

Ruby master - Bug #16173

ENV.delete returns nil when name does not exist and block given

09/20/2019 07:32 PM - burdettelamar@yahoo.com (Burdette Lamar)

Status: Open	
Priority: Normal	
Assignee:	
Target version:	
ruby -v: ruby 2.6.4p104 (2019-08-28 revision 67798) [x64-mingw32]	Backport: 2.5: UNKNOWN, 2.6: UNKNOWN
Description	
Attached diff.txt:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">ENV.delete for nonexistent name and block given:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Test enhanced to verify return value is nil.Documentation corrected to say that return value is nil, not value.	

History

#1 - 09/20/2019 11:10 PM - alanwu (Alan Wu)

This gives the impression that the return value is always nil, which isn't true when the environment variable exists. Maybe it's worth clarifying that.

#2 - 09/21/2019 07:09 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

Comparing with Hash#delete, it looks that the document is correct and the code is wrong.

```
diff --git i/hash.c w/hash.c
index 8b84a14484..7880178dc8 100644
--- i/hash.c
+++ w/hash.c
@@ -4779,7 +4779,7 @@ env_delete_m(VALUE obj, VALUE name)
     VALUE val;

     val = env_delete(name);
-   if (NIL_P(val) && rb_block_given_p()) rb_yield(name);
+   if (NIL_P(val) && rb_block_given_p()) val = rb_yield(name);
     return val;
 }

diff --git i/test/ruby/test_env.rb w/test/ruby/test_env.rb
index b01c3b12ee..1a7656ea7d 100644
--- i/test/ruby/test_env.rb
+++ w/test/ruby/test_env.rb
@@ -107,6 +107,7 @@
     assert_invalid_env {|v| ENV.delete(v)}
     assert_nil(ENV.delete("TEST"))
     assert_nothing_raised { ENV.delete(PATH_ENV) }
+   assert_equal("NO TEST", ENV.delete("TEST") {|name| "NO "+name})
   end

   def test_getenv
```

#3 - 09/21/2019 03:55 PM - burdettelamar@yahoo.com (Burdette Lamar)

Thanks, [nobu \(Nobuyoshi Nakada\)](#), but I'm not going to propose a change to the functionality.

#4 - 09/21/2019 05:11 PM - burdettelamar@yahoo.com (Burdette Lamar)

- File diff.txt added

Thanks, @alanwu. I'm refreshing diff.txt with more fulsome documentation, along with enhanced testing.

#5 - 09/21/2019 06:02 PM - burdettelamar@yahoo.com (Burdette Lamar)

- File deleted (diff.txt)

#6 - 09/22/2019 06:40 PM - Eregon (Benoit Daloze)

IMHO it's better to fix behavior to be consistent with Hash#delete.
And the compatibility risk seems non-existent here.

So I think we should change behavior, and not change documentation which would be inconsistent with Hash#delete.
+1 for [nobu \(Nobuyoshi Nakada\)](#)'s patch.

#7 - 09/24/2019 06:31 PM - burdettelamar@yahoo.com (Burdette Lamar)

I, being a member only of The Outer Party, can't merge anything here.

I'm agnostic on whether the change should be to the documentation or to the code. My part was just to note the discrepancy.

Can someone in The Inner Party take action?

Thanks,
Burdette

#8 - 09/24/2019 07:10 PM - jeremyevans0 (Jeremy Evans)

I also agree that nobu's patch should be merged.

#9 - 10/01/2019 03:34 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

[burdettelamar@yahoo.com](#) (Burdette Lamar) wrote:

Thanks, @alanwu. I'm refreshing diff.txt with more fulsome documentation, along with enhanced testing.

Thank you for the patch.

```
+ * Deletes the environment variable for +name+ if it exists (ignoring the block, if given); returns +nil+:  
+ *   ENV.delete('LINES') # => '300'  
+ *   ENV.delete('COLUMNS') { |name| fail 'boo' } # => '120'
```

It should return the old value, not nil.

```
+ * Calls the block and returns +nil+ if the environment variable does not exist and block given:  
+ *   ENV.delete('NOSUCH') { |name| } # => nil
```

Non-empty block and non-nil result feels better to me.

#10 - 10/01/2019 10:27 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

<https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/2514>

Files

diff.txt	2.22 KB	09/21/2019	burdettelamar@yahoo.com (Burdette Lamar)
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