Barbados Thread Snake

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Why in news?

Recently, World's smallest snake, Barbodas 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

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