

EUROLIZARDS

Lacerta schreiberi - Schreiber's Green Lizard



Male; E / Lago de Sanabria (Zamora), 19.09.2017 - Note the green back and the brownish tail.

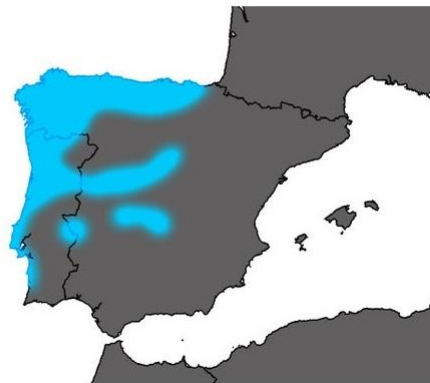
Compared to the other European members of the genus *Lacerta*, which inhabit a wide distribution range, Schreiber's Green Lizard is limited to Western Spain and Portugal. Once again, the Iberian Peninsula proves as a rich source of endemism.

Lacerta schreiberi is an adorable lizard with males showing blue heads in spring, yellow-greenish bodies and contrasting brown tails. Unlike many other species, also females may show beautiful green colours with a quite variable pattern of dark spots.

It inhabits well-vegetated habitats with sufficient humidity. In particular in the south of its range, it can be found frequently close to water.

Males of this species resemble to [Lacerta bilineata](#), which also occurs in northern Spain. Anyhow, males of *Lacerta schreiberi* have brown tails whereas males of *Lacerta bilineata* have green tails. [Timon lepidus](#) has blue ocelli and doesn't show blue heads.

Juveniles of *Lacerta schreiberi* can be easily identified by their characteristic lateral stripe pattern (see below).



Distribution area of *Lacerta schreiberi*.



Pair: P / Algarve, 16.04.2017 - Specimen with yellowish coloration.



Male: P / Algarve, 16.04.2017 - These lizards can be frequently encountered basking in spiny blackberry scrubs.



Male: P / Serra da Estrela, 17.07.2013 - In summer, the blue head colouration gets pale.



Female: P / Serra da Estrela, 16.07.2013 - Older females may be bright green with black blotches.



Subadult: E / Montes de León, 05.09.2019 - subadult specimen frequently show brownish colours.



Juvenile: E / Truchas (León), 04.09.2011 - Juveniles can be identified by the light stripes crossing the flanks.



Glacial trough valley in the Serra da Estrela (Portugal): Habitat of *Lacerta schreiberi* and *Podarcis carbonelli*.



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