



Figs. 239-240: *Eremias strauchi*. Note green-blue, black-edged blotches on flanks.

Kamran KAMALI (above), Hossein NABIZADEH (below)

**Conservation status:** IUCN: Critically Endangered, CITES: –, National: Non-protected.

**Diet:** Arachnids and insects.

**Activity pattern:** Diurnal.

*Eremias strauchi* KESSLER, 1878

Strauchi's Racerunner

**Global range:** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, and Turkey.

**Distribution in Iran:** Provinces of Ardabil, East Azerbaijan, West Azerbaijan, Hamadan (?), and Tehran (?).

**Biology:** Strauchi's Racerunner lives in flat areas with mild clayey slopes or soils composed of eroded sandstone or basalt mountains with a bushy steppe vegetation that has been excessively grazed. This lizard is found in areas at elevations ranging from 150 m below sea level up to 3,500 m a.s.l. It climbs on slopes in rocky areas and takes refuge in rock crevices when it feels threatened.

**Size:** Snout-vent length 68 mm, tail length 122 mm.

**Reproduction:** Oviparous.

**Status:** Common.

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

**Diet:** Arachnids and insects.

**Activity pattern:** Diurnal.

