

---

# RAMSAR INFORMATION SHEET

## FOR WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

---

### Site reference number

- 1 Compilation date February 2001  
2 Country British Indian Ocean Territory  
3 Name of wetland Diego Garcia  
4 Site centre location: Latitude: 07 19 00 S Longitude: 72 28 00 E  
5 Altitude (m) Min: 0.0 Max: Mean 2.0m  
6 Area (ha) 35424.05 ha

### 7 Overview

Diego Garcia is the southernmost atoll of the Laccadive-Maldives-Chagos atoll chain. The archipelago possesses an exceptionally low level of pollution and provides a standard for measuring the impact of human pressures on other reef systems. The World Heritage quality of the territory is recognised in the BIOT Conservation Policy Statement (October 1997) which specifies that BIOT will be treated in accordance with the requirements of the Convention subject only to defence requirements.

### 8 Wetland type **Marine and Coastal Wetlands**

Code	Name	% Area
B	Marine beds (eg. sea grass beds)	0.5
C	Coral reefs	99
P	Freshwater lakes: seasonal / intermittent	0.5

- 9 Ramsar Criteria **1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8**  
10 Map of the site  
11 Compiler Joint Nature Conservation Committee  
Monkstone House  
City Road  
Peterborough  
Cambridgeshire PE1 1JY  
UK  
Telephone/Fax : +44(0) 1733 562626 / +44(0) 1733 555948

### 12 Justification of criteria

#### Ramsar Criterion 1.

The site is a particularly good example of a relatively unpolluted coral reef system in a near natural state which provides a valuable link in the marine ecology of the Indian Ocean.

#### Ramsar Criterion 3 and 4.

The site is of special value for maintaining the genetic and ecological diversity of the region, especially its marine life. The site provides a habitat for marine flora and fauna at a critical stage of their biological cycle including the endemic coral *Ctenella chagius* and the threatened Hawksbill and Green Turtles, *Eretymochelys imbricata* and *Chelonia mydas*. The site is also important for breeding seabirds.

#### Ramsar Criterion 5.

The site regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds including Greater frigate *Fregata minor*, Red-footed Boobies *Sula sula*, Greater crested-tern *Thalasseus bergii*, Black-naped tern *Sterna sumatrana*, White (fairy) tern *Gygis alba*, Brown (common) noddy *Anous stolidus*, Lesser noddy *Anous tenuirostris*. There are 28,410 individuals estimated to occur on Diego Garcia (Sheppard C.R.C and Seaward M.R.D. eds 1999).

#### Ramsar criterion 6

The site supports a breeding colony of approximately 9,000 Red-footed Boobies *Sula sula* and 320 Greater frigate *Fregata minor*.

#### Ramsar Criterion 7 and 8.

The site supports a large number of fish species including some endemics and is also a valuable nursery for fish stocks.

#### 13 General location

Diego Garcia (outside the specific area)

Nearest Town/City: Diego Garcia.

The Chagos Archipelago is located in the central Indian Ocean.

Administrative Region: British Indian Ocean Territory

#### 14 Physical Features

Soil & Geology	biogenic reef, sand
Geomorphology and Landscape	coastal, island, lagoon, subtidal rock (including rocky reefs), subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank)
Nutrient status	oligotrophic
pH	alkaline
Salinity	saline / euhaline
Soil	mainly mineral, mainly organic
Water permanence	usually seasonal / intermittent
Summary of main climatic features	Diego Garcia has a tropical maritime climate. The average temperature is 27C, average maximum 30C, average minimum 25C. Mean relative humidity 80%. Mean annual rainfall is 102.5 inches.

#### 15 Hydrological values

No special values known

#### 16 Ecological features

Diego Garcia is a mid-ocean coral reef and the southernmost atoll of the Chagos Archipelago which contains about 220 zooanthellate species of 58 genera and is rich in marine life.

#### 17 Noteworthy flora

##### **Species at levels of national importance**

Sea grass beds

These are not widespread, and the only known area of seagrasses of significant size lies on the eastern side of the lagoon at Diego Garcia. A number of fish species have been recorded in these seagrasses which have not yet been seen anywhere else in the Archipelago.

#### 18 Noteworthy fauna

##### **Species occurring at levels of international importance.**

**Invertebrates**

**Coconut crab *Birgus latro*.**

##### **Species occurring at levels of national importance.**

**Birds**

**Lesser noddy tern *Anous tenuirostris*, Black-naped tern *Sterna sumatrana* and White (fairy) tern *Gygis alba*.**

**Fish**

**At least two species of endemic fish.**

**Invertebrates**

**There is one, possibly two species of endemic coral: *Ctenella chagius*.**

## 19 Social and Cultural Values

Aesthetic

Current scientific research

Fisheries production

Non-consumptive recreation

## 20 Land tenure/ownership

Ownership category	On-Site	Off-Site
National/Crown estate	+	+

## 21 Current land use

Activity	On-Site	Off-Site	Scale
Nature conservation	+	+	Large-Scale
Research	+	+	Large-Scale
Fishing: recreational/sport	+	+	Large-Scale
Harbour/port	+	+	Large-Scale
Military activities	+	+	Large-Scale

## 22 Adverse factors affecting the ecological character of the site

Activity	On-Site	Off-Site	Scale
Introduction/invasion of exotic animal species	+	+	Large-Scale

## 23 Conservation measures taken

Conservation measure	On-site	Off-site
NNR	+	
Longstanding legislation already in place – please refer to Annex	+	+

## 24 Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented see below

### Site vulnerability and management statement

There is a fully comprehensive Natural Resources Management Plan for Diego Garcia (NRMPDG). It was issued in 1997 and is currently being revised. Nature and Strict Nature Reserves have also been established and these are shown on the map attached. Diego Garcia has feral cats and rats but the three islands at the entrance of the lagoon are free of both. There is a cat eradication programme being undertaken and a rat eradication programme is planned. The enforcement of conservation measures is the responsibility of the Commissioner's Representative. He is assisted by the BIOT Police and fisheries officers.

## 25 Current scientific research/survey/monitoring and facilities

Scientific expeditions and visits were conducted in 1967, 1973, 1975 1978/9, 1996, 1999 and 2001. Surveys of recreational fishing are regularly conducted. The BIOT Conservation Consultant has visited annually for about a month from 1993 onwards and reports to the Commissioner.

## 26 Current conservation education

The Friends of Chagos is a registered charity whose objectives are to promote conservation, scientific and historical research and to advance education concerning the Chagos Archipelago. The Friends have produced 4 booklets on The Sea Shores of Chagos, the Reef Fishes of Chagos, the Plants of Chagos and the Birds of Chagos. They have also produced CDs with several hundred photographs about the nature of the Chagos Archipelago past and present. There is turtle recording and awareness activity and recording of red footed boobies. The NRMPDG contains measures to protect wildlife and

efforts are made with local television and a locally produced news sheet to make the community interested in nature and aware of the need to protect the environment.

27 Current recreation and tourism  
Nil.

28 Functional jurisdiction  
British Indian Ocean Territory Administration  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
London SW1A 2AH

29 Management authority  
Commissioner's Representative  
NP 1002 BFPO 485  
Diego Garcia  
British Indian Ocean Territory

### 30 Bibliography

Barnett, L.K., Emms, C. (1997). Herpetological observations in the Chagos Archipelago, British Indian Ocean Territory. *British Herpetological Society Bulletin* 59:6-12.

Barnett, L.K., Emms, C. (1998). An annotated checklist of the Chagos Archipelago terrestrial fauna (omitting birds) recorded during the 1996 'Friends of the Chagos' expedition. *Phelsuma* 6:41-52.

Barnett, L.K. and Emms, C. (1999). The insects of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 241-256: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.

Barnett, L.K., Emms, C. and Clarke, D. (1999). The coconut or robber crab (*Birgus latro*) in the Chagos Archipelago and its captive culture at London Zoo, pp. 273-284: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.

Bellamy, D.J. (1979). *Half of Paradise*. Cassell London, pp 180.

Bellamy, D.J., Hirons M.J., Sheppard, C.R.C. (1975). Scientific report of reef research. In: Baldwin, E.A. (ed) *Joint Services Expedition to Danger Island*. MOD Publication, London, 3, chapter 6.

Bourne, G.C. (1988). The atoll of Diego Garcia and the coral formations of the Indian Ocean. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London* 43:440.

Bourne, W.R.P. (1971). The birds of the Chagos group. *Atoll Research Bulletin* 149:175-207.

Bruner, P.L. (1996). Avifaunal...survey of USNSF Diego Garcia, BIOT in natural resources management plan, Diego Garcia.

Clark, A.M. and Taylor, J.D. (1971) Echinoderms from Diego Garcia. *Atoll Research Bulletin* 149:89.

Dinesen, Z.D. (1977). The coral fauna of the Chagos Archipelago. *Proceedings 3rd International Symposium Coral Reefs, Miami* 1: 155-161.

Doak, E.L., Lyzenga, D.R. and Polcyn, F.C. (1979). Remote bathymetry by landsat in the Chagos Archipelago. *Environmental Research Institute of Michigan* pp. 31.

Drew, E.A. (1980). Seagrasses in the Chagos Archipelago. *Aquatic Botany* 9: 179-184.

Dumbraveanu, D. and Sheppard, C.R.C. (1999). Areas of substrate at different depths in the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 35-44: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.

Dutton, R.A. (1980). The herpetology of the Chagos Archipelago. *British Journal of Herpetology*, 6: 133-134.

- Eisenhauer, A., Heiss, G.A., Sheppard, C.R.C. and Dullo, W-C. (1999). Reef and island formation and late holocene sea-level changes in the Chagos Islands, pp. 21-34: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Emery, A.R., Winterbottom, R. (1979). A dying paradise. *Rotunda* 12:2-10.
- Emery, A.R., Winterbottom, R. (1980). A technique for fish specimen photography in the field. *Canadian Journal Zoology* 58: 2158-2162.
- Emery, A.R., Winterbottom, R. 1979. A dying paradise. *Rotunda* 12:2-10.
- Emery, A.R., Winterbottom, R. 1980. A technique for fish specimen photography in the field. *Canadian Journal Zoology*. 58: 2158-2162.
- Everaarts, J.M., Booij, K., Fischer, C.V., Mass, Y.E.M. and Nieuwenhuize, J. (1999). Assessment of the environmental health of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 305-326: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Gardiner, J.S. (1936). The reefs of the Western Indian Ocean. I. Chagos Archipelago II. The Mascarene region. *Transactions of Linnean Society, London Vol XIX*, pp. 393-436.
- Griffiths, J.D. (ed) Chagos: The 1978/79 expedition. MOD Publication, London, pp. 1-52.
- Hirons, M.J., Bellamy, D.J., Sheppard, C.R.C. (1976). Birds of the Chagos Bank. *Nature*, 260:387.
- Howells, M.J. (1983). The birds of Diego Garcia. *Sea Swallow*, 32:42-47.
- Hutson, A.M. (1975). Observations on the birds of Diego Garcia. *Atoll Research Bulletin*, 175.
- Jolliffe, A.S. and Basson, P.W. (1999). The subtidal distribution of macroalgae on the coral reefs of the Chagos Archipelago: a preliminary study, pp. 137-150: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Mees, C.C., Pilling, G.M. and Barry, C.J. (1999). Commercial inshore fishing activity in the British Indian Ocean Territory, pp. 327-346: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Moresby, R. (1884). Untitled. *Transactions of Bombay Geographical Society*. Vol I: pp. 306-310.
- Mortimer, J.A. and Broderick, D. (1999). Population genetic structure and developmental migrations of sea turtles in the Chagos Archipelago and adjacent regions inferred from mtDNA sequence variation, pp.185-194: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Mortimer, J.A. and Crain, D.A. (1999). Sex steroid concentrations in immature hawksbill turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) in the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 159-176: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Mortimer, J.A. and Day, M. (1999). Sea turtle populations and habitats in the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 159-176: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Murray, J.W. (1994). Larger foraminifera from the Chagos Archipelago: their significance for Indian Ocean biogeography. *Marine micropalaeontology*, 24: 43-55.
- Murray, J.W. (1999). Review of benthic foraminiferal distributions on Chagos, pp. 151-158: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.

- Murray, J.W., Smart, C.W. (1994). Distribution of smaller benthic foraminifera in the Chagos Archipelago, Indian Ocean. *Journal of micropalaeontology*, 13: 47-53.
- Price, A.R.G. (1999). Broadscale coastal environmental assesement of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 285-296: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Pugh, D.T., Rayner, R.F. (1981). The tidal regimes of three Indian Ocean atolls and some ecological implications. *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science*, 13: 389-407.
- Randall, J.E., Emery, A.R. (1983). A new labrid fish of the genus *Cirrhilabrus* from the Chagos Archipelago, Indian Ocean. *Journal Aquaculture and Aquatic Science*, 3: 21-24.
- Rayner, R.F. (1982). The circulation and water exchange properties of Salomon Atoll (Chagos Archipelago). *Proceedings 6th International Scientific Symposium, World Underwater Federation 1980*. NERC publ, London.
- Rayner, R.F. (1983). Aspects of the oceanography of two mid Indian Ocean coral Atolls. Ph.D. Thesis, University of Salford, UK.
- Rayner, R.F., Drew, E.A. (1984). Nutrient concentrations and primary productivity at the Peros Banhos and Salomon Atolls in the Chagos Archipelago. *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science*, 18: 121-132.
- Readman, J.W., Tolosa, I., Bartocci, J., Cattini, C., Price, A.R.G. and Jolliffe, A. (1999). Contaminant levels and the use of molecular organic markers to characterise the coastal environment of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 297-304: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Reinicke, G.B. and Vanofwegan, L.P. (1999). Soft corals (alcyonacea: octocorallia) from shallow water in the Chagos Archipelago: species assemblages and their distribution, pp. 67-90: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Russell, G. (1981). Report on the marine vegetation of Egmont Is. Chagos Bank (Indian Ocean). In: Fogg, G.S., Jones, W.E. (eds) *Proceedings of 8th International Seaweed Symposium* Menai Science Lab, UK. pp 464-468.
- Salm, R.V. (1980). The genus-area relation of corals on reefs of the Chagos Archipelago, Indian Ocean. Ph.D. Thesis, Johns Hopkins University, pp 125.
- Salm, R.V. (1984). Ecological boundaries for coral reef reserves: Principles and guidelines. *Environmental Conservation*, 11: 209-215.
- Seaward, M.R.D. (1999). Cryptogamic flora of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 207-224: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1979a). Status of three rare animals on Chagos. *Environmental Conservation*, p 310.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1979b). Interspecific aggression between reef corals with reference to their distribution. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 1: 237-147.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1980a). New life on forsaken Chagos Isles. *Geographical Magazine* Vol LII (12) pp 825-829.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1980b). The coral fauna of Diego Garcia lagoon, following harbour construction. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 11: 227-230.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1980c). Coral cover, zonation and diversity on reef slopes of Chagos atolls, and population structures of the major species. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 2: 193-205.

- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1981a). (ed) Report on Scientific work completed on Joint Services Chagos Research Expedition 1978/9. In: Griffiths J.D. (ed) Chagos: The 1978/79 expedition. MOD Publication, London, pp 1-52.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1981b). The reef and soft-substrate coral fauna of Chagos, Indian Ocean. *Journal Natural History*, 15: 607-621.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1981c). The groove and spur structures of Chagos atolls and their coral zonation. *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science*, 12: 549-560.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1981d). Roles of interspecific and intraspecific competition in coral zonation. *Progress in Underwater Science*, 6: 57-60.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1982). *Natural History of the Coral Reef*. Blandford Press, Poole, pp 164.
- Sheppard, A.L.S. (1984). The molluscan fauna of Chagos (Indian Ocean) and an analysis of its broad distribution patterns. *Coral Reefs*, 3: 43-50.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1997). *The Sea Shores of Chagos*. Friends of the Chagos.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1999). Changes in coral cover on reefs of Chagos over eighteen years, pp. 91-100: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1999). Changes in some weather patterns in Chagos over twenty-five years, pp. 45-52: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1999). Coral Decline and Weather Patterns over 20 years in the Chagos Archipelago, central Indian Ocean. *Ambio* 28:472-478
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1999). Corals of Chagos, and the biogeographical role of Chagos in the Indian Ocean, pp. 53-66: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (1999). The Chagos Archipelago. In: McClanahan, T. Sheppard, C.R.C. and Obura, D. (eds). *Coral Reefs of the Western Indian Ocean, Ecology and Conservation*, Oxford University Press, New York .
- Sheppard, C.R.C. (2000). The Chagos Archipelago. In Sheppard, C.R.C. (Ed) *Seas at the Millennium: An Environmental Evaluation*. Elsevier: Oxford (in press).
- Sheppard, C.R.C. and Topp, J.M.W. (1999). *Birds of Chagos*. Friends of the Chagos.
- Sheppard, C.R.C., Dinesen, Z.D., Drew, E.A. (1984). Taxonomy, ecology and physiology of the geographically restricted Scleratinian species *Ctenella chagius* Matthai. *Bulletin of Marine Science*, 33: 905-918.
- Sheppard, C.R.C., Seaward, M.R.D., Klaus, R. and Topp, J.M.W. (1999). The Chagos Archipelago: an introduction, pp. 1-20: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Sheppard, C.R.C., Wells, S.M. (1987). *Directory of Coral Reefs, Volume 2. Indian Ocean Red Sea and Gulf*. UNEP/IUCN publication, Cambridge, UK. Chagos chapter is pp 37-46.
- Spalding, M. (1997). *Reef Fishes of the Chagos*. Friends of the Chagos.
- Spalding, M.D. (1999). Biodiversity patterns in Chagos reef fishes, pp. 119-136: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). *Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago*. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Stoddart, D.R., Taylor, J. (1971). (Eds) A substantial collection of articles on Diego Garcia, published in *Atoll Research Bulletin*, volume 149. Includes articles on many aspects not subsequently updated, including climate, geography, birds etc.

- Symens, P. (1996). Status and Conservation of Seabirds in the Chagos Archipelago, BIOT. MSc thesis, University of Warwick.
- Symens, P. (1999). Breeding seabirds of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 257-272: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Topp, J.M.W. (1988). An annotated check list of the flora of Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory. Atoll Research Bulletin, 313:1-21.
- Topp, J.M.W. and Seaward, M.R.D. (1999). Plants of Chagos. Friends of the Chagos.
- Topp, J.M.W. and Sheppard, C.R.C. (1999). Higher plants of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 225-240: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Whitton, B.A., Whitton, B.A., Donaldson, A., Bellamy, D.J. and Sheppard, C.R.C. (1977). Terrestrial and swamp algae from three islands in the Chagos Archipelago, Indian Ocean. Atoll Research Bulletin, 217: 1-6.
- Williams, S.T., Knowlton, N. and Weigt, L.A. (1999). Indo-pacific molecular biogeography of the coral-dwelling snapping shrimp *Alpheus lottini* (Decapoda: Caridea: Alpheidae), pp. 195-206: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Winterbottom, R. (1984). A review of the gobiid fish genus *Trimma* from the Chagos Archipelago, central Indian Ocean, with the description of seven new species. Canadian Journal Zoology, 62: 695-715.
- Winterbottom, R. (1984). Two new gobiid fish species (in *Priolepis* and *Trimma*) from the Chagos Archipelago, central Indian Ocean. Canadian Journal Zoology, 63: 747-754.
- Winterbottom, R. and Anderson, R.C. (1997). An annotated checklist of the fishes of the Chagos Archipelago. Ichthyological Bulletin, Grahamstown, South Africa, no 66.
- Winterbottom R. and Anderson R.C. (1997). A revised checklist of the epipelagic and shore fishes of the Chagos Archipelago. Ichthyological Bulletin, Grahamstown, South Africa No.66.
- Winterbottom, R. and Anderson, R.C. (1999). Fishes of the Chagos Archipelago, pp. 101-118: in Sheppard, C.R.C. and Seaward, M.R.D. (Eds). Ecology of the Chagos Archipelago. Linnean Society Occasional Publications, 2. Westbury Publishing. pp. 351.
- Winterbottom, R. and Emery, A.R. (1981). A new genus and two new species of gobiid fishes (Perciformes) from the Chagos Archipelago, Central Indian Ocean. Environmental Biology of Fishes, 6: 139-149.
- Winterbottom, R. and Emery, A.R. (1986). Review of the Gobioid fishes of the Chagos Archipelago, Central Indian Ocean. Royal Ontario Museum, Life Sciences Contributions, pp 82.
- Winterbottom, R., Emery A.R. and Holm, E. (1989). An annotated checklist of the fishes of the Chagos Archipelago. Royal Ontario Museum, Life Sciences, pp. 226.