

Lacerta armeniaca MEHELY, 1909
Armenian Lizard

Identification: Total length up to 18 cm. Rostral does not contact external nares; a single postnasal; usually 4 supralabials in front of subocular. 42-47 rows of smooth or slightly keeled dorsal scales at mid-trunk; ventrals in 6 longitudinal rows; femoral pores between 14-19. Mid dorsal strip green or greenish with small black spots, on each side of which are dark longitudinal bands with black edges. Light greenish flanks also with dark maculations. The venter is yellowish or whitish with small spots.

Habitat & Biology: A montane form, is found in rocky-stony places and rocky slopes, also in high steppes. Feeds on insects and molluscs. A female lays 3-4 eggs.

Distribution: Known from Turkey, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan; with a vertical distribution up to 2500 m. Lives in NE Anatolia region of Turkey (Vilayets Trabzon, Ardahan and Kars).



50. *Lacerta armeniaca*