

## Geographic variation in clutch size and female size - clutch size relationship in the sand lizard, *Lacerta agilis*

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Clutch size (egg number) and especially the rate to which clutch size increases with the increase of female body size (fecundity slope) are used as proxies for fecundity selection potential in lizard populations (Braña 1996; Cox et al. 2003).

Data on clutch size and maternal body length for 378 individual females from 12 geographic regions within the range of *L. a. agilis* (Western Europe) and *L. a. exigua* (Eastern Ukraine, Central Russia, North Caucasus, Eastern Kazakhstan, Altai, and South Siberia) were examined using the covariance and the regression analyses. We tested the hypothesis that a consistently female-biased sexual size dimorphism proper to *L. a. agilis* (Roitberg 2005, 2007) is associated with a higher fecundity selection potential in this subspecies.

In accordance with this prediction, samples of *L. a. agilis* exhibited higher fecundity slopes than those of *L. a. exigua*.