



Archaeolacerta bedriagae - Bedriaga's Rock Lizard



Adult: F / Propriano (Corsica), 12.09.2013 - In southern Corsica, this species lives on coastal cliffs.

Bedriaga's Rock Lizard is a rather stolid character. If the feel disturbed, they will leave unhurriedly - and not come out again. They don't seem to be curious at all, in contrast to the opportunistic and hectic Wall Lizard species. With their flat heads and long, elongated snouts they are well adapted to rock crevices. However, there seems to be high variability in head shape - even within the same population. Pattern and colouration can be quite variable and there seem to be little external differences between the sexes.

The distribution range of *Archaeolacerta bedriagae* is restricted to Corsica and Sardinia. Some subspecies have been described for Sardinia, which seem to be questionable, however. Instead, genetic analysis indicates that there are two different lineages: one in the high altitude mountain habitats of central Corsica and another one in coastal southern Corsica and scattered areas on Sardinia.

With its sharp snout and its more or less distinct dot pattern, this species cannot be confused with other lizards in the area:

- [Podarcis tiliguerta](#) and [Podarcis siculus](#), particularly females, show light dorsolateral lines and have shorter heads. Where *Podarcis tiliguerta* and *Archaeolacerta bedriagae* co-occur, the latter one prefers barren rock areas.
- [Algyroides fitzingeri](#) is smaller and has strongly keeled scales.



The distribution area of *Archaeolacerta bedriagae* covers some mountain ranges on Corsica and Sardinia as well as coastal sections in Southern Corsica and Northern Sardinia.



Male: F / Vizzavona (Corsica), 08.09.2013 - In some mountain populations, specimens with such a 'tiger pattern' occur.



Male: F / Haut-Asco (Corsica), 09.09.2013 - Note the rows of blue dots.



Adult: F / Propriano (Corsica), 13.09.2013 - Specimen with orange underside.



Juvenile: F / Propriano (Corsica), 13.09.2013 - A specimen with sharp, elongated snout.



EUROLIZARDS

Adult: F / Bonifacio (Corsica), 12.09.2013



EUROLIZARDS

Adult: F / Propriano (Corsica), 13.09.2013 - Note the blue dots on tail.



Juvenile: F / Propriano (Corsica), 13.09.2013 - Juveniles show blue tails.



Juvenile: F / Propriano (Corsica), 12.09.2013 - Note the 'dolphin snout'



Coastal habitat of *Archaeolacerta bedriagae* in Southern Corsica.

