

Eremias nigrocellata NIKOLSKY, 1896

Black-ocellated Racerunner

Global range: Afghanistan, Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

Distribution in Iran: Provinces of Golestan, Razavi Khorasan, South Khorasan, Semnan, Sistan and Baluchestan.

Biology: The Black-ocellated Racerunner lives on hard, clayey soil mixed with sand or gravel and covered with annual plants. This species is found in arid and semi-arid regions at elevations of 1,300–1,700 m. It quickly buries itself at the slightest sign of danger.

Size: Snout–vent length 83 mm, tail length 100 mm.

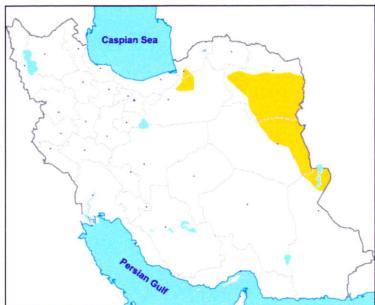


Fig. 232: There are 6–10 rows of ocelli on the back of *Eremias nigrocellata*.

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Fig. 233: *Eremias papenfussi* is characterized by five dark brown or black longitudinal stripes and scattered dark markings.

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Reproduction: Oviparous.

Status: Common.

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

Diet: Arachnids and insects.

Activity pattern: Diurnal.