Balaguer, Mas de Melons, 41°N). Local climate varied with respect to average summer (19.5 °C vs. 24.7 °C) and winter temperatures (2.7 °C vs. 5.3 °C), and annual precipitation (674 mm vs. 369 mm). We used skeletochronology to estimate the age (number of LAGs as markers of hibernation-lines of arrested growth) of breeding adults collected during the spring breeding period (all localities) and during the summer breeding period (only Urmitz). A data set including the variables sex, age and size of 185 males and of 87 females was analyzed sex- and cohort-specifically with respect to seven life history traits (age and size at maturity of the youngest first breeders, age variation in first breeders, longevity, potential reproductive lifespan, median lifespan, age-size relationship).
Sexes did not differ significantly in age and size at maturity at each locality, but first breeders from Spain were about 20 mm larger than those from Germany. At the German locality, longevity and potential reproductive lifespan of the spring cohort exceeded that of the summer cohort by one year in both sexes. In males, demographic traits in the spring cohorts of Germany and Spain did not differ significantly, except for the larger size of individuals from Spain at any age. In females, however, longevity was lower in individuals from Spain resulting in a potential reproductive lifespan which was about half of that observed in individuals from Germany. These results and a review of published information on natterjack demography lead to the conclusion that lifetime number of offspring seem to be optimized by locally different trade-offs: large female size at the cost of longevity in southern population and increased longevity at the cost of size in northern ones.

"First came, first served", or the recent introduced lizard populations of Lampedusa Island (S Italy)

[POSTER]

LO CASCIO, PIETRO, CLAUDIA CORTI, VINCENZO BILLECI & GIUSEPPINA NICOLINI

In the late 1990s, the occurrence of the Italian Wall lizard, *Podarcis sicula*, was detected for the first time in the urban area of Lampedusa Island. During further herpetological surveys, it was observed that also the Maltese Wall lizard, *Podarcis filfolensis*, occurs in the same area. While *P. sicula* has been accidentally introduced during the implantation of ornamental plants (probably in the early 1990s), specimens of *P. filfolensis* were intentionally transferred few years ago, by local people, from the nearby Linosa Island. At present, *P. sicula* has successfully colonised the archaeological ruins, flower-beds, gardens and waste ground areas among the human dwellings, whereas *P. filfolensis* seem to be strictly confined in the small private garden where they was introduced by the owners. Micro-habitat partition and diet analysis show a substantial ecological similarity and suggest the occurrence of a niche overlap among these two lizard species. Anyway, densities of both species resulted lesser than those recorded for the autochthonous Ocellated Skink, *Chalcides ocellatus*, which is sympatric with the introduced *Podarcis* in the village of Lampedusa. Also, no "exotic" lizards were found beyond the urban area of the island. These results suggest that an important role in settling down of introduced species may be also played by the chronological order in which they get to a new place, as well as by their colonisation capability.