

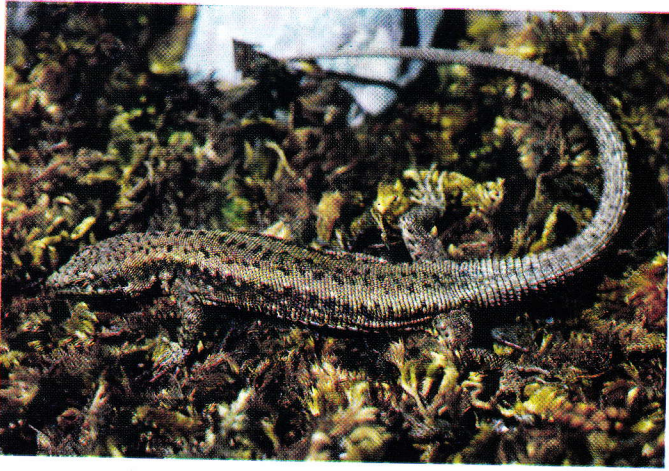
***Lacerta rudis* BEDRIAGA, 1886**  
**Trabzon Lizard**

**Identification:** Total length up to 26 cm. Rostral does not contact external nares; a single postnasal; supraciliary granules between 2-17, in a continuous or intermittent row. Round dorsal scales slightly keeled, forming 38-59 rows at mid-trunk; ventrals in 6 longitudinal rows; femoral pores between 13-25; scales above tibia large and keeled. The dorsum changes from green to gray or brown, with small dark maculations in transverse rows or in two longitudinal rows. Flanks dark, with small round white spots. The venter is yellowish or greenish-white or bluish. During the breeding season, the sides of the abdomen are bright blue or violet in males.

**Habitat & Biology:** Inhabits rocky, pebbly areas of forests, steep slopes and dry river beds. Can climb trees. Feeds on various insects and molluscs, even on the juveniles of other lizards. A female lays 4-8 eggs.

**Distribution:** Known from Turkey, Caucasia and Azerbaijan; with a vertical distribution to 2400 m. In Turkey, represented with six subspecies:

1. *L. r. rudis*: The nominate race is found in the coastal strip of Vilayets Trabzon and Artvin.
2. *L. r. bischoffi* BÖHME-BUDAK, 1977: In the vicinities of Arhavi and Hopa.
3. *L. r. bithynica* MEHELY, 1909: From Bursa to Amasya.
4. *L. r. macromaculata* DAREWSKY, 1967: In the vicinity of Vilayet Ardahan.
5. *L. r. obscura* LANTZ-CYREN, 1936: In NE Anatolia.
6. *L. r. tristis* LANTZ-CYREN, 1936: From Adapazarı to Sinop.



63. *Lacerta rudis*