

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

Project Ref. No.	162/12/005
Project Title	Rediscovering the neglected insects of Mauritius
Country(ies)	Mauritius
UK Organisation	University of Plymouth and Mauritian Wildlife Foundation
Collaborator(s)	Mauritian Wildlife Foundation, Natural History Museum
Report date	25 October 2004
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	2
Project website	n/a

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

Saoud Motala has successfully finished his masters in Advanced Methods in Taxonomy and Biodiversity and we are delighted to report that he achieved his MSc with a Distinction. He also completed a dissertation titled 'Evolution and conservation of the dodo's dung beetles'. This meets Milestone 3 of the agreed baseline timetable. Saoud has now returned to Mauritius, and a visit by UK partners is now imminent to progress and finalise the field sampling protocol and assess the historical literature review (Milestones 4-6, September-December 2004) with our project partners and stakeholders.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

Dr Carl Jones, Mauritian Wildlife Foundation's Science Director has taken over the supervision of this project in Mauritius as Dr John Mauremootoo has taken up a post as Senior Scientist - Invasive Alien Species, CAB International - Africa Regional Centre, Kenya.

This development has had no impact on the project.

Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No changes to the project necessary.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: n/a

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: none

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**