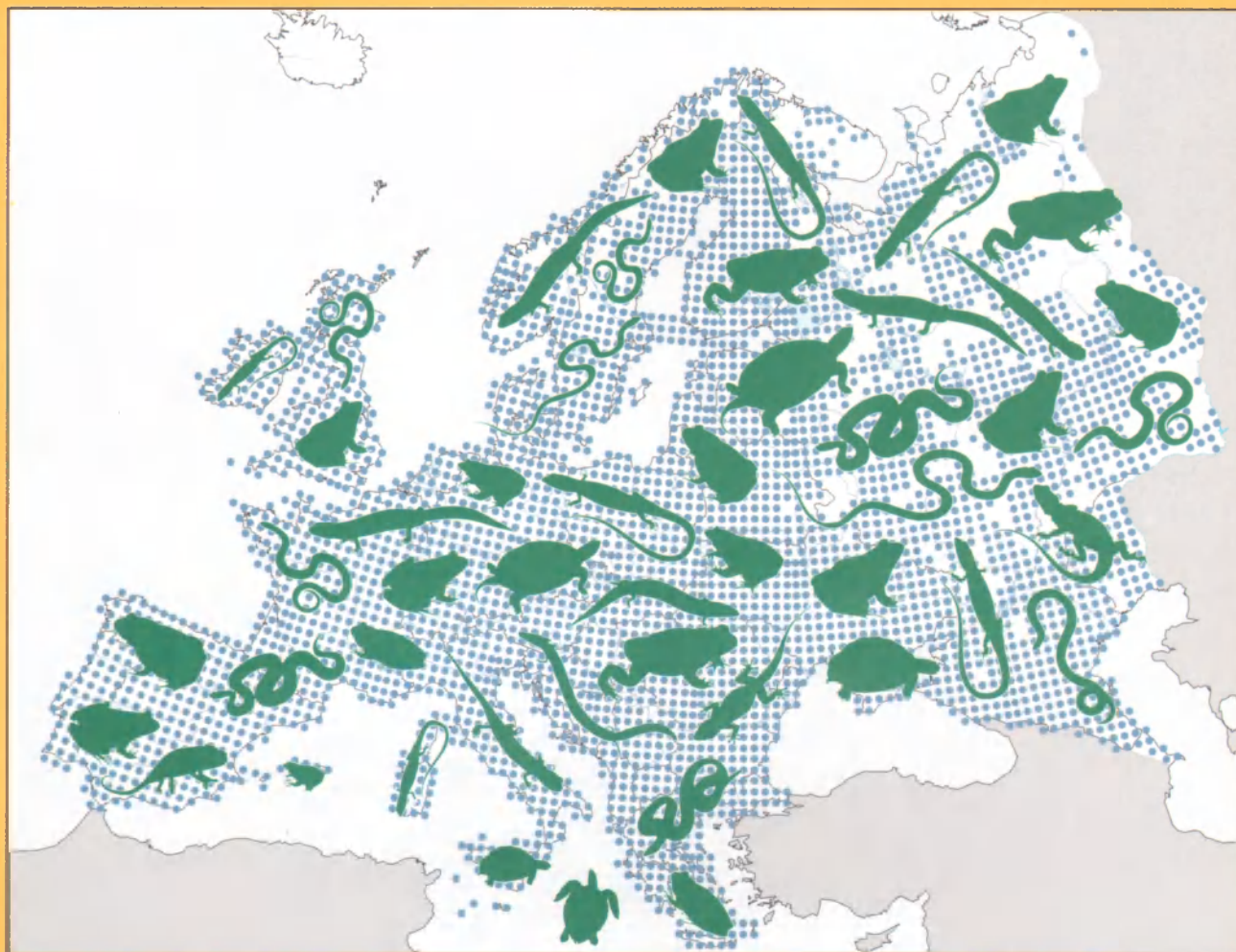


ATLAS OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES IN EUROPE



SOCIETAS EUROPAEA HERPETOLOGICA

MUSEUM NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE

Institut d'Ecologie et de Gestion de la Biodiversité

Service du Patrimoine Naturel



Lacerta derjugini Nikolsky, 1898

Main synonyms

None.

Common names

GB : Derjugin's lizard ; F : Lézard de Derjugin ; D : Artwiner Eidechse, Derjugins Eidechse ;
RUS : Artvinskaya yashcheritsa, Yashcheritsa Derjugina.

Terra typica

Artwin, Northeastern Turkey.

European subspecies

Lacerta derjugini silvatica Bartenef & Reznikova, 1931 : cordon Lagerniy in the Caucasian State Biosphere reserve (terra typica) and northern slopes of Western Caucasus. *Lacerta derjugini boehmei* Bischoff, 1982 : Akhun mountain, near Sochi (terra typica) and Black Sea coast of Krasnodar region. The intraspecific structure of *Lacerta derjugini* in general needs revision.



Distribution

Orlova (1978) and Orlova & Bischoff (1984) locate the range of *Lacerta derjugini silvatica* beside that of the type locality in cordon Kisha, in the village of Guzeripl and the bison park near cordon Kisha. All these findings are in the basin of the Belaya River (Krasnodar region) on the northern slope of the Northwestern Caucasus. Beyond the known area, *Lacerta derjugini silvatica* occurs in the Oshten and Djuga mountains and the Shakhgirey gorge of the Malaya Laba River.

The distribution of *Lacerta derjugini boehmei* was recorded in the vicinity of Sochi, and eastward to the Kodor River along the Black Sea coast. The westernmost localities where *Lacerta derjugini boehmei* is present in Europe are the Ashe River and the mountains of Hakudj, Bekeshey, Grachev Venetz (in the vicinity of Lazarevskoye, Krasnodar region, Russia).

In the Asian part of its range, *Lacerta derjugini* lives in Abkhazia, Western Georgia, Adjaria, Eastern Georgia and Lazistan, in Turkey. Separate populations occur in Northeastern Georgia and adjacent Azerbaijan up to Lagodekhi-Zakataly. Like all Colchis herp-species, *Lacerta derjugini* is present in four refuges (Colchis, Bjelo-Labinsky, Kakhetinsky and Borjomsky), its existence determined by natural factors of high order. These are the areas with slightly modified climatic conditions (since the Pliocene) characterized by modern crossing of the January -3°C isotherm and the 800 mm isohyet.

Altitudinal distribution

Lacerta derjugini silvatica populates mesophilous flood plains, beech and fir tree forests from 600 m up to 1300 m, occasionally up to 1600 m. *Lacerta derjugini boehmei* inhabits all types of forests, except xerophilous formations on the sea shore. The altitudinal distribution of this subspecies is broader than that of the former and it lives from 300 m up to sub-alpine meadows at altitudes over 1700 m. Outside Europe, it is found from sea-level in Adjaria, from 700 m in Lagodekhi-Zakataly, up to 1800 m in Trialetsky ridge.

Populations status and conservation problems

Lacerta derjugini is a narrow-distributed peripheral species in Europe. The whole of the European range is protected in the Caucasian State Biosphere Reserve and the Sochi State Natural National Park. *Lacerta derjugini* is quite common throughout this area.

Special references

MONOGRAPHS : Orlova & Bischoff (1984).

DISTRIBUTION : Derjugin (1901), Nesterov (1912), Terentjev & Cernov (1949), Muskhelishvili (1970), Clark & Clark (1973), Orlova (1973 b), Bischoff & Engelmann (1976), Alekperov (1978), Tuniyev (1983, 1985, 1990).

SYSTEMATICS : Nikolsky (1898), Bartenef & Reznikova (1931), Orlova (1975, 1978 b), Bischoff (1982 b, 1984 c).

BIOLOGY : Orlova (1969), Bogdanova (1976 a, 1976 b), Orlova & Smirina (1983), Tuniyev (1987).

B. TUNIYEV



Total number of squares : 5 0,11 %

◦ before 1970 :	0	• after 1970 :	5	100,00 %
× extinct :	0	▲ introduced :	0	