

(LACERTA SAXICOLA)

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SUCCEEDING THE TERRITORY IN MALES LACERTA SAXICOLA.
TSELLARIUS, E. YU. AND ²TSELLARIUS, A. YU. (ZOOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, UNIVERSITETSKAYA NAB., 1, SANKT-PETERSBURG199034 RUSSIA; ²SEVERTSOV INSTITUTE OF ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION, RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, LENINSKYPR., 33, MOSCOW 117071 RUSSIA). Compact, partly isolated settlements of lizards were observed during 4 years. Several adult males snared the space of settlement among themselves. Suitability of home range is conditioned by suitable shelters and places for basking. A number of females, inhabited and visited the home range of a certain male, depends on the quality of its home range. Better area was occupied by the largest, strong and old male. During 3 years, a set of males was invariable. In spring of the 4th year, the dominant male vanished, probably, died. Other members of the settlement, however, continued to behave very carefully on his home range. As a result, the plot was occupied by young male, who had dwelt out of borders of settlement and had felt no «respect» for the late possessor of this plot.

1997 - 2000 гг.

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(Lacerta saxicola).
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34 70 ².
8.5 17 ²,
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(Stamps, 1977, 1983, 1990, 1992; Martins, 1994)

ON PROBLEM OF THE TURTLE SHELL IN THE CONTEXT OF MORPHOGENETIC DATA. G. O. CHEREPANOV (DEPARTMENT OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY, FACULTY BIOLOGICAL AND SOIL SCIENCES, ST. PETERSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITETSKAYA NAB., 7/9, ST. PETERSBURG 199034 RUSSIA). The concept that the turtle shell is built up as the fusion of the osteoderms with some elements of the internal skeleton is broadly accepted. However, this point of view is not confirmed by morphogenetic data. The neural and costal plates of the dorsal disc form as the outgrowths of the vertebrae and ribs on inside the dermis. Each plastral plates develop only from single primordium like the clavicles, interclavicle and gastralia in other reptiles. Most probably, Testudines progressed in a unique evolutionary direction. Their bony shell is mainly the result of modification and consolidation of internal skeletal elements but not the osteodermal shell. The real osteoderms develop only on the body margins as connection between the dorsal and the ventral discs.

(*Proganochelys*).

(Romer, 1968; Laurin, Peisz, 1995).

(Zangerl, 1969; Meylan, 1987; Lee, 1996).

(*Testudinidae*:

Testudo graeca, *Emydidae*: *Emys orbicularis*, *Trionychidae*: *Trionyx sinensis*)

(, 1984, 1988; Cherepanov, 1992, 1995, 1996, 1997).