Individual quality, parasites, home-range: harem size in green lizards (*Lacerta viridis*)

O.R. MOLNÁR & K. BAJER

Pazmany P. setany 1/c, H-1117 Budapest, Hungary; savellion@gmail.com, cascadis@gmail.com

Territorial behavior is present in many species of reptiles. In these cases, morphological, colour and other attributes of the individual may carry information about the size of the territory, and thereby affect mate-choice and reproductive success. We investigated the relationship between the size of territory and individual quality in the green lizard (*Lacerta viridis*). Recent observations showed strong territorial behaviour. Observations were made in the breeding seasons of 2005 and 2006. In addition to territory size, we also determined the number of females to be found on each male's territory as an estimate of the number of the male's potential reproductive partners. Ectoparasite load, colour and morphological characters did not correlate with the size of the territory. Parasite load showed negative correlation with the number of reproductive partners, while colour, morphological variables and territory size correlated positively with the number of females. In addition we found positive correlation between the robustness of males and their asymmetry, which may suggest that, contrary to many previous findings, asymmetry may be a neutral property in this case, or a cost of robustness. However, the intensity of blue colour on the throat showed positive correlation with the above-mentioned index for robustness. According to these results, though territory size cannot be predicted by morphological and colour characteristics, individual characteristics do predict the number of the male's potential reproductive partners.