

Lacerta saxicola darevskii Szczerbak, 1962
(Fig. 16; photo. 2)

L. saxicola f. typical M^hely (part.), 1909:498;
Nikolskii, 1915: 367. -- saxicola darevskii Szczerbak,
1962a: 1380, Fig. 5 and 6.

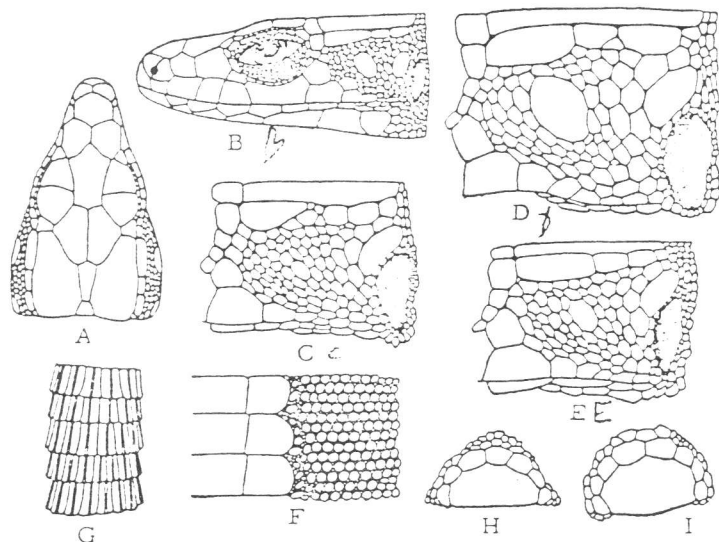


Fig. 16. Major scalation of L. s. darevskii.

A - Head, dorsal view; B - head, lateral view; C, D, E - temporal region; F - contact zone between dorsal and ventral scales, male; G - dorsal anterior third of tail; H, I - anal region (Adler district).

Description. The width of the frontonasal scale is more than or equal to its length. The rostral scale does not reach the frontonasal or rarely it touches by a short suture. The suture between the frontonasal and postanasal scales is usually longer than the suture between the anterior and posterior nasal scales, or rarely their lengths are equal. The sutures between the frontal and prefrontal scales is slightly convex in the frontal in 80 percent of sexual mature specimens; this characteristic is evidently acquired with advancing age since the suture is straight in juvenile and immature specimens. Roughly 10 percent of the specimens, has a small extra scale between the prefrontals. Supraciliary scales are separated from the supracoculars by a complete or distinctly interrupted row of 8 to 16 granules. The upper postorbital usually does not reach the parietal. The first supratemporal is long and irregularly shaped posteriorly; the 2 to 5 large posttemporals behind it are subequal. The midtemporal is moderate in size, small, or absent; it is separated from the first supratemporal by

1-4 scales and from the small tympanic scale by 2-5 rows of tiny scales. Along the midline of the throat, there are 23 - 38 scales. The body scales are smooth, prominent; around midbody are 50-70 scale rows. Each ventral scale of males or females touches laterally 3-4 body scales of which the posterior one is usually quite enlarged. The ventral scales are arranged in 20 - 24 transverse rows in males and 24 - 26 rows in females. The large anal-scale is bordered anteriorly by 6 - 11 small subequal scales; the 2 middle ones are occasionally enlarged. Femoral pores number 14-25. On the underside of thigh, between the pores and the outer row of enlarged scales, there are 4 - 6 longitudinal rows of tiny scales. The scales on the dorsal surface of the ankle are roughly of the same size as those of the body with well-developed keels. Around the ankle 16 - 18 scales are arranged in single row. The caudal scales in the upper one third of the tail have prominent longitudinal keels, are truncate or project backward at a low angle. The snout-vent length is 64 - 83 mm in males and 60 - 79 mm in females; its ratio to the length of the unregenerated tail is 0.46 - 0.59 in the former and 0.54 - 0.58 in the latter.

The main background coloration of the dorsum, including the top of head, is dark-green, yellowish-green, ivy green, grass-green, or a shade between dark-olive and greenish yellow in adult males and females. The distinct occipital stripe consists of black or brown blotches extending across the entire width of the back, frequently grouped dorsolaterally in 2 parallel rows; in some specimens, the occipital stripes are barely visible. The broad temporal stripes are formed by 2 - 3 rows of black or brown ocelli with whitish or blue centers; the ocelli may merge with one another or are somewhat separated. These are bounded dorsally and ventrally by bright ciliary and supramaxillary stripes sometimes separated into individual blotches. The abdomen of males is yellow, yolk yellow, lemon-yellow, olive-yellow, bright olive-yellow or yellowish green in spring; in females it is yellowish, mouse gray or greenish. Large bluish blotches are present on the outer row of the ventral scales.

Geographical distribution. This subspecies is widely distributed in the Western Caucasus, mainly within the confines of Krasnodar territory on the northern, western, and south-western slopes of the Black Sea range of Bolshoy Kavkaz from the valley of the Pshada River on the west to the lower course of the Bzyba River and the upper course of the Kuban River in the southeast and northeast. The northern limit of the range runs along the slopes of Bolshoy Kavkaz at about the level of the midcourse of the innumerable left tributaries of Kuban where the northernmost occurrences are known from around the Goriachii Klyuch health resort on the Psekupsa River and around Maikop. Along the river gorges of the Bela, Bolshaya, and Malaya Laba, Urushtena, Kurdzhipsa, Pshakha, Pshisha, and others, the lizards

ascend at places almost up to the watershed, but do not cross the southern slopes of the mountain into northern Abkhazia. The southern boundary of the range from the west to the east passes along the Black Sea slopes of Bolshoy Kavkaz, gradually descending to the sea, and from Tuapsa along the coast extending up to the lower gorge of the Bayaba River (fig. 10, 3). In the east, in the valley of Kuban, it is sympatric with the nominate form and on the southern slopes of Bolshoy Kavkaz sympatric with L. s. brauneri. In the upper reaches of the prominent tributaries of Kuban, L. s. darevskii occurs with L. caucasica alpina.

Geographical variation. Samples from 2 populations from the river gorge of the Mzytma in the Adler region and from the vicinity of the village Mikhailovskii Pass in the extreme western Glavnyi mountain separated by distance of 175 km were examined. Moreover, the data of N. N. Shcherbal (1962a) who analyzed the samples from around Tuapse and Maikop, 96 km apart were also used (table 5).

As may be seen from fig. 17, the samples from Adler and Mikhailovskii Pass differ from each other only slightly in all the characters whereas the Maikop and, in part, the Tuapse populations deviate strongly with an increase in number of scales around the midbody, along the midline of the throat, and the number of femoral pores. Thus, one may reasonably assume that these characteristics show a clinal increase from south to north.

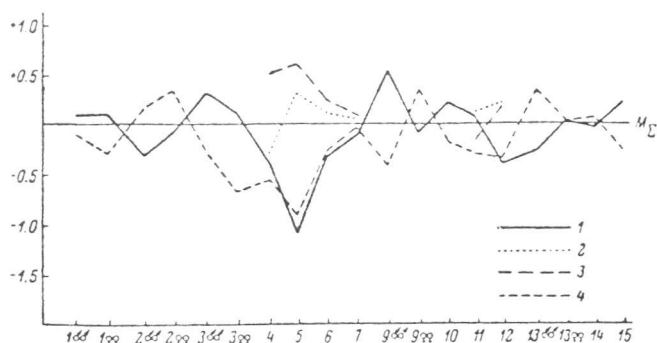


Fig. 17. Summary graph of the variations of L. s. darevskii.

1 - Mikhailovskii Pass; 2 - Tuapse; 3 - Maikop; 4 - Adler.

Comparative notes. The independence of the subspecies under consideration was established by N. N. Shcherbak (1962a) who showed its distinct difference from the lizards of the Crimea and the neighboring area of Kislovodsk. In all probability, the specimens from Northern Caucasus (gorge of the Beia River, around Navaginsk, Psebaya, Maikop, and Tuapse)

Table 5

Geographical variation of *Lacerta saxicola darevskii*

Characters	Mikhailovskii Pass (Krasnodar territory) $\overline{M} \pm m$ N = 18 (8 ♂♂, 10 ♀♀) ♀		Around Tuapse (Sichabak, 1962) N = 20 (11 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀)		Around Malkop (Sichabak, 1962 92), N = 44 (18 ♂♂, 26 ♀♀)	
	Range of variation	$M \pm m$	Range of variation	$M \pm m$	Range of variation	$M \pm m$
1 ♂♂	66-73	70.25 ± 0.82	max 83.0	—	max 75.2	—
1 ♀♀	60-71	64.5 ± 1.12	max 78.5	—	max 69.7	—
2 ♂♂	121-148	137.14 ± 2.7	max 179.0	—	max 142.0	—
2 ♀♀	108-113	110.5 ± 2.5	max 122.2	—	max 121.0	—
3 ♂♂	0.49-0.59	0.51 ± 0.01	} 0.44-0.58	—	0.44-0.58	—
3 ♀♀	0.58-0.58	0.58 ± 0.00		—	—	—
4	55-61	57.44 ± 0.41	50-66	58.0 ± 0.98	55-70	61.2 ± 0.5
5	23-30	27.39 ± 0.37	26-35	31.8 ± 0.5	27-38	32.6 ± 0.3
6	17-21	19.39 ± 0.24	16-24	20.3 ± 0.4	17-25	20.3 ± 0.2
7	10-13	11.17 ± 0.23	8-16	11.7 ± 0.5	9-15	11.8 ± 0.5
9 ♂♂	22-24	23.38 ± 0.26	—	—	—	—
9 ♀♀	24-25	24.7 ± 0.15	—	—	—	—
10	2-3	2.67 ± 0.11	1-2	—	1-2	—
11	3-5	3.83 ± 0.14	2-5	3.4 ± 0.2	2-5	3.2 ± 0.09
11a	—	—	4, 8	—	12.0	—
12	2-3	2.39 ± 0.11	2-5	3.4 ± 0.2	2-5	3.4 ± 0.10
13 ♂♂	3-4	3.6 ± 0.08	2-5	—	—	—
13 ♀♀	3-3	3.0 ± 0.00	3-3	3.0 ± 0.00	3-3	3.0 ± 0.00
14	16-17	16.44 ± 0.17	—	—	—	—
15	5-6	5.27 ± 0.10	—	—	—	—

Characters	Around Adler, N = 16 (10 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀)		Subspecies as a whole N = 98 (47 ♂♂, 51 ♀♀)	
	Range of variation	M ± m	Range of variation	M ± m
1 ♂♂	64-75	69.60 ± 0.10	64-83	69.89 ± 0.29
1 ♀♀	60-66	62.83 ± 0.83	60-78.5	63.87 ± 0.39
2 ♂♂	130-155	141.5 ± 2.60	121-179	139.56 ± 0.79
2 ♀♀	104-118	113.0 ± 3.18	104-122.2	114.44 ± 0.49
3 ♂♂	0.46-0.53	0.49 ± 0.01	0.46-0.59	0.50 ± 0.003
3 ♀♀	0.54-0.58	0.56 ± 0.008	0.54-0.58	0.57 ± 0.001
4	54-59	56.69 ± 0.27	50-70	59.42 ± 0.36
5	24-30	28.00 ± 0.45	23-38	30.73 ± 0.28
6	14-21	19.41 ± 0.39	14-25	11.97 ± 0.14
7	10-13	11.44 ± 0.25	8-16	11.60 ± 0.25
9 ♂♂	20-24	22.30 ± 0.36	20-24	22.78 ± 0.11
9 ♀♀	24-26	25.0 ± 0.25	24-26	24.81 ± 0.05
10	2-3	2.43 ± 0.12	1-3	2.56 ± 0.04
11	2-4	3.1 ± 0.15	2-5	3.34 ± 0.07
11a	37.5	—	—	—
12	2-4	2.39 ± 0.44	2-5	2.85 ± 0.10
13 ♂♂	3-4	3.35 ± 0.15	3-4	3.22 ± 0.04
13 ♀♀	3-3	3.0 ± 0.00	3-3	3.00 ± 0.00
14	16-18	16.56 ± 0.53	16-18	16.50 ± 0.05
15	4-6	4.93 ± 0.16	4-6	5.11 ± 0.05
				2.88
				3.17
				7.82
				4.93
				0.033
				0.013
				3.60
				2.97
				1.48
				2.51
				1.12
				0.56
				0.49
				0.71
				—
				1.03
				0.41
				0.00
				0.54
				0.58

described by Méhely (1909) as *L. saxicola*, f. *typica* and also part of the specimens from the Caucasian Forest Reserve identified by Bartenev and Reznikova (1935) as *L.s. braueri* and *L.s. saxicola* also belong to this subspecies.

Specimens examined. Krasnodar territory: ZIL 14414 (1), Tuapse; 17424 (20), Mzymta River gorge, 16 km above Adler; 17876 (14), Sochi; 17954 (10), Caucasian Forest Reserve, Kisha River 17955 (2), Caucasian Forest Reserve, Khamyshki; 17958 (2), Caucasian Forest Reserve, Khamyshki; 17958 (3), Goriachii Klyuch; 17967 (1), Solokh-Aul, 17972 (2), Kisha River. Caucasian Forest Reserve. Karachai-Cherkess Autonomous Region: 17975 (3), Teberda Gnachkhir River.

Lacerta saxicola daghestanica nom. n
(fig. 18; photo. 13)

L. saxicola gracilis Méhely, 1909:555; Nikolskii, 1913:80 -- *muralis* var. *caucasica*, Boulenger (part.), 1913:198. -- *saxicola caucasica*. Nikolskii (part), 1915: 380; Lantz and Cyren (part.) 1936: 165; Tereniev and Chernov, 1949:188.

Holotype. Not designated. Described by Méhely (1909) from Daghestan and Northern Caucasus specimens.

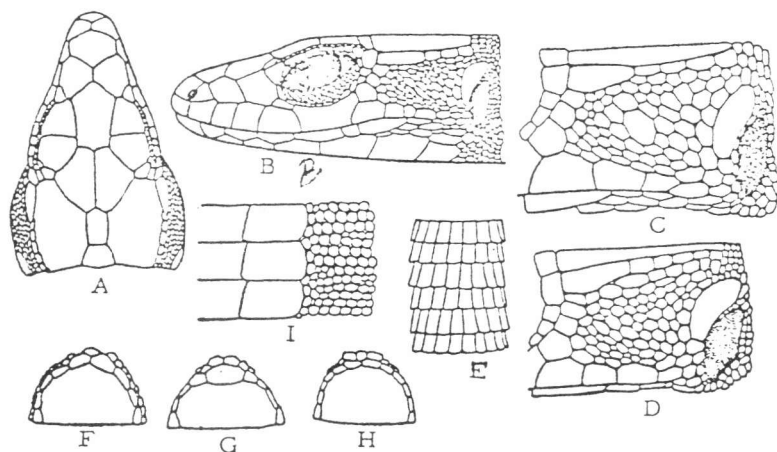


Fig. 18. Major scalation of *L. s. daghestanica*.

A - Head, dorsal view; B - head, lateral; C, D - temporal region; E - dorsal anterior third of tail; F, G, H - anal region; I - contact zone between dorsal and ventral scales of females. C, E - gorge of Bolshaya Liakhva River, remainder from Daghestan).