



## Teira dugesii - Madeira Lizard



Male: P / Lisbon, 20.04.2017 - Note the small greenish dots on flank and back.

The genus of *Teira* seems to be closely related to the European Wall Lizards (genus *Podarcis*). It comprises two species: *Teira dugesii* is an endemic lizard of the Madeira archipelago; *Teira perspicillata* is a North African species. In Europe, only introduced populations of these species occur.

The nominate subspecies of the Madeira Lizards has been accidentally introduced to Lisbon Harbour - an urban and busy area in between of motorways, car parks and railway tracks. Although this may be not the most suitable lizard habitat, the population seems to be robust. Meanwhile, it has even successfully crossed the adjoining motorway and expanded to a nearby city garden.

Therefore, this population's prognosis to sustain and further spread in the city of Lisbon is rather positive.

[Podarcis virescens](#), which also occurs in the city of Lisbon, shows a different pattern and has a yellow tail underside.



European ranges of (introduced) *Teira dugesii* and *Teira perspicillata*.





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Male: P / Lisbon, 20.04.2017 - Throat and tail may be peppermint-green.



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Female: P / Lisbon, 20.04.2017 - Females are brownish, sometimes with greenish tails.



Lisbon harbour area: The strange habitat of the only European (introduced) population of the Madeira Lizard.



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