

**FIRST FIELD STUDY OF THE SALONGO MONKEY (*CERCOPITHECUS DRYAS*),  
KOKOLOPORI BONOBO RESERVE, DRC**

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The first observational field study of the Salongo monkey (*Cercopithecus dryas*), an endemic species, was carried out from April 2005 to January 2007, at Bisandu forest within the Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve in the Equateur Region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Salongo monkey had previously been known only from the Lomela forest in Kasai, Sankuru District, recorded by Schwartz in 1932 as *Cercopithecus dryas*, and from Kano's (1977) "Wamba" specimen, termed *Cercopithecus salongo*. However, these specimens were found in bushmeat markets, thus leaving the actual range of the species uncertain (in fact, we have now established that the "Wamba" specimen was killed in Kokolopori). *C. dryas* was confirmed to inhabit the forests of Kokolopori in 2004, and has since been observed at four different Kokolopori sites: Bisandu (0°13'N, 22°48'E), Yotemankele (0°17'N, 22°59'E), Bikombi (0°22'N, 22°59'E) and Moma (0°24'N, 22°54'E). The groups at Bisandu have been tracked and their diet, ranging behaviour and social organization recorded, providing the first information of its kind for *C. dryas*. Home ranges varied from 2.75-7ha. Group sizes ranged from 15 to 31 individuals. While the study focused on feeding ecology, its results are important to improved taxonomic understanding and conservation of *C. dryas*. This project has been supported by the Bonobo Conservation Initiative and the Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation.

Keywords: endemic, feeding ecology, taxonomy, distribution