



Bioscience

**O25.****Aspects of thermal ecology of meadow lizard  
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This study was conducted to determine the variation range of daily and seasonal activity in a local population of a meadow lizard (*Darevskia praticola*) at the north-western edge of species area, compared to the variation of certain environmental parameters - soil temperature (Ts) and air temperatures (T5, T60), humidity (Hu), atmospheric pressure, cloudiness and wind speed. In the adult animals a moderately positive correlation between daily activity (LAI) and ambient temperatures was observed (LAI-Ts = 0.35; LAI-T5 = 0.30; LAI-T60 = 0.34), and a low correlation with the change of humidity (LAI-Hu = - 0.14). For the subadult individuals activity was negatively correlated with ambient temperatures (LAI-Ts = - 0.29; LAI-T5 = - 0.45; LAI-T60 = - 0.33), so that activity decreased with increasing temperature, and increasing humidity also reduced the activity (LAI-Hu = -0.54). Results suggest that meadow lizard requires rather special combination of environmental factors. Activity of lizards, recorded via linear transects, changed during the analysed period, from March to June 2012. The lowest total activity was in March (N - the average number of lizards seen per day - was 12 individuals), and the highest in April (N = 19 individuals). In this population of *D. praticola* the activity pattern had no distinct regularity. It occurred in the form of unimodal and bimodal, and during some days neither of the two forms was expressed, since the activity was moderate during the day. Differences in activity patterns of adult and subadult individuals were also observed. The established difference in the period of maximum activity between subadult and adult individuals is likely an example of a divergence in the temporal component of the ecological niche.

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