

13824 (1), Dzansul, Artvin vilayet; 13466 (1), Dzansul, Artvin vilayet; 17971 (1), Trabzon; NMW 18385, 2, 4 (2), Meriama, near Trabzon; 18383 (1), Yalnyzcham range, eastern slope; ZMF 11981 (1), Trabzon; 12004 (1), Sinop; 12008 (1), Sinop; 12009 (1), Sinop.

Lacerta rudis macromaculata ssp. n  
(Fig. 44; Photo. 16)

Holotype -- ZIL, Academy of Sciences, USSR, 17940, ♂, around the town of Akhalkalaki in Georgia, about 1800 m above sea level June 24, 1961, collected by I. S. Darevsky (Fig. 16D).

Paratypes. ZIL, Academy of Sciences, USSR, 17440 (21), gorge of Akhalkalakh River downstream from Akhalkalaki in Georgia, July 21, 1959, collected by I. S. Darevsky.

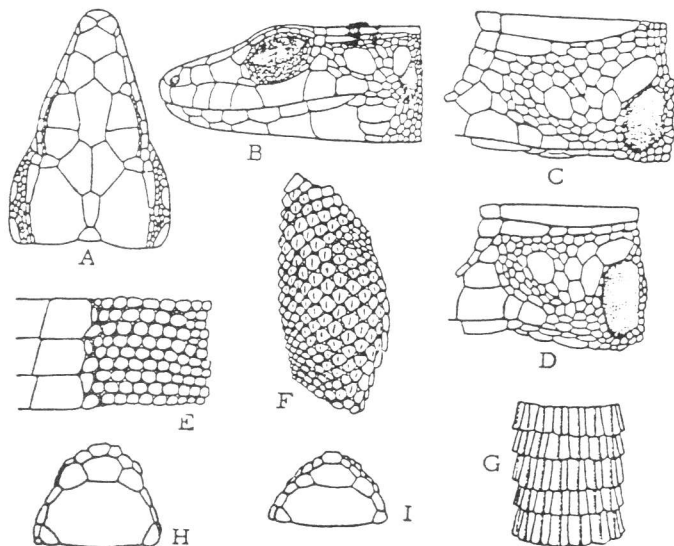


Fig. 44. Major scalation of *L. r. macromaculata*.

A - Head, dorsal view; B - head, lateral view; C, D - temporal region; E - contact zone between dorsal and ventral scales; F - upperside of ankle; G - dorsal anterior third of tail; H, I - anal region (A-I - Akhalkalaki).

Description of holotype. The frontonasal is wider than long. The rostral is set off from the frontonasal (in many paratypes, sometimes touches at one point). The suture between the frontonasal and postnasal is sub-equal to the width of that between the anterior and posterior nasals. The

suture between the frontonasals and frontal are straight (in some paratypes, somewhat concave inside the frontal). The supraciliaries and supraoculars are separated by a row of 9 - 10 granules. The upper postorbital touches the parietal laterally across a short suture (in some paratypes, they are separated from each other). The first supratemporal is long, slightly constricted, and truncated posteriorly; the tiny, irregular scales numbering 4 - 5 lying posterior of the prefrontals are nearly equal in size. The moderate-sized midtemporal is separated from the supratemporal and the small tympanic by 2 each or 2 and 3 rows of tiny scales. The collar is very faintly serrated (in most paratypes, it is straight). Along the midline of the throat to the collar, there are 30 scales. The body scales are prominent, conical on the sides, with faint traces of longitudinal keels in the posterior third of the back and at the border with the abdomen (in many paratypes, the remnants of keels are preserved more distinctly or are entirely absent). The ventral scales touch body scales laterally and are set in 25 transverse rows. The large and broad anal scale is surrounded anteriorly by a row of 8 scales of which the middle one is considerably larger than the other (in many paratypes, one moderate-sized or even 2 or 3 symmetrically arranged tiny preanals are seen anterior of the anal).

The femoral pores on each side number 18 and 19. On the underside of the right thigh, between the pores and outer row of enlarged scales, there are 5 transverse rows of tiny scales. The dorsal scales of the crus have distinct keels and are noticeably larger than the body scales. Around the middle of the crus, there are 17 scale rows. The scales on the anterior third of the tail have distinct keels, the posterior edge of which, specially on the sides, is noticeably upturned in the form of spinules; the posterior edges of the caudal scales are truncated or slightly attenuated in the form of a very acute angle. The snout-vent length is 73 mm, the ratio of snout-vent length to that of the unregenerated tail is 0.52. The color of the dorsum is yellowish-green, being darker along the spine. The occipital stripe is formed of large black blotches extending across and forming a thick reticulate pattern along the entire width of the back. The lateral temporal stripes consist of 3 rows of black ocelli fused together with distinct greensih-white (blue in the pectoral zone) centers. The living color of the venter including the head and throat is bright-yellow. The outer rows of ventral scales are bright blue in color.

In several paratypes, the color of the dorsum of males and females varies from yellowish-green, ivy-green, grayish-yellow, and brownish-green and the large black blotches constituting the occipital and temporal stripes are sometimes so densely disposed that they mask to a large extent the basic green background color of the body. In some specimens, the occipital stripe is confined to the middle of the back, leaving fairly broad,

pattern-free stripes of the background color along the sides. The venter varies from bright yellow and greenish-yellow to greenish-gray.

The variation of main characters in the paratypes is shown in Table 18.

Table 18

Variation of *Lacerta rudis macromaculata*

Characters	Gorge of the Akhalkalakichai River (southern Georgia), N = 24 (14 ♂♂, 10 ♀♀)		
	Range of variation	$M \pm m$	s
1 ♂♂	60—73	66.86±1.08	4.06
1 ♀♀	62—74	67.30±1.33	4.20
2 ♂♂	110—140	124.63±3.17	8.96
2 ♀♀	110—135	120.72±2.87	7.60
3 ♂♂	0.51—0.56	0.53±0.006	0.01
3 ♀♀	0.53—0.58	0.55±0.007	0.02
4	43—54	48.5 ± 0.65	3.16
5	20—34	25.96±0.61	3.00
6	16—25	18.65±0.35	1.72
7	9—13	10.27±0.38	1.87
9 ♂♂	23—25	24.43±0.19	0.72
9 ♀♀	26—28	26.9 ± 0.23	0.74
10	1—1	1.0 ± 0.00	0.00
11	1—3	1.91±0.88	0.43
11a			
12	3—7	4.52±0.17	0.86
13 ♂♂	2—3	2.46±0.04	0.15
13 ♀♀	2—2	2.0 ± 0.00	0.00
14	12—18	14.96±0.24	1.17
15	4—6	4.79±0.10	0.50

Geographical distribution. This subspecies possesses a limited distribution in the gorge of the upper course of Kura and its right tributary Akhalkalakichai River in southern Georgia, from the village of Aspindza in the north to Akhalkalaki, and the river gorges of the Kyrbulak and Parevan in the central part of the Dzhavakhet plateau in the south (fig. 47, 2). In the gorge of the Karbulak River, the range of this form is crossed by that of *L. armeniaca*. In places it is also sympatric with *L. s. valentini*.

Geographical variation. Specimens encountered in the gorge of Kura between the town of Akhhaltsykhe and the village of Aspindza occupy an intermediate position between *L. r. obscura* and *L. r. macromaculata* in several characters.

Comparative notes This form is very close to *L. r. obscura* in all characters, but differs from it distinctly in color and some meristic values of scalation, and also its much larger size.

Specimens examined. Georgia: ZIL 17440 (21), gorge of Akhalkalakichai River below Akhalkalaki; 17441 (8), around Akhalkalaki, 17470 (11), around Akhalkalaki; (11), gorge of Kura between Akhalsyke and Aspindza.

Lacerta rudis obscura Lantz and Cyren  
(Table, 1, B, Fig. 45, Photo. 15).

L. saxicola obscura Lantz and Cyren, 1936:165, 176; Terentiev and Chernov, 1949:188. -- saxicola rudis, Petrov, 1964:53.

Holotype. Not designated. Described by Lantz and Cyren from samples around Borzhomi.

Description. The width of the frontonasal is greater than or equal to its length. The rostral is set off from the frontonasal or rarely touches it by a narrow suture. The suture between the frontonasal and postnasal is not shorter, and often broader, than that between the anterior and posterior nasals. The sutures between the prefrontal and frontal are straight or slightly concave inside the frontal. The supra-ciliaries and suprooculars are separated by a full, very rarely interrupted, row of 4 - 17 granules. The upper postorbital usually touches the parietal by a short suture or at a point. The first supratemporal is short or moderate and is slightly constricted posteriorly: the 2-7 posttemporals do not differ in size from the other tiny scales of the temporal region or are very faint. The medium-sized midtemporal is separated from the posttemporal by 2 - 5 and from the moderately-sized tympanic by 1 - 4 longitudinal rows of tiny scales. In many cases, the midtemporal is absent. The collar is not serrated. There are 25 - 32 scales along the midline of the throat to the collar. The body scales are protruding or conical, noticeably enlarged laterally, frequently with weak longitudinal keels, invariably more prominent in the posterior third of the back and at the edge of the abdomen. The ventral scales laterally touch 2-3 dorsal scales in males and females: the ventral and pectoral scales lie in 21 - 26 transverse rows in the former and 22 - 27 in the latter. The anal is large; anterior of it, one large preanal rounded at the back is symmetrically arranged; rarely, there are 2 enlarged preanals. The femoral pores number 15 - 22. On the underside of the thigh, there are 4 - 6 longitudinal rows of tiny scales between the femoral pores and outer row of large scales. The dorsal scales of the crus are noticeably larger than the body scales and have well-developed longitudinal keels, the middle of the crus, there are 13 - 17 scale rows. The dorsal and lateral scales on the anterior third of the tail have well-developed longitudinal