

**Tetraploid hybrid of rock lizards of genus *Darevskia***I. STEPANYAN; M. ARAKELYAN & F. DANIELYAN

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The first tetraploid hybrid in the group of Caucasian rock lizards of genus *Darevskia* was discovered in 2004 in a population near the village Kuchak (central part of Armenia). The majority of hybrid individuals, which are formed in a sympatric zone of parthenogenetic and bisexual species of Caucasian rock lizards, are triploid sterile females ( $3n = 57$ ). However, karyological study among hybrids *D. valentini* x *D. unisexualis* revealed the tetraploid set of chromosomes for one specimen. This hybrid had two fully developed testes (2.4 x 3.2 mm), well organized hemipeneses and obvious visible femoral pores. The Giemsa-stained smears of testes have shown diakinetik stages of meiosis and middle, late spermatides (60%). The karyotype ( $4n=76$ ,  $NF=76$ ) was represented by 71 acrocentric chromosomes and 5 microchromosomes. So, this was a tetraploid male with sex chromosomes of wZZZ type.

