

Short note

Sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis* L.) with a second clutch in Denmark

Jan Kjaergaard Jensen

Sct. Annagade 7, ltv, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark

Introduction

In 1978 the ecology of Danish reptiles was studied at the Mols Laboratory, East Jutland. Captured animals were marked individually and the breeding habits were stated. During the study a pregnant female sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis* L.) was captured on May 24. The lizard was recaptured on June 9, and it was stated that she had deposited her eggs now.

On July 6 the female was found again and was now pregnant. Consequently it had to be a second clutch. The lizard was kept indoors, and on July 16 it laid 8 eggs. As the female measured 88 mm (S–V), it was a rather small clutch.

Even if two clutches are known for sand lizard in France (ROLLINAT 1934), it seems to be the first time this is observed in North Europe (FITCH 1970, SMITH 1973).

The eggs were incubated indoors and hatched after 53 days. The summer of 1978 was rather cold, and the first juveniles of the year were observed on September 12, so it is doubtful whether a second clutch would have hatched this year. In other summers with more sun, it should be possible for eggs to hatch before winter.

Literature

- FITCH, H. S. (1970): Reproductive cycles of lizard and snakes. — Univ. Kansas Mus. nat. Hist., Misc. Publ., 52: 1–247.
- ROLLINAT, R. (1934): La vie des reptiles de la France Centrale. — Librairie Delagrave, Paris.
- SMITH, M. A. (1973): The British Amphibians and Reptiles. — 5. ed. London, Glasgow.

Received: September 30, 1981