## Lacerta bendimahiensis SCHMIDTLER-EISELT-DAREVSKY, 1994 Bendimahi Lizard

**Identification:** Total length up to 19 cm. Rostral does not contact external nares; a single postnasal; 4 supralabials in front of subocular. 47-53 rows of dorsal scales at mid-trunk; ventrals in 6 longitudinal rows; femoral pores between 15-16. The dorsum is brownish-gray with irregular thick blackish wavy transverse markings. Flanks blackish-brown with numerous small blue maculations. The venter is whitish, the outer ventral plates bluish or blackish.

**Habitat & Biology:** Prefers stony or rocky grasslands close to water bodies. Feeds on insects and soft bodied invertebrates. Parthenogenetically a female lays around 2 eggs.

**Distribution:** According to the present knowledge, it is endemic to Turkey, its range extending from NE parts of Vilayet Van to the SE region of Vilayet Ağrı in E Anatolia; with a vertical distribution between 1800-2300 m.



51. Lacerta bendimahiensis