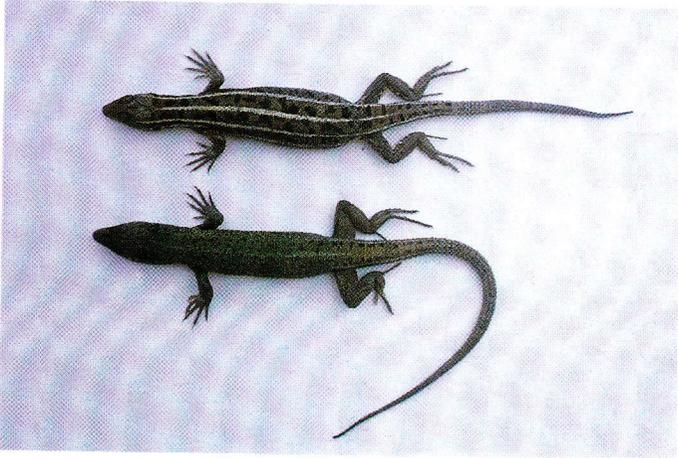


*Lacerta strigata* EICHWALD, 1831  
**Striated Lizard**

**Identification:** Total length up to 30 cm, or slightly longer. Rostral usually in contact with external nares; 2 postnasals; usually 4, rarely 3 or 5 supralabials in front of subocular. A few scales in temporal region. 38-49 rows of dorsal scales at mid-trunk; ventrals in 6 longitudinal rows; femoral pores between 14-22. In juveniles, the dorsum is brown with 5 longitudinal yellowish-white striations. Adult females with darker colored maculations between the striations, same as in the young males. In adult males, the dorsum is green, striations and maculations gradually disappear, replaced by small dark spots. In green specimens, dorsum of the hind limbs and the tail stay brown. The venter is greenish-white or yellow, without maculations; in males, chin and throat blue.

**Habitat & Biology:** Prefers sparsely vegetated steppe plains or slopes, sometimes seen in areas close to a forest. Feeds on various insects, sometimes on its own young or small vertebrates. A female lays 6-11 eggs.

**Distribution:** Known from Turkey, Caucasus and southern coasts of the Caspian Sea; with a vertical distribution up to 3000 m. Is found in the vicinity of Mt. Ararat, E Anatolia.



65. *Lacerta strigata*