

Barbados Thread Snake

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Why in news?

Recently, World's smallest snake, Barbados thread snake rediscovered under rock in central Barbados during ecological survey.

- Barbados thread snakes are rare, blind snakes.

Barbados is a small island nation is situated in the Caribbean region of the America.

- **Scientific name** - Tetracheilostoma carlae.
- **Family** - Leptotyphlopidae.
- **Nomenclature** - It is named after Carla Ann Hass, the wife of its discoverer, S. Blair Hedges (Herpetologist).
- **Size** - About 3 to 4 inches long (9 to 10 centimeters) when it is fully grown.
- **Morphology** - Pale orange dorsal lines running from its head to tail, a rostral scale on its nose and no gland lines on its head.



- **Habitat** - They inhabit beneath leaf litter, loose soil and limestone rubble in tropical dry forests.
- **Distribution** - Found on the Caribbean Island of Barbados.
- **Adaptation** - Its eyesight is reduced to light-sensing dots, an adaptation that saves energy in perpetual darkness.
- **Resemblance** - The thread snake closely resembles the Brahminy blind snake, or flowerpot snake.
- **Reproduction** - The Barbados thread snake reproduces sexually and females lay a clutch of only one egg.

The Brahminy blind snake is capable of parthenogenesis, which means that females are able to produce fertile eggs without mating.

- **Diet** - Termite and ant larvae.
- **Conservation status - IUCN Red list** - Critically Endangered.

References

1. [The Hindu | Barbodas thread snake](#)
2. [Re:wild | Pale orange dorsal lines](#)

