

the shores of south western Anatolia into Syria, Palestine and N. Irak. It also occurs in part of the Taurus.

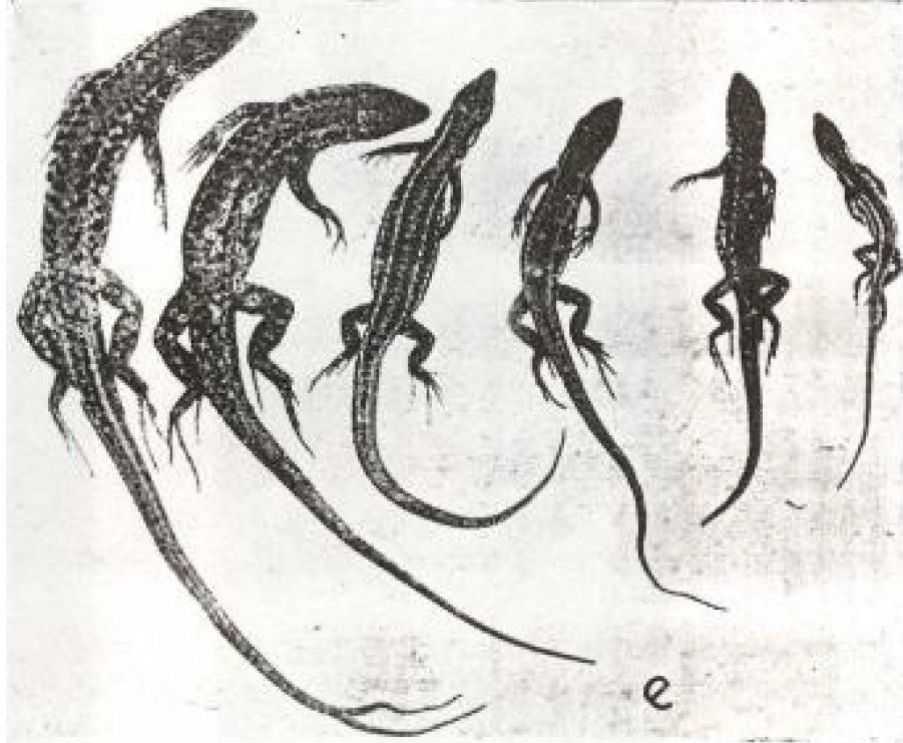
In the area beyond the Mediterranean tongue to Gaziantep, where *O. e. ehrenbergi* still occurs, appears an intermediate form between this and *O. e. elegans*. It has been mentioned by Mertens (1924) from Mardin, and by Müller (1933) from Van and Verağ dağ, extending into N. Iran and Transcaucasia. This transition towards the typical form as well as the small absolute difference make it doubtful, if *O. e. ehrenbergi* is a good subspecies.

Lantz (130) and Müller (1933), remarked correctly that the form inhabiting Central Anatolia is a different subspecies with a number of scales surpassing even that of the type-form considerably and identical with that form, which Boulenger described as the typical. Its occurrence has, so far, been reported from Ankara, Kayseri, Maraş and almost certainly inhabits the whole of Central-Anatolia. It may suitably be named, therefore *O. e. central-anatoliae* forma nova.

As the number of scales around the rump is, so far, the only distinguishing character, it seems better to leave the determination of the taxonomic rank until a revision of this variable and difficult species is made. The following forms have, so far, been analyzed from Anatolia and the immediately limitroph areas :

Form	Locality	Author	n.	number of scales around rump average (range)
<i>O. e. elegans</i>	Baku	Lantz	27	33.4 (31-37)
	Trabzon	Bodenheimer	3	(32-35)
<i>O. e. centralanatoliae</i> :	Ankara	Boulenger	70	37.1 (32-41)
	Maraş	Müller	(many)	37.4 (31-42)
	Giaurdağ	Boulenger	—	(35-37)
	Ankara	Bodenheimer	22	38.6 (36-39)
	Elaziğ	Bodenheimer	4	38.5 (37-39)
	Niğde	Bodenheimer	4	39.0 (39)
	Sivrice	Bodenheimer	17	38.3 (34-39)
	Tatvan	Bodenheimer	6	37.5 (36-39)
<i>O. e. ehrenbergi</i>	: W. Anatolia	Werner	(many)	(29-34)
	Palestine	Boulenger	30	31.3 (28-32)
	Bulgaria	Müller		31.6 (29-34)
Transition <i>O. e. elegans</i> / <i>ehrenbergi</i>	: Transcaucasia/ N. Iran	Lantz	75	32.4
	Van	Müller	65	32.6 (28-34)
	Mardin	Mertens	40	32.7 (24-36)
	Zabil Bulgar	Boulenger	3	(29-34)
	Ereğli (Konya)	Bodenheimer	8	33.0 (32-34)
	<i>O. e. schlüteri</i>	: Cyprus	Boulenger	

The distribution of the forms of *O. e. elegans* in Turkey, as far as it is known today, is illustrated by map III. As long as no territorial contact



Ophisops elegans forma centralanatoliae from Ankara, series of different ages and sexes.