to such a specific character as the number of enlarged preanals (character 10) and is not the result of a reduction of the number of scales themselves, but due to an increase in the size of the middle one which is normally characteristic of L.s. portschinskii, a near bisexual form. There is also a similarity with the latter lizard from Azerbaijan populations with respect to the greater number of femoral pores. As may be seen from fig. 58, the maximum body dimension occurs in specimens from the high-mountain populations on the shore of Lake Sevan, this being associated with the high elevation of their habitat above the sea level.

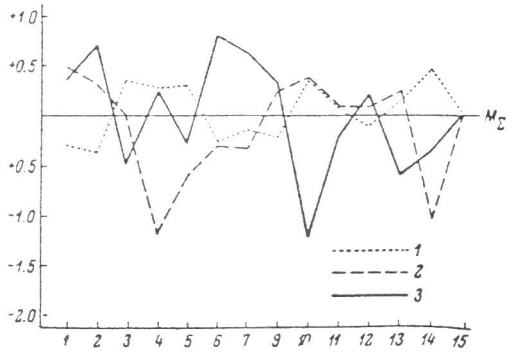

Fig. 58. Summary graph of variation of L. rostombekovi, 1 - Spitak; 2 - Zagalu; 3 - Lake Gei-Gel.

Comparative notes. In many morphological characteristics, the parthenogenetic L. rostombekovi is very similar to the bisexual subspecies L. s. portschinskii forming with it a pair of genetically related forms in the same manner as L. s. nairensis and L. unisexualis.

Specimens examined. Armenia: ZIL 16678 (18), gorge of Debed River around Spitak town; 16911 (4), Papanino around Dilizhan; 17099 (11), around Kirovakan; 17455 (4), Zagalu, northeastern shore of Lake Sevan; 17785 (15); Spitak; 17791 (7), Zagalu, shore of Lake Sevan; ZIA, (6), ♂ around Idzhevan. Azerbaijan; ZIL 17510 (6), around Lake Gei-Gel, Kirovabad region.

Lacerta unisexualis Darevsky
(Table II C, Fig.59; Photo. 7)

L. saxicola defilippii, Chernov, 1939:111; Darevsky, 1957:28.-- saxicola defilippi (parthenogenetic race), Darevsky and Kulikova, 1961: 153; Darevsky, 1962:402.-- unisexualis, Darevsky, 1966b:148, Plate 1, Fig. 21.

Holotype-- ZIL, Academy of Sciences, USSR, 17929, ♀, around Razdan (Akhta), about 1800 m above sea level, July 24, 1963, collected by I. S. Darevsky (Fig. 7D).

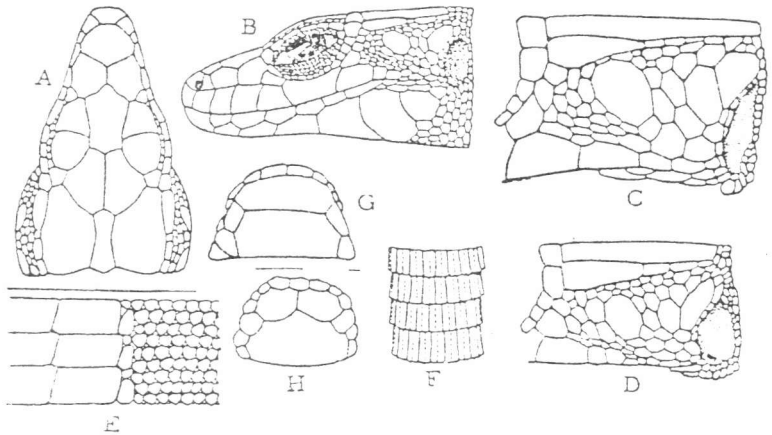

Fig. 59. Major scalation of L. unisexualis.

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

Description -- The frontonasal is somewhat wider than or equal to its length. The rostral reaches the prefrontal through a welldeveloped suture as a result of which both the anterior nasals are separated from each other (this state is highly characteristic of the species as a whole and is seen in 19.8 percent of specimens). The suture between the frontonasal and postnasal is usually equal in length to that between the anterior and posterior nasals. The sutures between the prefrontal and frontal are straight. The supraciliaries and supraoculars are separated on each side by a continuous-rarely a broken - row of 7 - 13 granules. The upper postorbital, generally, clearly touches the parietal. The first supratemporal is moderately long and blunt posteriorly; posterior of it, there are 2 - 5 tiny subequal posttemporals. Usually the small midtemporal is separated on each side from the supratemporal by 1 - 3 transverse rows of tiny scales. Between the large tympanic and the midtemporal, there are 2 - 4 slightly enlarged scales. The collar is straight or very faintly serrated. Along the midline of the throat up to the collar, there are 24 - 31 scales. The body scales are smooth, prominent, being somewhat larger laterally. Around midbody there are 50 - 55 scales rows. The pectoral and ventral scales set in 26 - 29 transverse rows touch on each side of the body with 2, rarely 3, body scales, the posterior of which is noticeably enlarged. Anterior of the large anal, 2, extremely rarely one, enlarged preanals are arranged

symmetrically. The femoral pores number 16 - 21. On the underside of the thigh, between the pores and outer row of enlarged scales, 5 - 6 transverse rows of tiny scales are arranged. The dorsal scales on the crus are smooth or have faint keels and do not exceed the size of the spinal scales. Around the middle of the right crus, 16 - 21 scales are arranged in single file. The scales on the anterior third of the tail have keels dorsally and more prominent ones laterally. Some scales project backward a low acute angle or are truncate. The snout-vent length is 56 - 70 mm: the ratio of it to the length of the unregenerated tail is 0.47 - 0.54.

The dorsal coloration varies from beige, gray, brownish-beige, olive gray, pale ochreous, brownish-gray, fawnish-brown, or dark sandy. The entire width on the back is covered by a reticulate pattern consisting of congruent, small, narrow, irregular blotches. The temporal stripes are formed of parallel rows of prominent balck ocelli with whitish centers, the rows joining each other. One of the ocelli at the level of the forelimbs is bluish. The venter is dull white. Bright blue blotches are seen on the outer ventral scales (alternate ones). Frequently, the occipital and temporal stripes are very indistinct.

Geographical distribution. The range of this species is broken into several relatively small populations located on the periphery of the range of L. s. nairensis in Armenia. Isolated populations are known (from west to east) around the town of Leninakan, northwestern, northern, and northeastern slopes of Aragats mountain, the gorge of Pambak River at Spitak, in the gorge of Marmarik River, around Razdan in the valley of Razlan River, and at several points on the shores of Lake Sevan. Stray finds are also known from northeastern Turkey (around the village of Zanzak in Araks valley) (fig.26, 1). In most cases, it is sympatric with the parthenogenetic species L. armeniaca or L. rostombekovi, and at places, as for example around Razdan, it occurs with the main bisexual race (L. s. nairensis). On the western slopes of Aragats mountain, there is a zone of sympatry with L. s. valentini.

Geographical variation. Samples were studied from 3 isolated populations in northern Armenia separated from west to east by 30 and 78 km; 2 of these are on the western and eastern shores of Lake Sevan (Table 25).

The amount of variation of the samples is shown in fig.60 from which it may be seen that all of them differ little from each other in most respects, though some characters do reveal a cline increasing from west to east. It may similarly be pointed out that the specimens from the shores of Lake Sevan are distinguished by a very dark dorsal coloration

Table 25

Geographical variation of Lacerta unisexualis

Characters	Gorge of Marmarik River at village Takyarlu (Armenia), N = 13 ♀♀		Sevan peninsula on Lake Sevan (Armenia), N = 12 ♀♀		Around Basargechar town (northern Armenia), N = 10 ♀♀		Subspecies as a whole, N = 35		
	Range of variation	$M \pm m$	Range of variation	$M \pm m$	Range of variation	$M \pm m$	Range of variation	$M \pm m$	σ
1	60—70	64.62±0.77	62—66	64.17±0.36	56—69	62.40±1.05	56—70	63.83±0.46	2.73
2	117—135	128.08±2.81	124—129	126.60±1.03	114—124	119.67±1.40	114—135	125.17±1.05	6.22
3	0.49—0.54	0.51±0.007	0.50—0.52	0.51±0.005	0.47—0.54	0.51±0.01	0.47—0.54	51±0.002	0.017
4	49—54	51.85±0.46	50—55	51.83±0.36	51—53	52.00±0.30	49—55	51.89±0.21	1.27
5	24—28	26.31±0.35	26—31	28.17±0.47	27—29	28.20±0.63	24—31	27.49±0.26	1.56
6	18—20	18.96±0.18	16—21	18.21±0.36	16—20	17.85±0.27	16—21	18.38±0.17	1.05
7	7—13	10.35±0.41	8—13	10.88±0.28	8—13	11.20±0.51	7—13	10.77±0.24	1.43
7a	30.7	—	8.3	—	0	—	—	—	—
9	26—29	27.31±0.24	27—28	27.08±0.08	27—28	27.20±0.13	26—29	27.20±0.09	0.59
10	1—2	1.85±0.10	1—2	1.92±0.08	2—2	2.00±0.00	1—2	1.92±0.05	0.29
11	2—3	2.61±0.13	2—3	2.46±0.14	2—4	2.90±0.17	2—4	2.64±0.09	0.54
12	2—4	2.92±0.19	2—4	2.88±0.17	3—5	3.85±0.18	2—5	3.17±0.12	0.75
13	2—3	2.08±0.07	2—2	2.00±0.00	2—2	2.00±0.00	2—3	2.03±0.03	0.17
14	16—19	17.85±0.30	18—21	19.25±0.25	18—21	20.10±0.35	16—21	18.97±0.23	1.37
15	5—6	5.31±0.13	5—6	5.75±0.13	5—6	5.70±0.15	5—6	5.57±0.086	0.51

which is evidently related to the altitude of their habitat (2000 m above sea level).

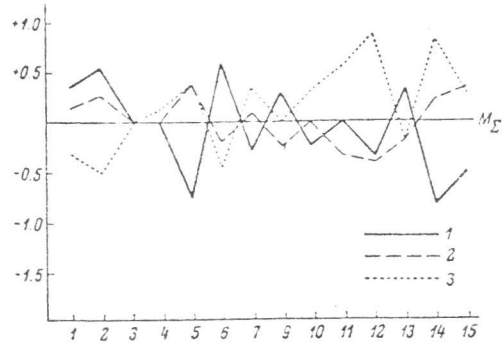

Fig. 60. Summary graph of variation of L. unisexualis.

1 - Gorge of river Marmarik; 2 - Sevan peninsula; 3 - Basargechar

Comparative notes. We have shown before (Darevsky, 1962) that the bisexual subspecies L. s. defilippii (= L. s. nairensis) widely distributed in Armenia and northeastern Turkey has also a morphologically distinct parthenogenetic race possessing on independent distribution. Later, in accordance with the views expressed before,( ) this parthenogenetic race was described as an independent agamic species L. unisexualis (Darevsky, 1966a).

Specimens examined. Armenia: ZIL 14375 (1), Gyunei, northern bank of Sevan lake, 14383 (3), Shordzha, northern bank of Sevan Lake; 14380 (3), Leninakan; 14399 (7), Shordzha, northern bank of Lake Sevan; 15403 (2), Kavtarly, Artik region; 16982 (8), Tsamakaberd, western bank of Sevan lake; 17465 (3), between villages Tsovak and Karchakhpiur, eastern bank of Lake Sevan; 17734 (18), around Basargecha. 17804 (6), Takyarlu, gorge of Marmarik River; 17832 (6), Takyarlu, gorge of Marmarik River; 17832 (6), Razdan, right bank of Razdan River; ZIA (4), Noraduz, Nor-Bayazet region; (12) around Artik town; (4) Apnagiug, Aparan region; (3) gorge of Pambak River above Spitak. Turkey (northeastern): ZIL 17970 (1), Zanzak, Erzerum vilayet.

SPECIES OF PROBABLE HYBRID ORIGIN

Lacerta mixta Méhely, 1909
(Fig. 5D, 61; Photo 20)

L. muralis, Boettger, 1893: 83.-- Lacerta derjugini Nik. x Lacerta saxicola Eversm. = Lacerta mixta Méhely, 1909:581.-- Nikolskii, 1913:82; 1915:384; Mertens, 1922:173. -- saxicola mixta, Lantz and Cyren, 1936:165.