

Apathya cappadocica (WERNER, 1902)
Anatolian Rock Lizard

Global range: Iran, Iraq, Syria and Turkey.

Distribution in Iran: Provinces of West Azerbaijan, Ilam, Kermanshah, and Kurdistan.

Biology: The Anatolian Rock Lizard typically inhabits rocky outcrops. This species can also be found in loose rock valleys with steep slopes and inadvertently grazed steppe areas. This lizard often rests on the crest and edge of rocks in sunshine in order to go from sunlight to shadowed areas and to move into cleft of rocks when it feels in danger. This species has been also observed at the entrance of caves in Kurdistan Province. It leaps by high jumps to move quickly into the caves when it feels endangered.

Size: Snout-vent length 67 mm, tail length 150 mm.

Reproduction: Oviparous.

Status: Common.

Conservation status: IUCN: Least Concern, CITES: –, National: Non-protected.

Diet: Arachnids and insects.

Activity pattern: Diurnal.





Figs. 195–196: *Apathya cappadocica*, female above, male below. The throat is orange, whereas the tail is blue in both sexes. Additionally, the flanks bear blue spots. Kamran KAMALI