

The Lacertids of the Balearic Islands and the recent introduced reptiles

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The arrival to the Balearic Islands of new species proceeding from the Iberian Peninsula and other peri-mediterranean regions supposes a potential threat for the survival of the two endemic lacertids. The accession and rapid expansion of *Hemorrhois hippocrepis* and *Rhinechis scalaris* in Ibiza, an island without snakes until a few years ago, might already be affecting the populations of *Podarcis pytiusensis*. The populations of *Podarcis lilfordi* on Cabrera and the other islets surrounding Majorca might equally in turn be affected by *Podarcis siculus*, another lacertid species recently introduced in Mallorca.