

Project Update: July 2007

Between February and April 2007, the dry season survey to identify the primates of the Amurum Reserve and surroundings, and questionnaire sessions to evaluate frequency of primate sighting, hunting pressure, and reasons for hunting was concluded.

Primates recorded were *Chlorocebus tantalus*, *Galagos* (one sighting), and possibly *Chlorocebus aethiops* (awaiting identification). Primates were mainly sighted in scrubland fringed by rocky outcrops. Equal proportions of adults and juveniles were recorded suggesting this may be the breeding season.

60% of people randomly interviewed were farmers, 16% students, 9% traders, and 5% government workers. 7% of the farmers were also hunters. Primates were seen all year but mostly during fruiting and harvest season. 48% of those interviewed have killed primates. The major reason for killing primates was crop destruction (82%) and for sales (13%). The skin and tails of many primates are often used as ornaments by the men during traditional festivals. Primates were seen feeding on fruits of *Ficus* sp (42%), *Pakia biglobosa* (24%), Mango (16%), *Albizia Lubbock* (9%), and *Meliaceae guarea* (9%).

Primates that were seen during other surveys on the Jos Plateau were *Papio anubis* and *Cercopithecus nictitans*.