

Mesalina brevirostris BLANFORD, 1874
Blanford's Short-nosed Desert Lizard

Global range: Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and UAE.

Distribution in Iran: Provinces of Bushehr, Hormozgan, Ilam, Kermanshah, Khuzestan, and Sistan and Baluchestan.

Biology: Blanford's Short-nosed Desert Lizard lives in Mediterranean lowlands and plains inserted between mountain ranges. This lizard may also be found beside and on sandy





Fig. 253: In *Mesalina brevirostris*, the dark, white-edged spots are aligned in more or less regular longitudinal rows. There are large brown spots on the sides and smaller spots on the dorsal surface.

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and clayey soils. One of the other habitats for this species are flat plains with salty soil and covered with dense, small bushes and often with tamarisk shrubs.

Size: Snout–vent length 56 mm, tail length 102 mm.

Reproduction: Oviparous.

Status: Common.

Conservation status: IUCN: Least Concern, CITES: –, National: Non-protected.

Diet: Arachnids and insects.

Activity pattern: Diurnal.