

Of the introduced plants established on Félicité, 13 are invasive weedy species. Among the most successful alien plants on Félicité were cocoplum *Chrysobalanus icaco* and cinnamon *Cinnamomum verum*, which are the most widespread and invasive woody weed species on the smaller islands of the granitic Seychelles (Hill, 2001).

A small proportion of the total flora (around 23 species, 13.1%) consisted of ornamental species (most of recent introduction) confined to the landscaped areas around the hotel buildings. Twelve species recorded in previous botanical collections on Félicité were not recorded in the current survey. Most of these species were probably still present on the island but were not discovered in the short time of the survey. One previous record is doubtful, however: bwa bannan *Gastonia crassa* was recorded by Procter (1974), who did not record *G. sechellarum* from Félicité. In his revision of the genus Friedmann (1994) records *G. sechellarum sechellarum* but not *G. crassa* from Félicité. When not in flower, these *Gastonia* species can be difficult to differentiate. The addition of 12 species brings the flora of Félicité to 199 species, 26 of which are endemic.

Vegetation

The extent of major vegetation types on Félicité is shown in Table 3, and Figure 2. The vegetation is dominated by hill woodland rich in native species, scrub (mainly the introduced cocoplum *Chrysobalanus icaco*) and glacis (bare rock with a number of endemic species but heavily invaded by *Chrysobalanus icaco* in many places). Coconut plantations and fruit tree orchards are now largely abandoned and overgrown with the exception of coconut groves around the inhabited area. Invasive coconut regrowth occurs particularly along the coastal strip.

The 10 vegetation plots completed were carried out in hill woodland/scrub (glacis was avoided). Only 1,000 m² of the island fell within the vegetation plots (0.04% of the total island area, 0.08% of Félicité's upland forest). Fifty-two species were recorded (0.052 species m⁻²), of which the majority were native or endemic (28 species, 53.8% of total species, were native or endemic).

In the tree layer, 12 species were recorded, nine of which (75%) were native or endemic. Fifty-three individual trees were recorded, giving a mean density of 530 trees ha⁻¹. Almost half of all trees recorded belonged to the two most abundant species, both native; takamaka *Calophyllum inophyllum* (15 trees, 28.3% of all trees) and bwa dir rouz *Canthium bibracteatum* (11 trees, 20.8% of all trees). Introduced species made up only a small proportion of the canopy layer (only 17%), the commonest being cashew *Anacardium occidentale*. All tree species recorded showed signs of natural regeneration, and were represented in the shrub and/or herb layer.

In the shrub layer the most widespread species were *Canthium bibracteatum* (represented in nine of 10 plots), *Chrysobalanus icaco* (in eight plots), *Cocos nucifera* (in eight plots) and *Allophyllus pervillei* (in six plots). Of these species, *Cocos* was the most dominant locally; in plots where it occurred, *Cocos* formed on average 17.9% of shrub layer coverage (compared to *Canthium*, 9.5%; *Chrysobalanus*, 9.8%; and *Allophyllus*, 10.3%).

Table 3. Extent of major vegetation types, Félicité.

	Vegetation type	Area (ha)
Hill	Woodland (predominantly native)	126.3
> 10 m asl	Coconut plantation	1.3
	Scrub (Introduced)	30.3
	Bare rock	29.3
Plateau	Woodland (predominantly native)	4.3
< 10 m asl	Coconut plantation	0.9
	Coconut with regeneration	5.2
	Freshwater marsh	0.2
	Beach crest vegetation	1.7
	Grassland/garden	1.7
	Bare rock	20.7

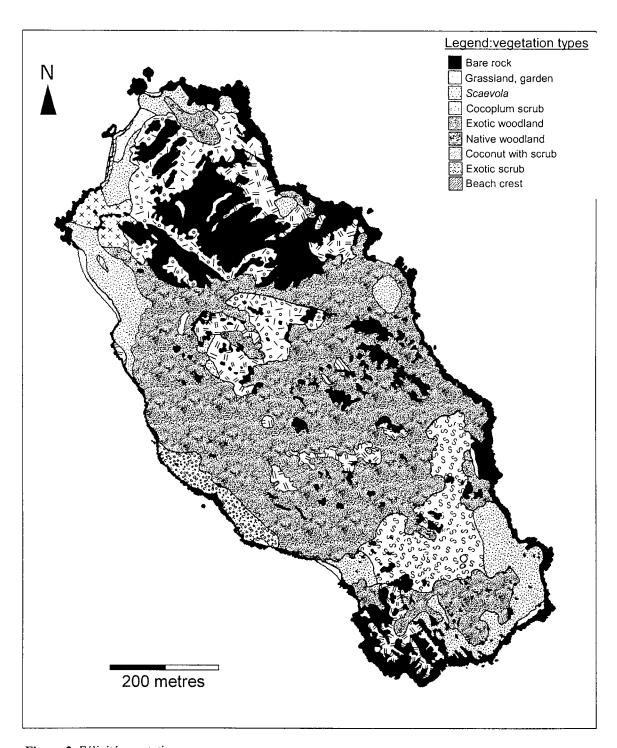


Figure 2. Félicité vegetation.

INVERTEBRATES

Pitfall Trapping

Pitfall trap assemblages were similar in size (number of individuals) to the overall mean for the season. The mean number of individuals per five traps was 72, compared to the mean for the season (all islands): 68.2 individuals per five traps. However, the major part of each assemblage was made up of ants; mean assemblage size excluding ants was 8.6 individuals (compared to the seasonal mean of all islands: 15.12). Abundance of invertebrates other than ants was relatively low.

Assemblages were dominated by the introduced crazy ant *Anoplolepis gracilipes*. This species, introduced to the Seychelles in the early 1960s, occupied 60% of the area of Félicité in 1994. It is a domestic and agricultural pest with effects on natural ecosystems that are difficult to gauge (Haines *et al.*, 1994). Of 720 individual invertebrates caught, 567 (78.8%) were *A. gracilipes* (Fig. 3). Of the total assemblage 86.8% was made up of ants, 3.2% earwigs (Dermaptera), 3.1% snails, and 2.9% flies (Diptera), mainly larvae. *A. gracilipes* has a major effect on the composition of ground invertebrate communities and, at high densities, may cause changes in the vegetation composition of islands (Hill, in prep).

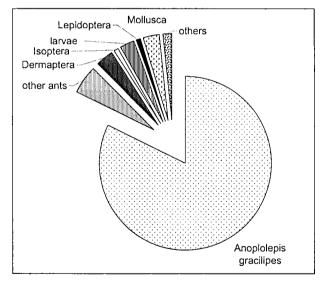


Figure 3. Taxonomic composition of pitfall assemblages from Félicité. Only invertebrates of body length > 2 mm included.

'Others' group includes Blattodea, Diptera (adults), Hemiptera, Myriapoda and Orthoptera.

Leaf-insect Counts

Leaf-insect counts were carried out for 11 tree and shrub species (Table 4). The highest leaf counts were for the introduced *Citrus* due to high levels of infestation of mealy bugs and scale insects (both tended by ants) on these species. The endemic *Erythroxylum sechellarum* also had particularly high values for invertebrate densities.

Table 4. Density of invertebrates on foliage, Félicité.

Species	No. leaves counted	Mean insects leaf ·1	Mean insects m ⁻²
Introduced species			
Anacardium occidentale	150	0.207	31.92
Chrysobalanus icaco	100	0.030	8.75
Citrus sp.	200	0.290	198.21
Mangifera indica	150	0.033	5.76
Native species			
Allophyllus pervillei	150	0.093	29.13
Calophyllum inophyllum	500	0.232	26.37
Canthium bibracteatum	450	0.033	15.42
Erythroxylum sechellarum	50	0.060	27.84
Memecylon elaeagni	100	0	0
Paragenipa wrightii	50	0.420	63.09
?Status unknown			
Morinda citrifolia	50	0.200	26.41

Malaise Trapping and Other Methods

Two malaise traps were in place for three nights each in hill woodland habitats. Malaise trap assemblages were large (179 and 185 individual invertebrates) and included members of nine invertebrate orders. The dominant orders were the Lepidoptera (48.4% of all individuals), Hymenoptera (19.8%) and Diptera (17.3%). The majority of taxa collected have yet to be identified to species level. A number of other invertebrate species were identified and are shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Invertebrate species identified, Félicité.

Order	Family	Species	Notes
Mollusca:			
Gastropoda	Achatinidae	Achatina fulica (Bowditch, 1822) Achatina pantera Ferrusac, 1822	Introduced species, abundant Introduced species, abundant
	Subulinidae	Subulina octona Bruguière, 1792	
Crustacea:			
Decapoda	Coenobitidae	Coenobita brevimanus Dana, 1852	
	Gecarnicidae	Cardisoma carnifex (Herbst, 1784)	Occasional, plateau
	Ocypodidae	Ocypode ceratophthalmus (Pallas, 1772)	On beach and beach crest
		Ocypode cordimana Desmarest, 1825	
Myriapoda Insects:	Trigoniulidae	?Spiromanes braueri (Attems, 1900)	In pitfall traps
Odonata	Anisoptera	Diplacodes trivialis (Rambur, 1842)	Observed flying over glacis
Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Melanitis leda africana (Linnaeus, 1758)	In hill woodland
		Hypolimnas misippus (Linnaeus, 1764)	
	Lycaenidae	Leptotes pirithous Linnaeus, 1767	
		Zizeeria knysna (Trimen, 1862)	In grassland, mainly on plateau
	Hesperiidae	Borbo sp.	prateau
Coleoptera	Buprestidae	Belionota prasina Thunberg, 1789	Caught in Malaise trap, hill
Colcopicia	Buprestique	Detronola prasma Thanoeig, 1709	woodland
	Rhipiceridae	Callirrhipis philiberti Fairemaire, 1891	Endemic. Caught in Malaise
	1	,	trap, hill woodland
Hymenoptera	Anthophoridae	Xylocopa caffra (Linnaeus, 1767)	-
	Apidae	Apis mellifera adansoni Latreille, 1804	
	Formicidae	Anoplolepis gracilipes (Smith, 1857)	Abundant on vegetation and
			in leaf litter. In pitfall traps
		Cardiocondyla emeryi Forel, 1881	In pitfall traps
		Monomorium ?floricola (Jerdon, 1851)	In pitfall traps
		Odontomachus troglodytes Santschi, 1914	In pitfall traps
		Tapinoma melanocephala (Fabricius, 1793)	Occasional, in pitfall traps
		Technomyrmex albipes (Smith, 1861)	Abundant on vegetation and in leaf litter. In pitfall traps
	Vespidae	Polistes olivaceus (de Geer, 1773)	1 1
Phasmatodea	Phasmatidae	Carausius sechellensis (Bolivar, 1895)	Collected in sweep samples

VERTEBRATES

Reptiles

A total of eight species (six lizards, one tortoise and one snake) was observed (Table 6), but there are probably further species present that were not recorded. At least two of these (Aldabra giant tortoise and Brahminy blind snake) are introduced species. Giant tortoises, presumably a species of the granitic Seychelles, were present in the late eighteenth century but became extinct before 1875 (Bour, 1984). Neither of the Seychelles' two endemic snakes (Nussbaum, 1984a) was observed although they are likely to occur here given the island's size and relatively undisturbed nature.

In addition to land reptiles, at least one marine turtle appears to nest on the island. A single hawksbill *Eretmochelys imbricata* (L.) was observed on the beach at Grand'Anse.

Table 6. Reptiles observed on Félicité.
Status: E = endemic, I = introduced, N = native (in central Seychelles).

Family	Species		Status
Gekkonidae	Ailuronyx seychellensis (Dumeril & Bibron, 1836)	bronze-eyed gecko	Е
	Phelsuma sundbergi Rendahl, 1939	day gecko	Е
	Phelsuma sp. (?P. astriata Tornier, 1901)	day gecko	Е
	Urocotyledon inexpectata (Steiner, 1893)	sucker-tail gecko	E
Scincidae	Mabuya sechellensis (Dumeril & Bibron, 1836)	Seychelles skink	E
	Janetaescincus braueri (Boettger, 1896) or Pamelaescincus gardineri Boulenger, 1909	burrowing skink	Е
Testudinidae	Geochelone gigantea (Schweigger, 1812)	Aldabra giant tortoise	I
Typhlopidae	Rhamphotyphlops braminus (Daudin, 1803) Robb, 1966	Brahminy blind snake	Ι

Birds

Extensive surveys of the island were carried out for two endemic species, Seychelles scops owl *Otus insularis* and Seychelles black paradise flycatcher *Terpsiphone corvina* The available map of Félicité (Directorate of Overseas Survey UK/Seychelles Government, 1980) is plotted on a 100 m x 100 m grid. Forty-one of these squares were selected randomly representing 13% of the island's area. Where the random squares consisted exclusively of glacis, or were coastal with less than 50% land, they were excluded and other squares were selected.

Both sexes of Seychelles black paradise flycatcher respond well to the playback of male song and individuals frequently approach to within a few metres of the recorder. Male song was played continuously for five minutes in each of the 41 randomly selected squares (11-17 November 1999, 0830h-1600h) and any response noted. In addition, we also noted the presence of any other bird species detected during the five minutes of playback.

Scops owls also respond well to playback of conspecific calls, often approaching to within a few metres of the recorder. Scops owl calls were played at c.200 m intervals at seven points for 10 minutes along a transect on 12 November (1820-2030h).

No flycatchers were observed in any of the random squares in response to the playback and, furthermore, none were observed in the extensive coverage of island during the sampling. The Seychelles sunbird *Nectarina dussumieri* was the most common species observed in the random squares occurring in 31 squares (76%), followed by the blue pigeon *Alectroenas pulcherrima* found in 22 squares (54%) and the common mynah *Acridotheres tristis* found in 10 squares (24%) (Table 7). In six squares (15%), no birds were detected. There was no response to the scops owl playback.

Table 7. Bird species recorded during the sampling of 41 random squares (each 100 m x 100 m) on Félicité 8th-14th November 1999. Percentages given in parentheses.

Species		No. squares species recorded
Nectarina dussumieri	Seychelles sunbird	31 (76)
Alectroenas pulcherrima	Seychelles blue pigeon	22 (54)
Acridotheres tristis	common mynah	10 (24)
Streptopelia picturata	Madagascar turtle dove	4 (10)
Foudia madagascariensis	Madagascar fody	2 (5)
Geopelia striata	barred ground dove	1 (2)
Butorides striatus	green-backed heron	1 (2)

Few endemic land bird species have ever been recorded on Félicité (Table 8). In 1866, only one endemic species was recorded (Newton, 1867). Diamond (1984) suggests that up to six endemic species may have occurred here although one of the species he lists as present (Seychelles bulbul *Hypsipetes crassirostris*) was not recorded in the current survey and Shah *et al.* (1998) suggest that it has never been recorded on Félicité.

Reports of the Seychelles scops owl (Diamond and Feare, 1980) have not been confirmed, and it is possible that the records were of barn owl *Tyto alba*. The Seychelles kestrel *Falco araea* was reported by Shah *et al.* (1998), but was not observed in the current extensive survey; it seems likely that the species is again extinct on the island. There are various records of the black paradise flycatcher on the island from 1936 to the 1980s (Collar and Stuart, 1985), but recent records probably refer to vagrants from La Digue (Diamond, 1984).

Table 8. The current and prior status of endemic land-birds of the inner Granitics on Félicité. Current status based on observations from visit to the island 8-14th November. Prior status based on Shah *et al.* (1998).

Species		Current status	Prior Status
Falco araea	Seychelles kestrel	Absent	2
Alectroenas pulcherrima	Seychelles blue pigeon	Common	2
Coracopsis nigra barklyi	Seychelles black parrot	Absent	1
Otus insularis	Seychelles scops owl	Absent	3
Collocalia elaphra	Seychelles swiftlet	Absent	3
Hypsipetes crassirostris	Seychelles bulbul	Absent	1
Copsychus sechellarum	Seychelles magpie-robin	Absent	1
Acrocephalus sechellensis	Seychelles warbler	Absent	1
Terpsiphone corvina	Seychelles black paradise flycatcher	Absent	3
Nectarinia dussumieri	Seychelles sunbird	Very common	2
Zosterops modestus	Seychelles white-eye	Absent	1
Foudia sechellarum	Seychelles fody	Absent	1

Prior status: 1 = never recorded; 2 = present; 3 = bred or present in the past but not recorded in recent years.

Three species of seabird were observed; two of these (white-tailed tropicbird *Phaeton lepturus* and fairy tern *Gygis* alba) may breed on Félicité. A third species (a frigate bird *Fregata* sp.) was observed flying over the island.

Mammals

Four mammal species were observed in the course of fieldwork, one endemic (the Seychelles fruit bat *Pteropus seychellensis*) and three introduced (domestic dog *Canis familiaris*, domestic and feral cats *Felis catus* and ship rats *Rattus rattus*). The large herd of feral cattle (*Bos taurus*) previously recorded on Félicité (Racey & Nicoll, 1984) was exterminated in the late 1980s or early 1990s.

Rodent trapping was carried out with two traplines, one on the plateau and one running through hill glacis/cocoplum scrub habitat. A total of 112 trap-nights were carried out and 31 individual rats caught, giving a capture rate of 27.68 rats per 100 trap-nights (unadjusted) or 33.33 per 100 trap-nights (adjusted to account for the effects of closed traps: Cunningham and Moors, 1996). This rate of trapping was slightly lower than average for the season (overall mean for all islands in season is 33.64 rats per 100 trap-nights unadjusted). *Rattus rattus* is a widespread species in Seychelles that can have a significant impact on bird populations as it is a proficient climber (Racey and Nicoll, 1984).

DISCUSSION

Félicité is a relatively large high island supporting a large area of predominantly native woodland. In recent history, native woodland has been more extensive but clearance for timber and coconut plantation in the twentieth century reduced the area of this habitat. Many endemic and native plant species survived the enlargement of plantations (Swabey, 1961) and the economic decline of coconut plantations, as elsewhere in the granitic islands, has already allowed partial recovery of semi-natural woodland. On the plateaux, coconut plantations are still actively managed for production.

While the upland forest retains a "natural" appearance, the composition appears to be very different from that recorded in the early twentieth century. The dominant species recorded in vegetation plots in the current survey (takamaka and *Canthium bibracteatum*) were native but the two species regularly recorded in the early twentieth century (*Intsia bijuga* and *Mimusops sechellarum*) were not recorded in the tree layer of plots. *Intsia* was recorded in the shrub layer of one plot, *Mimusops* was not observed although probably still present on the island.

In addition to the native species recorded, the upland woodland contains a number of introduced plant species, the establishment of which has probably been favoured by previous woodland clearance including cinnamon and cocoplum. Takamaka is a long-lived shade-bearing tree (Friedmann, 1986) that may compete effectively with invasive introduced species. However, takamaka is threatened throughout the granitic islands by the current outbreak of takamaka vascular wilt disease (Ivory *et al.*, 1996). The disease is not yet present on Félicité although it occurs on neighbouring islands, including Praslin and La Digue (Hill *et al.*, submitted), and it seems that, with time, it will reach most

islands in the archipelago that have takamaka. If and when it invades Félicité, tree death and the subsequent opening of the forest canopy are likely to encourage the spread of a number of trees and shrubs, largely invasive alien species.

The invasive alien crazy ant *Anoplolepis gracilipes* is widespread on the island. Unfortunately it was not possible to compare the current extent or severity of the crazy ant infestation with that recorded by previous workers (see Haines *et al.*, 1994), but it seems unlikely that the infestation has progressed beyond the 60% of the island recorded in the 1990s. *Anoplolepis* undoubtedly affects the invertebrate communities of islands where it is present although, on (relatively) complex islands such as Félicité, ant-free areas are likely to occur and it would seem unlikely that the presence of ants would drive any invertebrate species to extinction.

The early introduction of alien mammals probably accounts for the small number of endemic vertebrates recorded on the island.

CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Félicité has great potential for conservation. Compared to the other small- and medium-sized islands considered in the island assessment process, it is relatively large with large areas of semi-natural woodland. Its existing biodiversity value for groups other than birds is high: it supports a large number of endemic plants, and some of the invertebrate species identified are also endemic. The limited traffic to and from the island would reduce the potential for reintroduction of alien species (once eradicated) and the island's small human population has a relatively limited effect on the island environment.

Few endemic birds have been recorded on Félicité but this is probably the result of the early introduction of rats and cats. It seems highly likely that a number of endemic species occurred in the past and rehabilitation would allow the introduction of several bird species.

The predominance of native tree species, which support a large number of invertebrates, suggest that several endemic bird species which feed primarily on insects among foliage could survive on the island in the absence of predators. Examples include Seychelles warbler, white-eye, and black paradise flycatcher. Because of the large size of the island, more than one of these species could be considered for introduction. However, the continued spread of takamaka wilt disease between islands threatens the island's takamaka and, if the disease were introduced, would necessitate extensive habitat rehabilitation work (including replanting of other native trees) before reintroductions could occur.

Seychelles magpie-robins feed primarily on invertebrates on the ground. Initial pitfall trap data suggest that invertebrate densities, excluding ants, at the time of sampling were relatively low so the island would not be ideal for introduction of the species. While these pitfall data were from a limited number of sites (10) and trapping was carried out at the end of a particularly dry season, it is certainly the case that hill habitats tend to have lower densities of ground invertebrates than do plateaux. The plateau area of Félicité is small and heavily modified and a large area of the island is made up of glacis, which is of little value to magpie-robins. Although the island is large, population densities of magpierobins on Félicité would be lower than those on islands with large plateaux. Therefore,

the island should not be considered a priority for introduction of magpie-robins and further study of potential food supply would certainly be necessary if the reintroduction of magpie-robins was considered desirable.

In order for the conservation potential of the island to be realised, the following major actions would be needed:

- Eradication of alien mammals (rats and cats);
- Removal of invasive alien plants, and coconuts (cocoplum and cinnamon are among the most troublesome alien weeds present but there are also large numbers of fruit trees including citrus and mango);
- Further research, especially on food supply for Seychelles magpie-robin;
- Monitoring of crazy ant population density and extent of infestation; and
- Monitoring of takamaka wilt disease.

Appendix 1. Plant species recorded from Félicité (excluding seagrasses)

Taxonomy of dicotyledons as given by Friedmann (1994). Of monocotyledons, as in Robertson (1989). Families arranged in alphabetical order.

Status: E = Endemic; N = Native; I = Introduced.

Abundance: A = Abundant (>1000 individuals observed); C = Common (100 - 1000 individuals observed); F = Frequent (10 - 100 individuals observed); Occasional (3 - 10 individuals observed); R = Rare (1 or 2 individuals observed).

Habitats: Cu = Cultivated area (includes garden weeds and ornamentals); PG = Plateau grassland (includes coconut plantation); PW = Plateau woodland; HW = Hill Woodland; HSc = Hill Scrub; HG = Hill Grassland (includes coconut plantation); Gl = Glacis; BC = Beach Crest; Ma = Marsh.

Previous records from ¹Procter, 1974; ²Averyanov & Kudriavtzeva, 1987; ³Robertson, 1989; ⁴Carlström 1996a.

	Species	Status	Abund.	Habitats	Notes
PTF	CRIDOPHYTA				
	antaceae				
1	Acrostichum aureum L.	N	С	Ma	
2	Pellaea ?doniana Hooker	N	Ċ	HW, Gl	
Dav	alliaceae			, -	
3	Davallia denticulata (Burm.) Mett.	N	С	HW	
4	Nephrolepis biserrata (Sw.) Schott	N	Α	HW	
Glei	cheniaceae				
5	Dicranopteris linearis Burm.	N	F	Gl	
Lorr	ariopsidaceae				
6	?Bolbitis bipinnatifida (Mett. Ex Kuhn) Ching	?N	R	PSc	
Lyc	opodiaceae				
7	Lycopodium cernuum L.	?N	R	Gl	
Park	reriaceae				
8	Ceratopteris cornuta (Pal.) Lepr.	N	F	Ma	
Poly	podiaceae				
9	Phymatosorus scolopendria (Burm. f.)	N	Α	HW, PW	
Psilo	otaceae				
10	Psilotum nudum Sw.	N	Ο	HW	
Sela	ginellaceae				
11	Selaginella sp.	N	O	HW	
GY	MNOSPERMAE				
12	Cycas thuarsii Gaud.	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
ANG	GIOSPERMAE: Dicotyledons				
	nthaceae				
13	Asystasia sp. B (sensu Friedmann)	?I	Α	PG, HW, Gl	
14	Justicia gendarussa Burm. f.	?I	R	PG	
Ana	cardiaceae				
15	Anacardium occidentale L.	Ι	Α	Gl, HSc, HW	
16	Mangifera indica L.	I	Α	HW	
17	Spondias cytherea Sonn.	I	R	PG	
	onaceae				
18	Annona muricata L.	I	О	HW	

	Species	Status	Abund.	Habitats	Notes
	cynaceae		_		
19	Catharanthus roseus (L.) G. Don.	I	С	Gl	
20	Ochrosia oppositifolia (L.) K. Schum.	N	F	HW	
21	Plumeria obtusa L.	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
22	Plumeria rubra L.	I	O	Cu	Only in gardens
23	Tabernaemontana coffeoides Boj. ex. A. DC.	N	С	HW, HSc	
24	Thevetia peruviana K. Schum.	I	O	Cu	Only in gardens
Aral	iaceae				
	Gastonia crassa (Hemsl.) F. Friedmann	Е	-	-	Previous record ¹ ; in error for <i>G</i> . sechellarum?
25	Gastonia sechellarum (Baker) Harms.	Е	С	HW, HSc	
26	Polyscias sp.	I	Ο	Ću	Only in gardens
	epiadaceae		-		,, <u>.</u>
27	Sarcostemma viminale (L.) Alton	N	O	Gl	
Bign	ioniaceae		_		
28	Tabebuia pallida (Lindl.) Miers.	I	С	PW	
	bacaceae	-	-		
29	Ceiba pentandra (L.) Gaertn.	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
	aginaceae	•	•	o u	omy m gardens
30	Cordia subcordata Lam.	N	F	BC	
31	Tournefourtia argentea L. f	N	R	BC	
	tiaceae			ВС	
32	Brexia madagascariensis (Lam.) Ker Gawl.	E (ss)	O	HW	
_	subsp. <i>microcarpa</i> (Tul.) F. Friedmann	2 (00)			
Cact	aceae				
33	Opuntia vulgaris Mill.	Ĭ	R	PG, Gl	
34	Rhipsalis baccifera (J. Mill.) Steam	N	R	Gl	
	salpiniaceae	• •	•	0.	
35	Caesalpinia bonduc (L.) Roxb.	N	R	HW	
36	Caesalpinia pulcherimma (L.) Sw.	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
37	Intsia bijuga (Colebr.) O. Kuntze	N	F	HSc, HW	omy m garaciis
38	Senna occidentalis (L.) Link	I	R	PG	
39	Tamarindus indica L.	Ĭ	F	PG, HW	
	paraceae	1	1	10,111	
Cap	Cleome viscosa L.	I	_	_	Previous record ³
Cari	caceae		_	_	Trevious record
40	Carica papaya L.	I	Ο	Cu, PG, HW	
	narinaceae	1	O	Cu, 1 O, 11 W	
Casi 41	Casuarina equisetifolia J. R. & G. Foster	I	F	Gl	
		1	1.	OI.	
-	/sobalanaceae	T	٨	цул по-	
42	Chrysobalanus icaco L.	I	A	HW, HSc,	
C	hustoooo			Gl	
	ibretaceae	ONT		DO 1111	
43	Terminalia catappa L.	?N	A	BC, HW	
	npositae	¥			0.1-1
44	Coreopsis lanceolata L.	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
45	Elephantopus mollis H. B. K.	I	F	HW	
46	Emilia sonchifolia (L.) Wight	I	F	PG	
47	Melanthera biflora (L.) Wild	?N	O	PG	
48	Vernonia cinerea (L.) Less.	I	Α	PG	
	vulvulaceae				
49	Ipomoea batatas (L.) Lam.	I	<u>O</u>	Cu	Only in gardens

	Species	Status	Abund.	Habitats	Notes
50	Ipomoea obscura (L.) Ker Gawl.	I	F	PG, HW	
51	Ipomoea macrantha Roem. & Schultes	N	С	HW	
52	Ipomoea mauritiana Jacq.	?I	С	HW, HG	
53	Ipomoea pes-caprae (L.) R. Br.	N	Α	BC	
Crassi	ulaceae				
54	Kalanchoe pinnata (Lam.) Pers.	I	С	HW	
Ebena					
55	Diospyros seychellarum (Hiern.) Kosterm.	E	С	HW, HSc	
	roxylaceae			,	
56	Erythroxylum sechellarum O. E. Schulz	Е	С	HW, HSc	
	orbiaceae			,	
57	Acalypha hispida Burm. f.	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
58	Acalypha wilkesiana Muell. Arg.	Ī	F	Cu	Only in gardens
59	Euphorbia hirta L.	Ī	A	PG	Omy in guidens
60	Euphorbia pyrifolia Lam.	N	C	Gl	
61	Euphorbia thymifolia L.	I	0	BC, PG	
01	Excoecaria benthamiana Hemsl.	Ë	O	BC, I G	Previous record ⁴
62	Jatropha curcas L.	I	R	PG	rievious record
	Jatropha curcus L. Jatropha pandurifolia L.		R R	Cu	Only in condona
63		I			Only in gardens
64	Manihot esculenta Crantz	I	0	Cu, HW	
65	Pedilanthus tithymaloides (L.) Poit.	l	0	PG, Cu	
66	Phyllanthus acidus (L.) Skeels	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
67	Phyllanthus sp.	I	C	PG, Gl	
Flacoi	urtiaceae				. 4
	Aphloia theiformis (Vahl.) Benn	Е	-	-	Previous record ⁴
	ssp. madagascariensis (Clos.) H. Perr.	(var.)			
	var. seychellensis (Clos.) Friedmann				
68	Ludia mauritiana Gmel. var. sechellensis F.	Е	Α	HW	
	Friedmann	(var.)			
Goode	eniaceae				
69	Scaevola sericea Vahl.	N	С	BC	
Guttif	Perae				
70	Calophyllum inophyllum L.	N	Α	HW, BC	
Herna	indiaceae				
7 I	Hernandia nymphaeifolia (Presl) Kubitzki	N	F	BC	
Labia					
72	Plectranthus amboinicus (Lour.) Spreng.	?I	C	Gl	
Laura	, , , ,				
73	Cinnamomum verum Presl.	I	0	HW	
Lecvtl	hidaceae	_	_		
	Barringtonia asiatica (L.) Kurtz	N	Ο	BC	
	niaceae		Ũ	20	
75	Strychnos spinosa Lam.	I	С	HSc, PG,	
75	Bil yellilos spinosa Lam.	•	C	HW	
Malva	aceae			11 44	
1 vi aiva 76	Hihiscus rosa-sinensis L.	I	\circ	Cu	Only in gardens
70 77	Hibiscus tiliaceus L.	n N	O F	BC	Omy in gardens
78 70	Sida acuta Burm. f.	I	F	PG	
79	Sida cordifolia L.	?N	R	Gl	
80	Thespesia populnea (L.) Soland. ex Correa	N	F	BC	
	stomataceae	_		***	
81	Memecylon elaeagni Blume	E	A	HSc, HW	

Aimosaceae 3 Adenanthe 4 Mimosa pa Aoraceae 5 Artocarpu 6 Artocarpu Ficus boje 7 Ficus lutea 8 Ficus refle	s altilis (Parkins.) Fosb. s heterophyllus Lam. ri Baker a Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	N I I I I N N N E (ss)	F C A F R	BC HW PG, HSc PG	
Aimosaceae 3 Adenanthe 4 Mimosa pu Aoraceae 5 Artocarpu 6 Artocarpu Ficus boje 7 Ficus lutea 8 Ficus refle	era pavonina L. udica L. s altilis (Parkins.) Fosb. s heterophyllus Lam. ri Baker a Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	I I I I N N	C A F R	HW PG, HSc PG	
3 Adenanthe 4 Mimosa pa Aoraceae 5 Artocarpu 6 Artocarpu Ficus boje 7 Ficus lutea 8 Ficus refle Berg	s altilis (Parkins.) Fosb. s heterophyllus Lam. ri Baker v Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	I I I N N	A F R	PG, HSc PG	
4 Mimosa pa Aoraceae 5 Artocarpu 6 Artocarpu Ficus boje 7 Ficus lutea 8 Ficus refle Berg	s altilis (Parkins.) Fosb. s heterophyllus Lam. ri Baker v Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	I I I N N	A F R	PG, HSc PG	
Aoraceae 5 Artocarpu 6 Artocarpu Ficus boje 7 Ficus luteo 8 Ficus refle	s altilis (Parkins.) Fosb. s heterophyllus Lam. ri Baker a Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	I I N N	F R	PG	
5 Artocarpu 6 Artocarpu Ficus boje 7 Ficus lutee 8 Ficus refle Berg	s heterophyllus Lam. ri Baker a Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	I N N	R		
6 Artocarpu Ficus boje 7 Ficus lutea 8 Ficus refle Berg	s heterophyllus Lam. ri Baker a Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	I N N	R		
Ficus boje Ficus luteo Ficus refle Berg	ri Baker a Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	N N		nc.	
7 Ficus luteo 8 Ficus refle Berg	a Vahl. exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)	N	-	PG	
8 Ficus refle Berg	exa Thunb. ssp. seychellensis (Baker)		_	-	Previous record
Berg		E (ss)	C	HW, GI, PG	
	- Val-1		С	HW, Gl, PG	
9 Ficus rubr	a vanı.	N	F	Gl, HW	
Moringaceae					
_	leifera Lam.	l	F	PG, HW	
/Iyrtaceae					
1 Psidium g		1	O	PG, HSc	
	samarangense (Bl.) Merr. et Perry	I	R	Cu	
	wrightii (Baker) A. J. Scott	E	F	Gl, HW	
lyctaginaceae					
	llea sp. cultivars	I	O	Cu	Only in gardens
nagraceae					
Ludwigia	erecta (L.) Hara	I	-	-	Previous record ³
5 Ludwigia	octovalvis (Jacquin) Raven	?I	F	Ma	
Oxalidaceae					
6 Averrhoa	bilimbi L.	I	O	HW	
apilionaceae					
7 Abrus pred	catorius L.	?N	Α	HW, HSc	
	a cathartica Thouars.	N	F	BC, PG	
	pium umbellatum (L.) Benth.	N	O	BC	
	m incanum DC.	I	Α	PG, HSc	
	m triflorum (L.) DC.	I	С	PG	
	sepium (Jacq.) Walp.	I	F	PG, HW	
	tinctoria L.	I	С	PG	
	igantea (Willd.) DC.	N	Ο	HW	
	labialis (L.) Spreng.	I	С	PG, HSc	
	rina (Burm.) Merr.	N	O	BĆ, PG	
assifloraceae	. ,			,	
07 Passiflora	foetida L.	I	F	HW	
	suberosa L.	Ī	A	PG, HSc,	
y				HW	
ortulacaceae					
	oleracea L.	?N	R	PG	
Chamnaceae				_	
	asiatica (L.) Brogn.	N	F	BC, HW	
Rubiaceae	. , 5		=	- -,	
	bibractatum (Baker) Hiem.	N	Α	HW, HSc	
	us hirtus (L.) DC.	Ï	F	Gl	
13 Morinda o		?I	Ċ	HW, Gl	
	a wrightii (Baker) F. Friedmann	E	Č	HW, Gl	
	pentandrus (Schumach. & Thonn.)	I	-	-	Previous record ³
	echellensis (Baker) Summerh.	Ē	C	HW	11011043100014
Rutaceae	Concinents (Danci) Summerin.	L-	~	11 11	
16 <i>Citrus</i> spp		I	Α	HW, Cu	

	Species	Status	Abund.	Habitats	Notes
Sapir	daceae				
117	Allophyllus pervillei Blume	N	Α	HW	
118	Dodonea viscosa Jacq.	N	Ο	HSc	
Sapo	taceae				
	Mimusops sechellarum (Oliv.) Hemsl.	E	-	-	Previous record ¹
119	Northea hornei (M. M. Hartog) Pierre	E	R	HW	
Scrop	phulariaceae				
120	Striga asiatica (L.) O. Kuntze	?1	С	HG, HSc	
Sterc	uliaceae				
121	Heritiera littoralis Ait.	N	R	HW	
Tiliad	ceae				
122	Triumfetta rhomboidea Jacq.	I	O	Gl	
Turne	eraceae				
123	Turnera angustifolia Miller	l	С	PG, HSc	
Umb	elliferae				
124	Centella asiatica (L.) Urb.	?1	С	Ma	
Verb	enaceae				
125	Premna serratifolia L.	N	Α	HW, Gl	
126	Stachytarpheta jamaicensis (L.) Vahl.	I	Α	PĞ	
127	Stachytarpheta urticifolia (Salisb.) Sims.	I	C	HW	
128	Vitex trifolia L.	Ī	R	PG	
0	, y <u>_</u> .	-			
ANG	IOSPERMAE: Monotyledons				
Agav	aceae				
129	Agave sisalana (Perr. ex Engelm.) Drum. & Prain	1	С	HW	
130	Furcraea foetida (L.) Haw.	I	С	Gl, HSc	
	ryllidaceae	1	C	01, 1130	
131	Crinum?asiaticum L.	?I	\circ	Cu	Only in condona
		?I	O C		Only in gardens
132	Hymenocallis littoralis (Jacq.) Salisb.	:1	C	Cu, HW	
Arac		T	17:	Ma	
133	Colocasia esculenta (L.) Schott	I	F	Ma	0-1
134	Dieffenbachia sequine (Jacq.) Schott	l	R	Cu	Only in gardens
135	Epipremnum pinnatum (L.) Engel. cv. aureum	I	R	Cu	Only in gardens
136	Protarum sechellarum Engl.	Е	Ο	HW	
	neliaceae			01	
137	Ananas comosus (L.) Merr.	I	F	Gl	
	melinaceae		_		
138	Commelina sp.	?I	C	Gl	
139	Tradescantia spathacea Swartz.	I	F	Cu	Only in gardens
	raceae				
140	Cyperus halpan L.	?	0	Ma, Gl	2
	Cyperus iria L.	?	-	-	Previous record ²
141	Cyperus ?difformis L.	?	Ο	HW	
142	Eleocharis sp.	N	C	Ma	
143	Fimbristylis ?complanata (Retz.) Link	?	С	Gl	
144	Fimbristylis cymosa R. Br.	?	Α	PG	
145	Fimbristylis ?dichotoma (L.) Vahl	?	Ο	G!	
146	Fimbristylis sp. (glacis sedge)	?	Ο	Gl	
147	Kyllinga polyphylla Willd. ex Kunth	N	C	HSc	
	Kyllinga tenuifolia Steud.	?			Previous record ²
148	Lophoschoenus hornei (C. B. Cl.) Stapf.	E	С	Gl	
149	Mariscus dubius (Rottb.) Fischer	N	A	BC, PG, HSc	
				,,	

	Species	Status	Abund.	Habitats	Notes
	Mariscus paniceus (Rottb.) Vahl.	N	-	-	Previous record ³
150	Mariscus pennatus (Lam.) Domin.	N	Ο	Ma	
151	Pycreus polystachyos (Rottb.) P. Beauv.	?	С	Ma	
152	Thoracostachyum floribundum (Nees) C.B.Cl.	E	F	HW	
Flage	ellariaceae				
153	Flagellaria indica L.	N	С	HW	
Gran	nineae				
154	Brachiara umbellata (Trin.) W. D. Clayton	N	Α	PG, HW, HSc	
155	Cymbopogon sp.	I	Ο	Cu	Only in gardens
156	Dactyloctenium?ctenoides (Steud.) Bosser	?	С	BC	, ,
157	Digitaria didactyla Willd.	N	Ο	BC	
158	Digitaria sp.	?	O	PG	
159	Enteropogon sechellensis (Baker) Dur. & Schinz	N	C	Gl, PG	
160	Eragrostis tenella (L.) P. Beuv.	?	С	BC, PG	
161	Eragrostis ?tenella var. insularis Hubb.	?	Č	BC, PG	
162	Heteropogon contortus (L.) P. Beuv.	?	Ä	Gl	
163	Ischaenum heterotrichum Hack.	?	A	PG	
164	Oplismenus compositus (L.) P. Beuv.	N	A	HW, HSc	
165	Panicum brevifolium L.	N	A	HW	
166	Panicum maximum L.	?	C	PG, HG	
167	Paspalum sp.	?	C	Gl	
168	Pennisetum polystachyon (L.) Schult.	?	C	Gl	
	Saccharum officinarum L.	; I	0	Cu	Only in cordons
169	55	-	0	BC	Only in gardens
170	Sporobolus ?virginicus (L.) Kunth.	N			
171	Stenotaphrum dimidiatum (L.) Brogn.	N	Α	PG, HW	
	oxidaceae	г	0	CI	
172	Hypoxidia rhizophylla (Baker) Dur. & Schinz	Е	О	Gl	
Lilia		N		HW 61	
173	Dracaena reflexa Lam. var. angustifolia Baker	N	A	HW, Gl	
Lemi	naceae	0			n : 12
	Lemna perpusilla Torrey	?	-	-	Previous record ²
Musa				*****	
174	Musa sp. (M.?sapientum)	I	F	HW, Cu	
	idaceae				
175	Cynorkis?seychellarum Aver.	E	F	HW	
176	Oeoniella aphrodite Schltr.	N	F	HW	
177	Vanilla phalaenopsis Reichb. f.	E	Α	HW	
178	Vanilla planifolia Andrews	I	С	HW	
Palm					
179	Cocos nucifera L.	N	Α	PG, BC, HW	
180	Deckenia nobilis Wendl.	E	С	HW	
181	Lodoicea maldivica (Gmel.) Pers	Е	O	HW	
182	Phoenicophorium borsigianum (K. Koch) Stuntz	E	F	HW	
183	Phoenix dactylifera L.	I	R	Cu	One old palm, in garden
Pand	anaceae				_
184	Pandanus balfourii Mart.	E	С	Gl, BC	
185	Pandanus multispicatus Balf. f.	Ē	Ŏ	Gl	
186	Pandanus sechellarum	Ē	F	HW	
187	Pandanus utilis	I	Ô	PG	

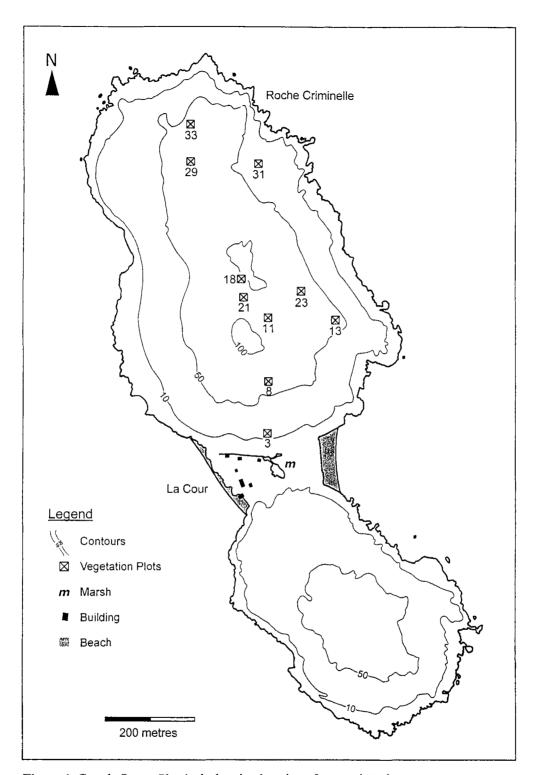


Figure 1. Grande Soeur: Physical, showing location of vegetation plots.