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**PODARCIS SICULUS (Italian Wall Lizard). PREDATION.** *Podarcis siculus* is native to southern Europe and actively spreading on the territory of the Black Sea coast of the Krasnodar Territory of Russia (Tuniye et al. 2023. Rus. J. Herpetol.30:20–26; pers. obs.). There are a few reports of this lizard's predators in its non-native range from eastern North America that include invertebrates, birds, and cats (Donihue et al. 2022. Herpetol. Rev. 53:500), but there is no information from elsewhere in its non-native range. Here we report two predation events on *P. siculus* by snake and avian predators from Russia.

On 24 July 2022, at 1200 h, we observed an adult Grass Snake (*Natrix natrix*) in the process of swallowing an already subdued adult *P. siculus*, headfirst, in the Southern Cultures Park, Sochi, Krasnodar Territory, Russia (43.4173°N, 39.9360°E; WGS 84; 4 m elev.). When approached, the snake disappeared into the pond with prey in its mouth.

On 2 May 2023, at 1400 h, we observed an adult male Red-backed Shrike (*Lanius collurio*) holding a dead adult male *P. siculus* in its beak while perched in a tree (Fig. 1) in the Nature Ornithological Park in the Imeretinskaya Lowland, Sochi, Krasnodar Territory, Russia (43.4141°N, 39.9351°E; WGS 84; 2 m elev.). The bird began to peck at its prey but flew away with the lizard in its beak when approached.

To our knowledge this is the first report of *N. natrix* and Red-backed Shrikes preying on *P. siculus* in its non-native or native range. These three species co-occur throughout much



FIG. 1. Male *Lanius collurio* from Nature Ornithological Park in the Imeretinskaya Lowland, Krasnodar Krai, Russia, holding the recently killed male *Podarcis siculus*.

of southern Europe and the Caucasus where *N. natrix* and the Red-backed Shrike have both been reported to prey on other lacertid lizard species (Peklo and Ochapovsky 1976. Vestnik Zoologii 2:35–39; Martin and Lopez 1990. Smithsonian Herpetol. Inform. Serv. 82:1–43; Tertyshnikov 2002. Reptiles of the Central Ciscaucasia, Stavropol'servisshkola, Stavropol. 240 pp.).

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**SCELOPORUS MAGISTER (Desert Spiny Lizard). SEED SHELL ENTRAPMENT.** Accidental mortality in lizards as a result of plant interactions has been previously noted and examples include moss sporophyte and grass seeds in the eye (Montoya-Ferrer et al. 2014. Bull. Chicago Herp. Soc. 49: 125–126) as well as spiny seedpods stuck to the head (Recchio and Lazzano 2013. Herpetol. Rev. 44:513). Here I report a case of a *Sceloporus magister* with its head trapped in a seed shell.

On 17 May 2023 at 0824 h a young *S. magister* was observed, not moving, on a garden wall in the residential area of Biosphere 2, near the town of Oracle, Pinal County, Arizona, USA (32.58024°N, 110.84876°W; WGS 84; 988 m elev.). Upon inspection I saw that the animal's head was seemingly stuck inside a broken acorn shell (*Quercus* sp.; Fig. 1) and was easily captured. The acorn shell was firmly attached to the lizard's head, obscuring its vision, but not blocking the ears or parietal eye, the keeled scales of the gular region appeared to be anchoring the acorn shell in place (Fig. 2). With some effort I was able to manually remove the shell and the lizard was released at the capture site on the wall. Upon release the lizard immediately ran to the ground and hid under the sidewalk.

Entrapment of lizard heads within plant seedpods or shells has been noted in Australian skinks (Langkilde et al. 2002. Herpetofauna 32:131; Goodman et al. 2009. Herpetol. Rev. 40:86) and in these cases it was hypothesized that the lizard's foraging behavior may have led to their entrapment. *Sceloporus magister* is frequently seen on or near the ground and frequently takes refuge in terrestrial spaces (Cooper 2011. Herpetol. Rev. 42:39–40) which could lead to an increased chance of encountering empty acorn shells, or it is possible that the lizard attempted to capture a prey item inside the acorn shell. Such encounters



FIG. 1. Head of the *Sceloporus magister* entrapped in a broken acorn shell on rock wall.