

Darevskia defilippii (CAMERANO, 1877)
Alborz Lizard

Global range: Iran.

Distribution in Iran: Provinces of Alborz, Ardabil, Gilan, Mazandaran, Qazvin, Tehran, and Zanjan.

Biology: The Alborz Lizard lives on loose rocky and gritty slopes and rocky outcrops at the north and south of Alborz Range. The dominant vegetation in the habitat of this lizard includes shrubs with a height of 2 metres,





Fig. 201: Mating *Darevskia defilippii* in Lar National Park, Mazandaran Province.

Benny TRAPP



Figs. 202–203: The venter of *Darevskia defilippii* is brick red. The flanks bear blue blotches (above). The dorsal surface is cinnamon, olive or brownish-grey with dark brown or black spots (below).

Omid MOZAFFARI (above), Kamran KAMALI (below)

where they are found at the southern slope at the upper margin of Hyrcania forests. This species has been observed at elevations varying from below sea level in Chalus up to 3,355 m a.s.l. The Alborz Lizard is dependent on the presence of waterbodies and is not found far away from them.

Size: Snout–vent length 58 mm, tail length 116 mm.

Reproduction: Oviparous.

Status: Common.

Conservation status: IUCN: Least Concern, CITES: –, National: Non-protected.

Diet: Arachnids and insects.

Activity pattern: Diurnal.