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THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MACINAGGIO ISLETS (NORTHEASTERN CORSICA) WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE HERPETOFAUNA (*)

Abstract. — This paper gives some notes on the geography, geology, botany and zoology of the Macinaggio Islets (northeastern Corsica), which until now have been practically unknow. The small archipelago is formed of the Isolotto di Terra, Isolotto di Mezzo and Isolotto Finocchiarola and was probably isolated from Corsica 5-6000 years ago. The herpetofauna consists of the Gekkonids *Phyllodactylus europaeus* Gené and *Tarentola mauritanica mauritanica* L. and a new, ventrally reddish subspecies of the wall-lizard: *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii.*

Riassunto. — *Storia naturale degli isolotti di Macinaggio (Corsica nord-orientale) con particolare riferimento alla loro erpetofauna.*

Gli autori danno brevi notizie geografiche, geologiche, botaniche e zoologiche sugli Isolotti di Macinaggio (Corsica nord-orientale), che sinora erano praticamente sconosciuti. Il piccolo arcipelago è formato da tre isolotti, che probabilmente rimasero isolati dalla Corsica soltanto 5-6000 anni fa.

La loro erpetofauna comprende i Geconidi *Phyllodactylus europaeus* Gené e *Tarentola mauritanica mauritanica* L. e una nuova sottospecie, ventralmente rossastra, di lucertola muraiola: *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii.*

I. - Introduction.

The Macinaggio Islets lie about 3 km NNE of Macinaggio (Capo Corso, NE Corsica) and are a continuation of the northern portion (61 m above sea level) of the Tamarone Peninsula (112 m above sea level), from which they are separated by a channel less than 5 m deep. From a consideration of the sea-level oscillation curve given by FAIRBRIDGE (1960, Fig. 76, not very different from that modified by HOLMES, 1965, p. 696, Fig. 522) and since there have presumably been no relatively recent im-

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portant vertical movements, one can assume that the islets were isolated 5-6000 years ago. All three islets are included in the 5 m depth contour.

They consist mainly of Tertiary tectonic breccias and, in the two minor islets at least, of arenaceous and shaly flysch Corsican « Ligurid » (Upper Cretaceous-Paleocene?) (LAPORTE, 1954, pp. 82-84, Fig. 1; COCOZZA, JACOBACCI, NARDI & SALVATORI, 1974, p. 184, Fig. 52).

Heading east the archipelago comprises the Isolotto di Terra, the Isolotto di Mezzo and the Isolotto Finocchiarola. These were explored on 29 September 1972, 26 July 1973 and 1 August 1974. Since little or nothing is known of their natural history, we believe the following results are worthy of mention.

We wish to thank Mrs. Paola Lanza Giorgio, Drs. Rodolfo Simoni, Paolo Innocenti, Mario Rossi and Stefano Turillazzi as well as the boys Marco Lanza, Luca Moggi and Riccardo Simoni for their invaluable help in collecting on the islets, Dr. R. A. Avery (Department of Zoology, University of Bristol) for checking the English, Prof. R. Nardi (Istituto di Zoologia dell'Università di Pisa) for the geological data provided, and the following colleagues for having determined the collected material: Prof. S. Pignatti (Istituto di Botanica, Università di Trieste: plants of the genus *Limonium*), Mr. C. Ricceri (Istituto Botanico, Università di Firenze: plants), Dr. P. Ardoin (Arcachon: Coleoptera Tenebrionidae), Dr. C. Baroni Urbani (Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel: Hymenoptera Formicidae), Dr. F. Capra (Istituto di Zoologia, Università di Siena: Insecta Orthopteroidea), Dr. D. Caruso (Istituto di Biologia Animale, Università di Catania: Crustacea Isopoda), Dr. F. Giusti (Istituto di Zoologia, Università di Siena: Mollusca Gastropoda), Prof. A. Servadei (Istituto di Entomologia Agraria, università di Padova: Insecta Heteroptera) and Dr. Vigna Taglianti (Istituto di Zoologia, Università di Roma: Coleoptera Carabidae).

II. - The Macinaggio Islets (Figs. 1-6).

1. - ISOLOTTO DI TERRA (Figs. 1-4).

Geographic position: about 200 m E of the northern portion of the Tamarone Peninsula (43°59'07" N - 9°28'05" E); *maximum elevation*: about 6 m; *dimension*: 220 × 80 m; *surface* (1): at low tide 8600 m², at high tide 6730 + 1445 m²; *etymology*: Isolotto di Terra = landward islet. At high tide, this low, flat, mostly sandy islet is divided into a small southern portion, about 6 m high, and a larger northern one, about 4 m high. At low tide, the two parts are connected by a narrow isthmus of sand and rocks.

(1) Calculated by superimposing trasparent graph paper over a map scaled at 1:2500 (photographic enlargement of a map scaled at 1:10,000).

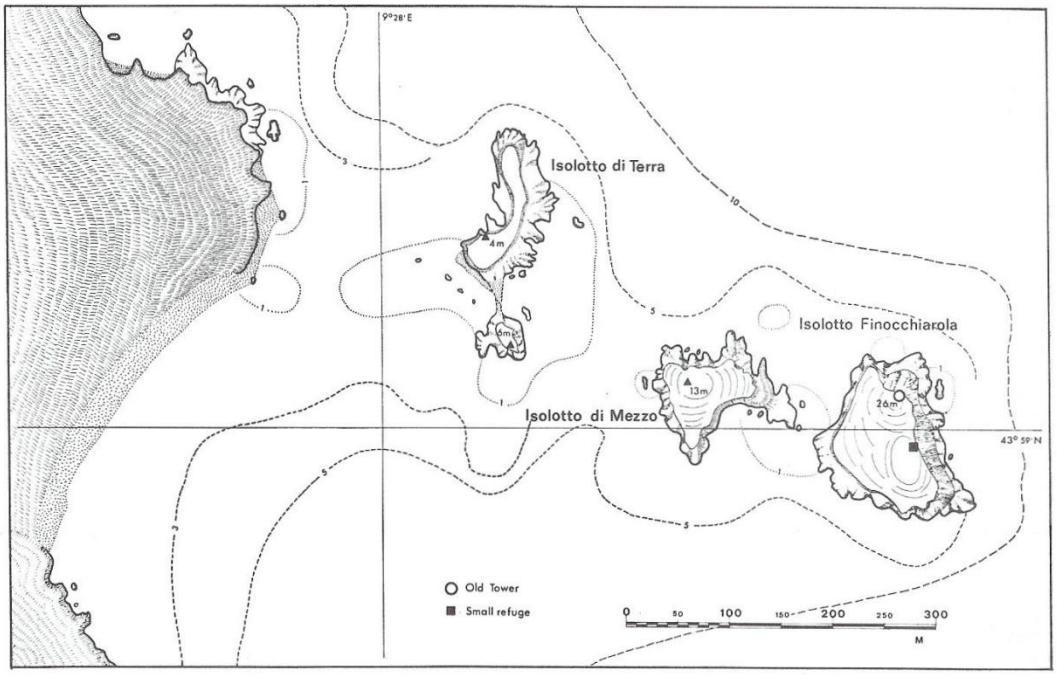

Fig. 1. — Map of Macinaggio Islets.

FLORA. - The low vegetation is composed of *Agropyrum pungens* R. et S., *Catapodium loliaceum* Link., *Dactylis glomerata* L., *Sporobolus pungens* Kunth. (Poaceae), *Allium commutatum* Guss. (2) (Liliaceae), *Pancratium maritimum* L. (Amaryllidaceae), *Atriplex portulacoides* L. (Chenopodiaceae), *Thymelaea hirsuta* Endl. (Thymelaeaceae), *Frankenia*

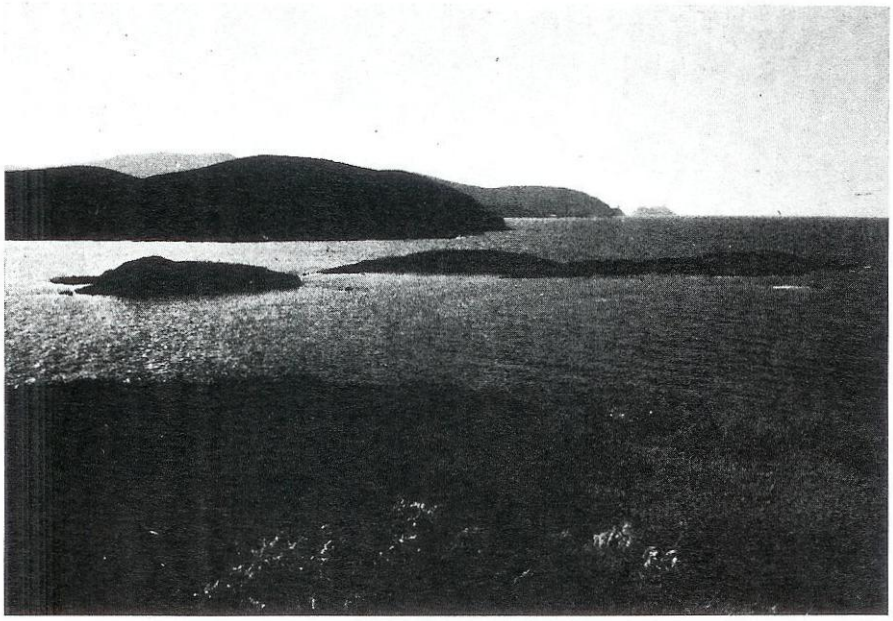

Fig. 2. — Isolotto di terra at high tide, from SE: small southern portion to left, long northern portion to right. In the foreground is the Isolotto di Mezzo; to the extreme right on the horizont is the Giraglia Island (*Photo B. Lanza; 26.VIII.1973*).

hirsuta L., *Frankenia laevis* L. (Frankeniaceae), *Lotus creticus* L., *Lotus* sp. (Phaseolaceae), *Chrithmum maritimum* L., *Daucus carota* L. (group *gingidium* L.) (Umbelliferae), *Limonium articulatum* (Loisel) Kuntze, *Limonium* (cfr. *ramosissimus* Pignatti?), *Limonium* (cfr. X *dolcheri* Pignatti?), *Limonium oleifolium* Miller (Plumbaginaceae), *Plantago macrorrhiza* Poir. (Plantaginaceae), *Anthemis maritima* L., *Helichrysum angustifolium* D.C., *Helichrysum italicum* G. Don, *Senecio cineraria* D.C. (Asteraceae).

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(2) The species from the Cerbicale Islands erroneously cited as *Allium multiflorum* D.C. by LANZA (1972, pp. 356-60-62-66-68) pertains to this species.

FAUNA. - *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii* subsp. n. (abunda *Cernuella* sp. (Mollusca Gastropoda), cockroaches [*Loboptera decipi* (Germar) (Blattidae)], *Lygaeus pandurus* Scop. (Heteroptera Lygaeid. *Pedinus meridianus* Mulsant et Rey (Coleoptera Tenebrionidae), wo lice (Crustacea Isopoda) and ants.

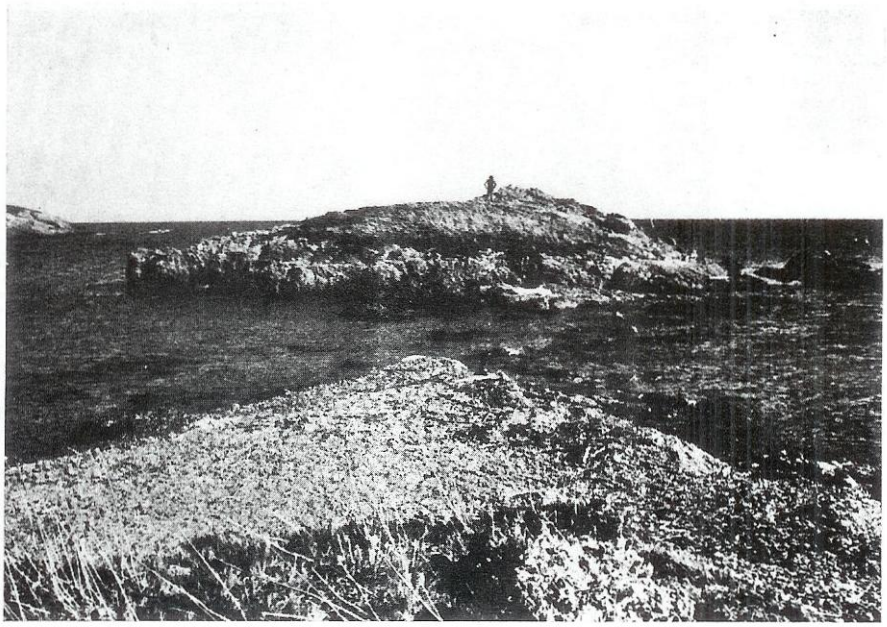

Fig. 3. — Southern portion of Isolotto di Terra at high tide, seen from the northern portion (*Photo B. Lanza; 26.VII.1973*).

2. - ISOLOTTO DI MEZZO (Figs. 1, 5, 6).

Geographic position: about 400 m ESE of the northern portion the Tamarone Peninsula (43°59′02″ N - 9°28′14″ E); *maximum elevatio* 13 m; *dimensions*: 140 × 110 m; *surface*: 7900 m²; *etymology*: Isolot di Mezzo = middle islet (i.e., between Isolotto di Terra and Isolotto F nocchiarola). This is a rocky islet with precipitous coasts except in tl gently sloping and nearly bare eastern portion. The higher part is rath flat and covered by a dense, low vegetation.

FLORA. - *Dactylis glomerata* L. (Poaceae), *Arisarum vulgare* Tar Tozz. (Araceae), *Allium* sp. (Liliaceae), *Atriplex portulacoides* L. (Ch nopodiaceae), *Chrithmum maritimum* L., *Daucus* sp., *Daucus carota*

(group *gingidium* L.), *Foeniculum vulgare* Mill. (Umbelliferae), *Malva silvestris* L. (Malvaceae), *Limonium oleifolium* subsp. *oleifolium* Mill., *Limonium virgatum* (Willd.) Fourr. subsp. *dictyocladum* (Boiss.) Pignatti (Plumbaginaceae), *Carlina* sp., *Carlina* cfr. *lanata* L., *Helichrysum italicum* G. Don and *Senecio cineraria* D.C. (Asteraceae).

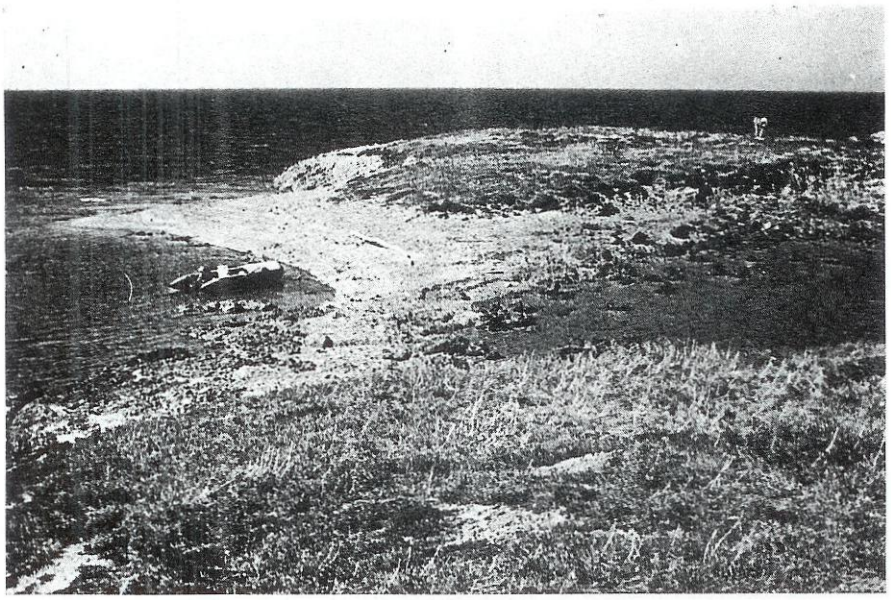

Fig. 4. — Northern portion of Isolotto di Terra at low tide, seen from the southern portion (*Photo B. Lanza; 1.VIII.1974*).

FAUNA. - *Rattus rattus* (L.), *Phyllodactylus europaeus* Gené, *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii* subsp. n., spiders, woodlice, the cricket *Arachnocephalus vestitus* Costa (Gryllidae) and the cockroach *Loboptera decipiens* (Germar) (Blattidae).

3. - ISOLOTTO FINOCCHIAROLA (Figs. 1, 5, 6).

Geographic position: about 570 m ESE of the northern portion of the Tamarone Peninsula (43°59′00″ N - 9°28′20″ E); *maximum elevation*: about 26 m; *dimensions*: 180 × 130 m; *surface*: 14,800 m²; *etymology*: Isolotto Finocchiarola = fennel islet (*Foeniculum vulgare* which grows on the islet). This is a rocky islet with precipitous coasts, especially on the eastern side, and covered by a low, rather dense vegetation.

FLORA. - *Brachypodium pinnatum* P.B. var. *ramosum* (E. et S.) Fiori, *Dactylis glomerata* L. (Poaceae), *Arisarum vulgare* Targ. Tozz. (Araceae), *Allium ampeloprasum* L., *Allium commutatum* Guss., *Allium* sp. (Liliaceae), *Parietaria officinalis* L. (Urticaceae), *Atriplex portulacoides* L. (Chenopodiaceae), *Silene* sp. (Dianthaceae), *Lepidium graminifolium*

Fig. 5. — Isolotto di Mezzo from S. The Corsican coast is to the left, and the Isolotto Finocchiarola is to the right (*Photo B. Lanza; 26.VII.1973*).

L. var. *suffruticosum* (L.) Fiori (Brassicaceae), *Clematis flammula* L. var. *maritima* (L.) Fiori (Ranuncolaceae), *Vicia* sp. (Phaseolaceae), *Chrithmum maritimum* L., *Daucus carota* L. (group *gingidium* L.), *Foeniculum vulgare* Mill. (Umbelliferae), *Malva silvestris* L. (Malvaceae), *Heliotropium europaeum* L. (Boraginaceae), *Convolvolus arvensis* L. (Convolvulaceae), *Carlina* sp., *Helichrysum italicum* G. Don and *Senecio cineraria* D.C. (Asteraceae).

FAUNA. - *Rattus rattus* (L.), *Tarentola mauritanica mauritanica* L., *Phyllodactylus europaeus* Gené, *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii* subsp. n., terrestrial snails, woodlice, Chilopoda, cockroaches [*Loboptera decipiens* (Germar) (Blattidae)], Bombycidae, ants [*Aphaenogaster spinosa*

spinosa Emery (Hymenoptera Formicidae)], Elateridae, Tenebrionidae [*Colpotus godarti* Mulsant et Rey, *Opatrum* (*Opatrum*) *sculpturatum* Fairmaire] and Carabidae (*Ophonus subquadratus* Dej.).

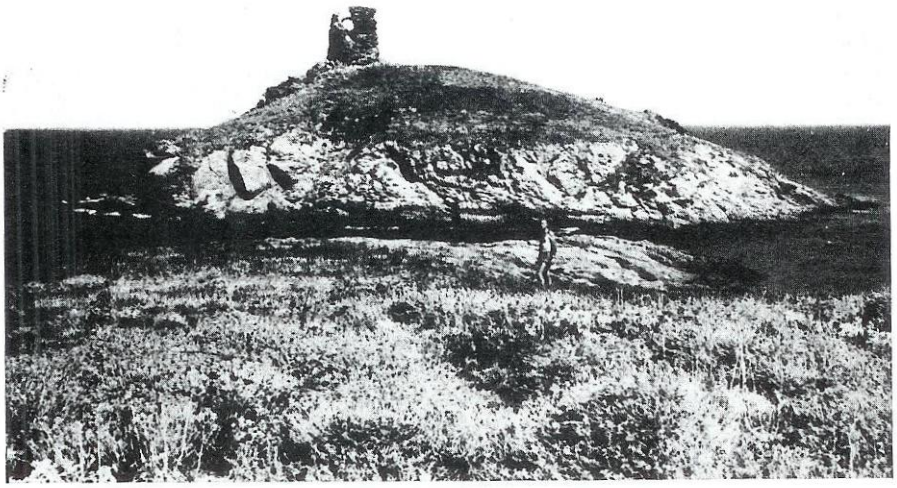

Fig. 6. — Isolotto Finocchiarola from W.; in the foreground is the Isolotto di Mezzo (*Photo B. Lanza; 26.VII.1973*).

III. - Herpetology.

The absence of snakes on all three islets may be regarded as sure.

1. - *Phyllodactylus europaeus* Gené 1838.

Three specimens were collected, two under stones on Isolotto di Mezzo (♂ n. 19728 M.F. ([3]), ♀ n. 19729 M.F.: 1.VIII.1974) and one on Isolotto Finocchiarola (♂ n. 18481 M.F.: 29.IX.1972).

2. - *Tarentola mauritanica mauritanica* (Linnaeus 1785).

Three specimens were collected on Isolotto Finocchiarola (♀ n. 18480 M.F.: 29.IX.1972; ♂ n. 19167 M.F.: 26.VII.1973 [5-6 specimens were seen the same day] and a juv. n. 19780 M.F.: 1.VIII.1974).

([3]) M.F. = Museo Zoologico « La Specola » dell'Università di Firenze.

3. - **Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii** subsp. nova (Figs. 7, 8).

Holotype: ♂ 19200 M.F., Isolotto Finocchiarola; Benedetto and Paol Lanza leg., 26.VII.1973.

Paratypes: 78 specimens: 38 from *Isolotto Finocchiarola* (2 ♂ n. 18714-18715 M.F., 1 ♀ n. 18713 M.F., Rossana Brizzi, Paolo Innocen and Stefano Turillazzi leg. 29.IX.1972; 14 ♂ ♂ n. 19190-19195, 19197-1920

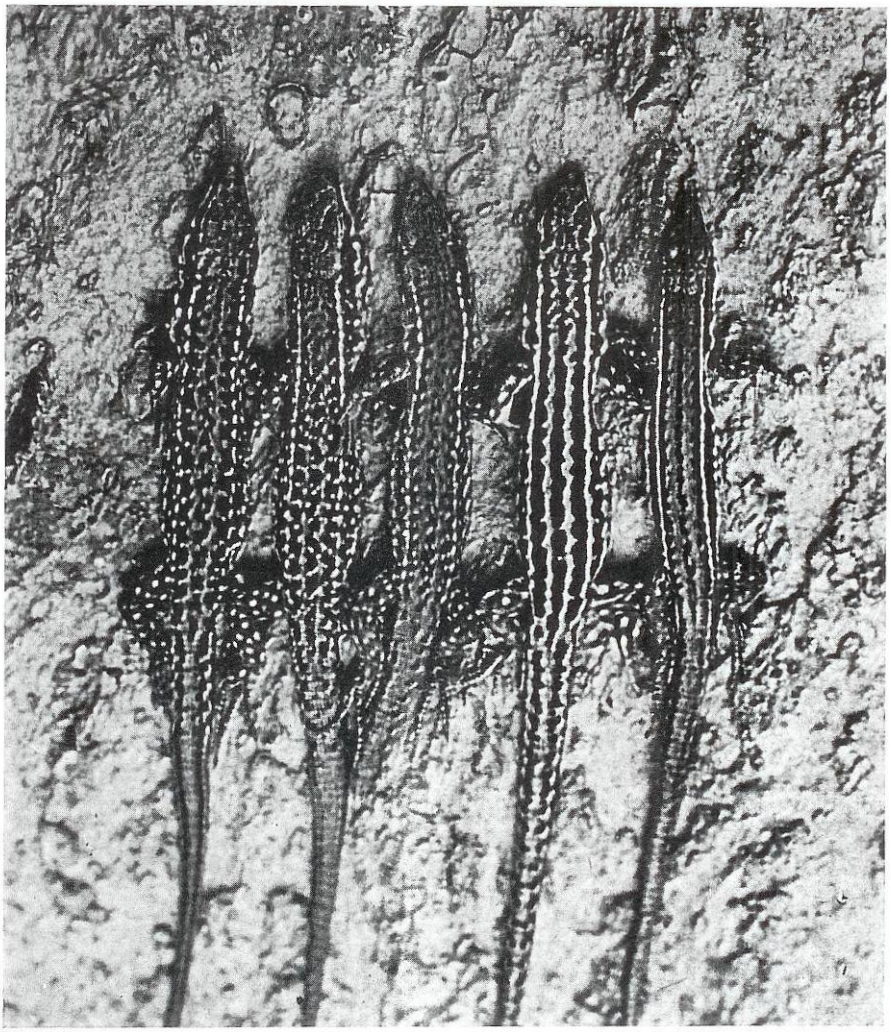

Fig. 7. — *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii* subsp. nova from Isolotto Finocchiarola. From left to right: ♂ ♂ 1900 (holotype, 19201, 19203, 19204, ♀ 19205 (*From a colour slide by B. Lanza*).

M.F., 2 ♀♀ n. 19196, 19205 M. F., same data as for the holotype; 11 ♂♂ n. 19766-19776 M.F., 8 ♀♀ n. 19777-19784 M.F., Rodolfo Simoni and Luca Moggi leg., 1.VIII.1974), 14 specimens from *Isolotto di Mezzo* (2 ♀♀ n. 18711-18712 M.F., Rossana Brizzi, Paolo Innocenti and Stefano Turillazzi leg., 29.IX.1972; 4 ♂♂ n. 19212-19215 M.F., Benedetto and Paola Lanza, Rodolfo and Riccardo Simoni and Mario Rossi leg., 26. VII.1973; 4 ♂♂ n. 19785-19788 M.F., 4 ♀♀ n. 19789-19792 M.F., Benedetto and Marco Lanza, Luca Moggi, Rodolfo and Riccardo Simoni leg., 1.VIII.1974) and 26 specimens from *Isolotto di Terra* (1 ♂ n. 18719 M.F., 3 ♀♀ n. 18716-18718 M.F., Rossana Brizzi, Paolo Innocenti and Stefano Turillazzi leg., 29.IX.1972; 3 ♂♂ n. 19206-19208 M.F., 3 ♀♀ n. 19209-19211 M.F., Benedetto and Paola Lanza, Rodolfo and Riccardo Simoni and Mario Rossi leg., 26.VII.1973; 7 ♂♂ n. 19793-19799 M.F., 9 ♀♀ n. 19800-19808 M.F., Benedetto and Marco Lanza, Luca Moggi and Riccardo Simoni leg., 1.VIII.1974).

Derivatio nominis. - We take pleasure in dedicating this new form to Dr. Rodolfo Simoni (Incisa, Florence) for his decisive collaboration in our research during 1972, 1973 and 1974.

Diagnosis. - A rather small (maximum body length ♂ 60 mm, ♀ 54 mm), striated, dorsally brown insular race of *Podarcis tiliguerta*, almost always yellow and/or reddish ventrally; reddish colours (flesh pink, Naples yellow, apricot, salmon, orange, etc.) are present under the head and/or on the breast and belly in about 72% and 45% of the adult or subadult males and females, respectively.

Description of the holotype. - (Figs. 7, 8). Small, rather platycephalous with some anomalies of the head scutellation: frontonasal touching the rostral, interparietal and occipital fragmented in 4 and 2 parts, respectively; 5/6 supraciliaries; 12 + 1 / 9 + 1 supraciliary granules; 1st supraciliary in contact with the 2nd supraocular; occipital triangular, as long as the interparietal and 2 times wider; 4 supralabials in front of the subocular; *tympanicum* and *massetericum* well developed, the latter divided in 2 parts and separated from the 8/6 supratemporals by 2 rows of temporals; 30 gulars; 9 collar scales; 66 smooth midbody scales; ventrals in 6 longitudinal and 26 transverse rows; 19/20 femoral pores; ?/28 subdigital lamellae under the 4th toe. Pileus dark brown, strongly spotted with black; rostral lighter. Trunk and tail dorsally dark brown with black vertebral and parietal stripes; supraciliary stripes discontinuous and cream coloured. Head laterally spotted with bright yellow, orange and black; temporal region, sides of neck and tail yellow and

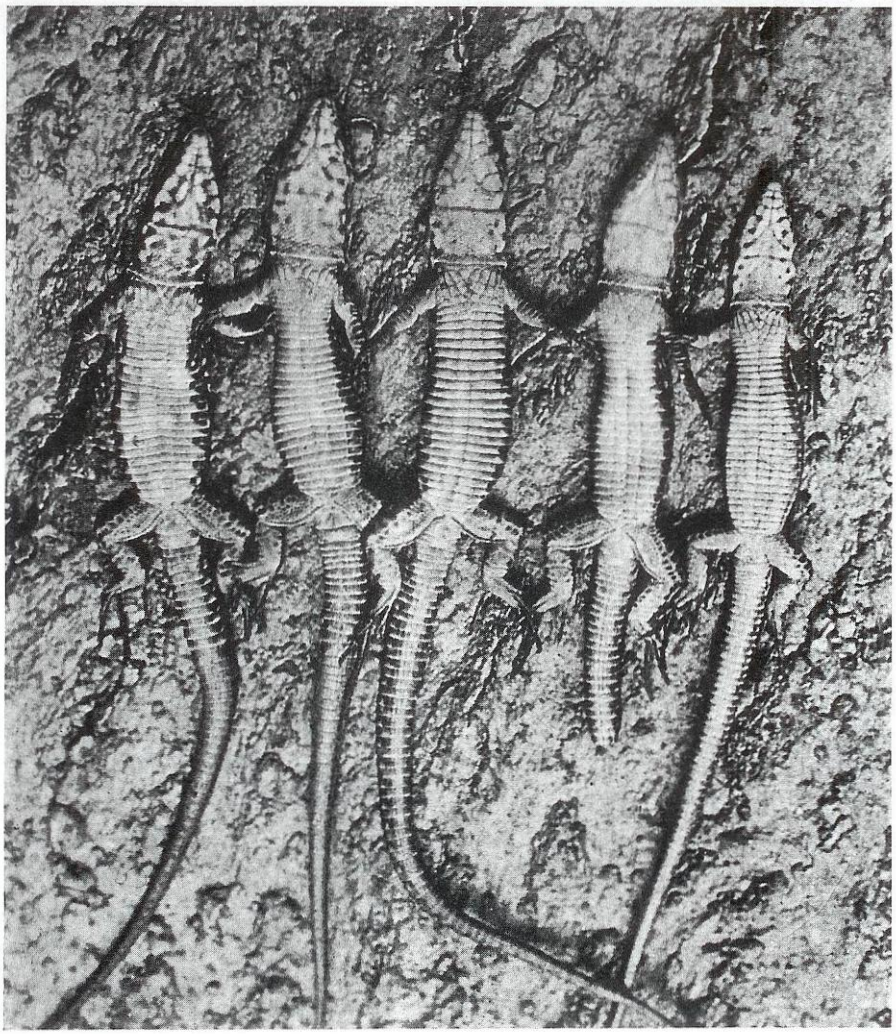

Fig. 8. — *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii* subsp. nova from Isolotto Finocchiarola. From left to right: ♂ ♂ 19200 (holotype), 19201, 19204, 19203, ♀ 19205 (*From a colour slide by B. Lanza*).

black; flanks black with cream and turquise blue (453 S.n. (4)) rounde spots. Mental and submaxillar scales bright yellow and orange; throa orange (196 S.n.) with black dots and bright yellow vermiculations

(4) S.n. = SEGUY'S number « Code Universel des Couleurs » (P. Lechevalie Paris 1936).

breast, belly and ventral sides of the unregenerated portion of the tail orange (196 S.n.); outer ventral rows with black and turquise blue (453 S.n.) spots. Limbs blackish and brown with rounded yellowish spots dorsally, orange ventrally.

Measurements (in mm): from tip of snout to vent = 54; tail regenerated; pileus length = 13.7; width of head = 8.5; depth of head = 6.4; forelimb = 17.4; hindlimb = 28.6. .

TABLE 1. — Ground colour of *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii*.

Legenda:

A. - Collection number. B. - Head + body length (in mm). C. - Ventral ground colour of the throat (*a*), breast (*b*), and belly (*c*); numbers refer to SEGUY'S, « Code universel des couleurs » (P. Lechevalier; Paris; 1936): 196 = orange, 197 = rouge lumière, 199 = jaune de Naples, 203 = isabelle, 205 = incarnat, 211 = orange neutre, 212 = abricot; 213 = ocre jaune, 226 = jaune de cadmium, 246 = terre ocreuse; 247 = ocre orange, 256 = jaune soleil, 338 = cannelle, 340 = mastic.
Some of Seguy's numbers have no corresponding name; in these cases, the colour names given here are purely descriptive. (*) With cinnamon (338) spots. (**) With ochre spots. (***) Throat with orange spots.

A	B	C		
		a	*b*	*c*
ISOLOTTO FINOCCHIAROLA ♂♂ (27 specimens)				
19190	59	cadmium yellow (226) with reddish nuance		
19766	57	orange yellow (211)	dark orange	dark orange
19202	57	orange (196)		
19772	55	orange yellow (211)		
19767	55	orange (196)		
19204	55	whitish	light yellow (244)	
19201	54	orange (196)		
(Typus!) 19200	54	orange (196)		
19198	54	orange (196)	light yellow (244) with a greenish nuance	

A	B	C		
		a	*b*	*c*
ISOLOTTO FINOCCHIAROLA ♂♂ (27 specimens)				
19197	54	orange (196)		
19193	54	yellow (288)	light yellow (244) with a greenish nu	
19191	54	brownish orange (246)		ochre-yellow (
19199	53	whitish		very light ye
19769	52	orange yellow (211)		cadmium yellow
19768	52	yellow orange (211)		
19203	52	reddish (197)		Naples yellow
18714	52	light yellow (*)	cinnamon (338)	greysh beige (
19192	51	whitish	very light yellow	isabelle (20
19774	50	orange yellow (211)	apricot (212)	light yellow (
19770	50	apricot (212)	ochre-yellow (214) with reddish nuance l	
19194	49	light yellow (244)	whitish	
19773	48	yellow (228)		
19775	47	ochre-yellow (214)		very light yel
19195	47	orange yellow (211)		whitish
19776	46	orange yellow (211)		yellow (228
19771	46	orange yellow (211)		apricot (21
18715	35	light yellow (244)	very light yellow	whitish

A	B	C		
		a	*b*	*c*
)LOTTO DI MEZZO ♂♂ (8 sp.)				
9785	55	ochre-yellow (214)	apricot (212)	
9214	54	apricot (212)		
9212	52	whitish		
9786	51	whitish		
9213	51	yellow (228)	light yellow (244)	
)215	49	light yellow (244)		very light yellow
)787	48	light Naples yellow (200) and dark flesh pink (204)	light Naples yellow (200)	flesh pink (205)
)788	47	very light yellow	whitish	
LOTTO DI TERRA ♂♂ (11 sp.)				
)207	60	raw ochre (246)		ochre-orange (247)
:719	59	deep yellow (256) (**)	orange yellow (211)	
'794	56	isabelle (203)		
'206	56	cadmium yellow (226)		
799	55	yellow (228)	very light yellow	
798	55	isabelle (203)		
796	54	isabelle (203)		
793	54	orange (196)		
208	54	ochre-yellow (213-214)		
797	52	isabelle (203)		
795	51	isabelle (203)		Naples yellow (199)

A	B	C		
		a	*b*	*c*
ISOLOTTO FINOCCHIAROLA ♀♀ (11 sp.)				
19779	52	orange (196)		whitish
19781	51	whitish, with a yellow nuance on the distal portion of the belly		
18713	51	cadmium yellow (226)		
19780	50	orange yellow (211)	apricot (212)	whitish
19778	50	orange (196)	whitish	
19783	49	very light yellow with a reddish nuance		
19205	48	light yellow (244)	whitish	
19196	48	very light yellow	whitish	
19782	47	very light yellow with a reddish nuance		
19777	47	orange yellow (211); submaxillaries bright salmon		very light yellow
19784	44	very light reddish		whitish
ISOLOTTO DI MEZZO ♀♀ (6 sp.)				
18711	50	yellow (228)		very light yellow
19792	47	very light yellow		
19790	47	orange (196)		ochre-yellow (214)
19791	46	light yellow (244)	whitish	
19789	45	whitish		
18712	32	very light yellow	whitish	

A	B	C		
		a	*b*	*c*
ISOLOTTO DI TERRA ♀♀ (15 sp.)				
18718	54	yellow and isabelle (203)		greysh beige (340)
18717	53	deep yellow (256)		cadmium yellow (226)
19801	52	ochre-yellow (214) (***)		apricot (212)
19800	51	yellow (228) (***)		very light yellow
19805	50	very light yellow		whitish
19804	50	light yellow (244) with a reddish nuance		whitish
19806	49	very light yellow		whitish
19803	49	ochre-yellow (214) (***)		very light yellow
19802	49	ochre-yellow (214) (***)		very light yellow
19209	49	whitish		
19210	48	very light yellow		whitish
19807	47	very light yellow		whitish
19808	46	very light yellow		whitish
19211	42	very light yellow		whitish
18716	40	whitish		

Description of the paratypes (Tables 1, 2; Figs. 7, 8). In general their characters correspond rather well to those of the holotype, except for the usual sexual differences. The variability of the paratypes can be clearly seen from an examination of tables 1, 2 and figs. 7, 8. The *scutum massetericum* is usually separated from the supratemporals by 1-2 rows

TABLE 2. — Lepidosis of *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii*.

♂♂	Isolotto Finocchiarola (27 specimens)	Isolotto di Mezzo (8 sp.)	Isolotto di Terra (11 sp.)
1	59-71 (64.40)	56-71 (62.25)	57-66 (60.54)
2	25-28 (26.59)	23-28 (25.75)	22-26 (24.45)
3	9-13 (10.33)	11	9-12 (10.45)
4	24-34 (30.55)	26-32 (28.25)	27-34 (30.90)
5	l: 18-23 (20.77) r: 18-24 (21.00)	17-21 (19.75) 19-22 (20.50)	18-22 (20.54) 17-23 (21.00)
6	l: 26-31 (28.91) r: 25-31 (28.72)	28-31 (29.00) 28-31 (29.00)	26-32 (28.88) 28-32 (29.00)
7	l: 5-6 (5.48) r: 4-6 (5.51)	5-6 (5.87) 5-7 (6.00)	5-6 (5.18) 5-6 (5.27)
8	l: 8-14 (10.66) r: 8-13 (10.33)	10-13 (11.37) 8-13 (10.50)	8-14 (11.27) 8-13 (10.81)
9	l: 6-9 (7.18) r: 5-10 (7.03)	6-8 (6.87) 6-8 (7.12)	5-7 (5.81) 5-7 (5.90)

♀♀	Isolotto Finocchiarola (11 sp.)	Isolotto di Mezzo (6 sp.)	Isolotto di Terra (15 sp.)
1	56-63 (59.90)	57-67 (60.16)	52-65 (59.66)
2	28-30 (29.18)	26-28 (27.50)	26-28 (27.13)
3	9-11 (10.18)	9-11 (10.00)	9-13 (10.93)
4	27-33 (30.00)	25-31 (27.83)	25-34 (31.06)
5	l: 18-21 (19.63) r: 17-22 (19.81)	17-21 (19.00) 17-20 (19.33)	18-23 (20.20) 17-25 (20.86)
6	l: 25-31 (28.20) r: 24-32 (28.36)	26-29 (27.66) 27-30 (27.83)	27-32 (29.38) 27-32 (30.00)
7	l: 5-6 (5.45) r: 3-6 (5.27)	5-6 (5.66) 5-6 (5.66)	4-6 (5.06) 5-6 (5.26)
8	l: 8-12 (9.63) r: 8-12 (9.63)	9-11 (9.66) 9-11 (10.33)	6-13 (9.80) 8-13 (10.06)
9	l: 5-7 (6.45) r: 5-8 (6.27)	4-8 (6.33) 5-7 (6.00)	5-7 (6.00) 5-7 (5.73)

Number (extremes and mean) of: 1) dorsal scales in a transverse series halfway tween axilla and groin; 2) ventral scales in a longitudinal series not including t last row of scales which are clearly larger that the preanal ones but irregula placed; 3) collar scales; 4) gular scales in a longitudinal series; 5) femoral por 6) subdigital lamellae of the 4th toe; 7) supraciliaries; 8) supraciliary granul 9) supratemporal scales. (l = left; r = right).

of temporals, by 3 rows only on the right side of the ♂ n. 19793. Sometimes it touches the supratemporals on both sides (I. Finocchiarola: ♂ 19771; I. di Mezzo: ♂♂ 19213, 19786, 19212, 19214, ♀♀ 19790, 19791, 18712; I. di Terra: ♀ 18718) or monolaterally (I. Finocchiarola: ♂♂ 19190, 19202, 18714; I. di Mezzo: ♂♂ 19788, 19787).

The following head scutellation anomalies were found in the paratypes (l = left, r = right):

1) Ist supraocular divided in two parts: Isolotto Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19201 (l, r), 19771 (l, r), 19767 (l), 19199 (l), 19770 (l), ♀ 19205 (l); Isolotto di Mezzo ♂ 19213 (l), ♀ 19790 (l); Isolotto di Terra ♂♂ 19793 (l, r), 19796 (l, r), 19208 (l, r), 19795 (l, r), 19799 (l, r), 19207 (l, r), 19797 (l, r), 19794 (r), ♀♀ 19800 (l, r), 19807 (l, r), 18717 (l, r), 19210 (l, r), 18718 (l, r), 19803 (l), 19211 (r);
2) postnasal divided in two parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19770 (l, r), 19774 (l, r), 19202 (l, r), 19190 (l, r), 19191 (l, r), 19771 (l, r), 19201 (l), 19773 (r), 19766 (r), 19780 (r), ♀♀ 19779 (l, r), 19196 (l), 19780 (r); I. di Mezzo ♂♂ 19787 (l, r), 19788 (r), ♀ 18711 (l, r); I. di Terra ♀♀ 18716 (r), 19209 (r);
3) interparietal not touching the occipital because of the interposition of a plate: I. Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19769, 19767, 19201, 19204, 19191, 19203, 18715, 19192, ♀♀ 19782, 19781, 19779, 18713, 19778; I. di Mezzo ♂ 19213, ♀♀ 18711, 19790;
4) anterior loreal divided in two parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19773 (l, r), 19201 (l), 19772 (l), 19776 (l), 19203 (l), 19767 (l), 19769 (r), 19774 (l, r), 19770 (l, r); I. di Mezzo ♂♂ 19213 (l, r), 19212 (l), ♀ 19790 (l);
5) anterior loreal divided in two parts, one of which fused with the frontonasal: I. di Mezzo ♂ 19212 (l);
6) occipital divided in two parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19199, 19773, 19200, ♀♀ 19196, 19784; I. di Terra ♂ 19208, ♀ 19808;
7) interparietal not touching the occipital because of the interposition of the parietals: I. Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19199, 19194; I. di Mezzo ♂♂ 19212; I. di Terra ♂♂ 19794, 19796, 19207, ♀ 19800;
8) five supralabials in front of the subocular: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19770 (r), ♀ 19783 (l, r); I. di Mezzo ♂♂ 19213 (r), 19212 (l), ♀ 19790 (r); I. di Terra ♂ 19208 (l);
9) three supralabials in front of the subocular: I. Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19199 (l), 18714 (l), 19772 (l); I. di Terra ♀ 19808 (r);
10) 4th supraocular divided in two parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂♂ 19192 (l), 19772 (r), 19201 (r), ♀♀ 19196 (l, r), 19781 (l, r); I. di Terra ♀ 18717 (r);
11) occipital divided in three parts: I. di Mezzo ♂ 19788, ♀ 18712;
12) anterior loreal divided in three parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19203 (r), ♀ 19782 (r);
13) posterior loreal divided in two parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19199 (r), ♀ 18713 (r);
14) posterior loreal divided in three parts: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 18713 (l);
15) supranasal divided in two parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 18714 (r);
16) third supraocular divided in two parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19198 (l);
17) second supraocular fragmented: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19767 (r);
18) second supraocular fragmented and fused with the first supraocular: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 19783 (r);
19) first supraocular fused with the first supraciliar: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 19783 (l);
20) second supraocular divided in two parts: I. di Terra ♀ 19808 (r);
21) a small plate (deriving from the second supraocular) between 2nd and 3rd supraoculars: I. di Mezzo ♂ 19214 (r);

22) a small plate deriving from the 3rd supraocular between 3rd supraocula frontoparietal: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 19780 (l);
23) a small plate (deriving from the frontal) between frontal, prefrontal an supraocular: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 19780 (r);
24) a small plate, not touching the loreal region between 2nd and 3rd supral I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19199 (l);
25) posterior loreal fused with 1st supraciliar: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 19783 (r);
26) a plate between anterior loreal, posterior loreal and prefrontal: I. Finc rola ♂ 19767 (r);
27) frontonasal in contact with the rostral: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19200;
28) frontal, 2nd and 3rd right supraoculars and prefrontals fragmented and together: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 19781;
29) supranasal divided in two parts: I. di Mezzo ♀ 19789 (l);
30) postnasal partially fused with the anterior loreal: I. di Mezzo ♀ 19789 (
31) prefrontal divided in two parts, one of which fused with the frontal: I. di ♀ 19792 (l);
32) frontonasal in contact with the rostral: I. di Terra ♂ 19796;
33) subocular not reaching the buccal rim: I. di Terra ♂ 19208;
34) frontal divided in three parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19774;
35) interparietal divided in three parts: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 19777;
36) interparietal divided in four parts: I. Finocchiarola ♂ 19200;
37) interparietal and occipital fused with a parietal: I. Finocchiarola ♀ 1978
38) parietal divided in two parts, one of which fused with the occipital: I. di ♀ 19801 (l);
39) occipital lacking: I. di Mezzo ♂ 19787.

Measuremens (in mm): 1 - from tip of snout to vent; 2 - tail le 3 - pileus length; 4 - width of head; 5 - depth of head; 6 - leng forelimb; 7 - length of hindlimb.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	
♂ 19190 (Finocch.)	59	reg.	13.5	7.8	5.9	16.6	2
♂ 19766 (Finocch.)	57	reg.	14.1	7.7	6.4	20.3	3
♂ 19214 (Mezzo)	54	reg.	12.8	7.3	5.8	18.0	2
♂ 19785 (Mezzo)	55	reg.	13.5	7.9	6.4	17.7	2
♂ 19207 (Terra)	60	reg.	13.8	8.2	6.6	19.5	2
♂ 18719 (Terra)	59	reg.	14.5	8.3	6.9	18.9	2
♀ 19779 (Finocch.)	52	reg.	11.4	6.3	5.0	15.5	2
♀ 19781 (Finocch.)	51	reg.	11.1	6.2	4.8	16.2	2
♀ 19790 (Mezzo)	47	broken	11.0	6.1	4.9	15.9	2
♀ 19792 (Mezzo)	47	broken	10.4	6.0	5.1	15.0	2
♀ 18718 (Terra)	54	reg.	11.3	6.7	5.5	16.7	2
♀ 18717 (Terra)	53	reg.	11.1	6.5	5.1	15.3	2

AFFINITIES. - The percentage of specimens with reddish ventral our is far greater in *Podarcis tiliguerta rodulphisimonii* than in other population in Corsica or Sardinia, and this character distingu the new subspecies from all other known forms. Of 666 living sub and adult male and 350 female *Podarcis tiliguerta* examined from

sica and the satellite islands, ventral reddish colouration was seen on only 6.6% and 2.0% respectively; also considering only the reddest populations, the percentages differ greatly from those found in *P. t. rodulphisimonii*:

	♂♂	♀♀
Macinaggio Islets (*P. t. rodulphisimonii*)	71.73	45.16
Val Restonica (*P. t. tiliguerta*)	33.33	0.00
Vizzavona (*P. t. tiliguerta*)	23.52	11.00
Fautea (*P. t. tiliguerta*)	18.75	0.00
Lavezzi Island (*P. tiliguerta* subsp.)	13.11	16.60

An analogous situation is seen in *Podarcis sicula* (Rafinesque 1810), in which the subspecies *P. s. medemi* Mertens 1942, inhabiting Isola Bella (Taormina, Sicily), has a red belly.

It is practically certain that *P. t. rodulphisimonii* differentiated on one island, which was subsequently fragmented into the three present islets by marine erosion. Rather modest differences separate the three populations forming the new subspecies. Nonetheless, the very limited and sparse population of Isolotto di Mezzo — perhaps faced with extinction — differs from the others in having a larger *scutum massetericum*, which is thus more frequently in contact with the supratemporals, and a lower incidence of ventrally red specimens:

	♂♂	♀♀
Isolotto Finocchiarola	77.77	63.63
Isolotto di Mezzo	37.50	20.00
Isolotto di Terra	81.81	60.00

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