

Mozambique Batis

Mosambiekbosbontrokkie

Batis soror

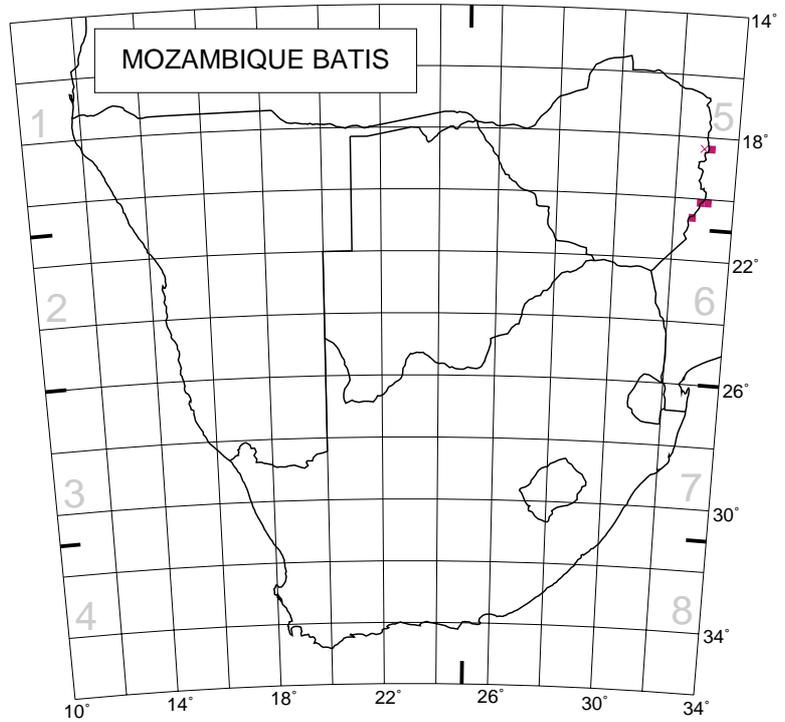
The Mozambique Batis inhabits the coastal belt of Mozambique and extends to just south of the equator. It occurs marginally in the eastern highlands of Zimbabwe where it is reported infrequently.

It was formerly considered to be a subspecies of the Chinspot Batis *B. molitor* and it closely resembles that species in appearance (especially the males) and vocalizations. It is inconspicuous when not calling, because it tends to remain in the tree canopy.

Its habitat in Zimbabwe is the miombo woodland of the moist seaward-facing slopes of the mountains from Nyanga (1832BA) southwards to the Chimanimani area (1933C), and also the Save–Runde river confluence (2132AB) (Irwin 1981). It ascends to at least 1500 m in the Chimanimani Mountains (Irwin 1981).

Any movements are likely to be altitudinal. Most atlas records come from summer, but there is insufficient information. Egglaying has been reported October–November (Irwin 1981).

The Mozambique Batis is said to replace the Chinspot Batis in moister areas, and their overlap is probably marginal and limited to areas with a wide range of altitudes, except at the Save–Runde confluence (Irwin 1981). In the Haroni–Rusitu (2032BB) area, those two species are seasonally also found with Cape *B. capensis* and Woodward’s *B. fratrum* Batises, but again with some separation by habitat and altitude (Irwin 1981). The range of the Mozambique Batis in the region does not appear to have changed in recent times and there is no reason to suggest that it is threatened.



Recorded in 5 grid cells, 0.1%
 Total number of records: 37
 Mean reporting rate for range: 21.6%

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