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2015 Artikel
article 4

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2015 № 4 - ONLINE VERÖFFENTLICHT / PUBLISHED ONLINE: 2015-06-25



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Zitat / Citation:

BERG, M.P. van den & M. ZAWADZKI & M. KRONIGER (2015): Spring 2015 - Herpetological trip to Ibiza (Spain). - L@CERTIDAE (Eidechsen Online), 2015 [4]: 56-89.



Spring 2015 - Herpetological trip to Ibiza (Spain)

MARTEN VAN DEN BERG, MIKE ZAWADZKI and MICHAEL KRONIGER, June 2015.

Summary/Introduction

This is our fifth report in a series on our whereabouts while collecting data for a future revision of the present subspecific order of the endemic Balearic sisterspecies *Podarcis lilfordi* (GÜNTHER, 1874) and *Podarcis pityusensis* (BOSCA, 1883), which data are stored in our free accessible database at www.pityusensis.nl (VAN DEN BERG & ZAWADZKI 2011 ; VAN DEN BERG et al. 2013 ; VAN DEN BERG et al. 2014a ; VAN DEN BERG et al. 2014b). During this trip from the 9th of May until the 23rd of May 2015, we were able to collect data on a few mainland Ibiza locations, as well as the following adjacent islands: Punta Galera, Es Canaret, Illa de la Xanga (Sal Rossa), Pouet de Ses Illetes, Formentera, Purroig, Es Vedrà, Rates, Malví Pla (North), Malví Rodó (South), S'Espardell, Calders, Penjats and Ses Margalides. We continue with the ventral coloration as a possible determining key as introduced in our 2014 trip report (VAN DEN BERG et al. 2014b). Images of the anal shields are presented of each lizard for purposes of illustration.

| Date | Location | Coordinates | „subspecies” | specimens | DNA | |
|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|
| 2015-05-09 | Ibiza (Cala Comte) | 38.960073 1.219784 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 5,0,0 | 5 | BZK |
| 2015-05-10 | Punta Galera | 39.115228 1.517508 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 2,4,1 | 6 | BZK |
| 2015-05-10 | Ibiza (Portinatx) | 39.115056 1.519234 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 2,3,0 | 5 | BZK |
| 2015-05-10 | Es Canaret | 39.102860 1.484440 | <i>P. p. canaretensis</i> | 6,1,0 | 7 | BZK |
| 2015-05-11 | Illa de la Xanga (Sal Rossa) | 38.871815 1.406282 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 10,7,0 | 16 | BZK |
| 2015-05-12 | Pouet de Ses Illetes | 38.754209 1.430572 | <i>P. p. algae</i> | 7,7,0 | 14 | BZK |
| 2015-05-12 | Formentera (Es Ministre) | 38.756041 1.436226 | <i>P. p. grueni</i> | 1,0,0 | 1 | BZK |
| 2015-05-12 | Formentera (Es Ministre) | 38.756041 1.436226 | <i>P. p. formenterae</i> | 3,2,0 | 5 | BZK |
| 2015-05-13 | Grossa de Purroig | 38.871005 1.299562 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 5,0,0 | 5 | BZK |
| 2015-05-14 | Es Vedrà | 38.868248 1.194720 | <i>P. p. vedrae</i> | 4,3,0 | 6 | BZK |
| 2015-05-15/16 | Ibiza (Figueretes) | 38.905011 1.424532 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 1,2,0 | 3 | BZK |
| 2015-05-15 | Rates | 38.896294 1.422966 | <i>P. p. ratae</i> | 4,0,0 | 4 | BZK |
| 2015-05-15 | Ibiza (Near Calders) | 39.101055 1.465044 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 4,1,0 | 5 | BZK |
| 2015-05-16 | Malví Rodó (south) | 38.883767 1.434209 | <i>P. p. schreitmuelleri</i> | 16,10,0 | 26 | BZK |
| 2015-05-17 | Malví Pla (north) | 38.888152 1.438318 | <i>P. p. schreitmuelleri</i> | 11,7,0 | 18 | BZK |
| 2015-05-18 | S'Espardell | 38.795704 1.478863 | <i>P. p. espardellensis</i> | 4,2,0 | 6 | BZK |
| 2015-05-18 | Calders | 39.102241 1.463070 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 3,1,0 | 4 | BZK |
| 2015-05-19 | Penjats | 38.815034 1.409683 | <i>P. p. ahorcadosi</i> | 7,12,0 | 19 | BZK |
| 2015-05-20 | Ibiza (Punta des Cavallet) | 38.850843 1.402930 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 5,1,0 | 6 | BZK |
| 2015-05-21 | Ibiza (Botafoc) | 38.904267 1.453881 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 2,0,0 | 2 | BZK |
| 2015-05-21 | Ibiza (Can Pilot) | 38.982131 1.371703 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 7,3,0 | 10 | BZK |
| 2015-05-22 | Ses Margalides | 39.049819 1.315141 | <i>P. p. hedwigkammerae</i> | 5,7,0 | 12 | BZK |
| 2015-05-23 | Ibiza (Illa Grossa) | 38.905762 1.456590 | <i>P. p. pityusensis</i> | 3,4,0 | 7 | ZK |

Table 1. Data collected on Ibiza and surrounding islands during spring 2015 (under permits CEP 02-04/2015), by B = MARTEN VAN DEN BERG, Z = MIKE ZAWADZKI and K = MICHAEL KRONIGER.

Saturday, the 9th of May 2015 - Ibiza: **Cala Comte** (E06)

n=16
E06



n=5
(2015)

On our day of arrival we decided to do a quick afternoon sampling session at Cala Comte, however, a little more to the south compared to our 2014 herpetological trip. This area has still our special interest because of an alleged translocation of 50 lizards from S'Espartar, and maybe from S'Espardell de S'Espartar and the Bledas islands, back in 1971 (LILGE 1975 ; ZAWADZKI 2001). Like in 2014 we only spotted and captured (5,0,0) of the ordinary looking lizards which you would expect in this area.

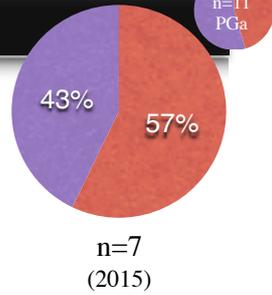


Image 1. MIKE's favorite pre, in between and post measuring activity.



Image 2. Habitat at Cala Comte, south to the main parking area at the beach.

Sunday, the 10th of May 2015 - Punta Galera (PGa)



For this Sunday some of the small northern islands were on the program for getting sampled. We started at Illa de Punta Galera near Portinatx, which was climbed after a short refreshing swim. MIKE got the credit of being the first sharp rock victim of this trip, one in a long sequence yet to overcome all of us.



Image 3. Ouch!

After being recuperated, we were able to enhance our 2000 sample with 2,4,1 specimens. Amongst them was a mixed bellied female with some bright yellow dorsolateral scales, which color is not often seen.

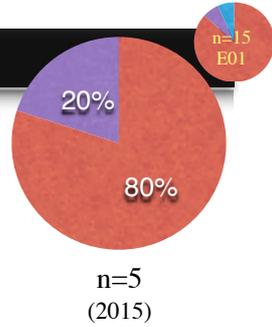
Image 4. Mixed bellied female from Punta Galera with clear dorsolateral yellow scales.



Image 5. Shallow separation between Illa de Punta Galera and the Punta Galera peninsula at Portinatx. In the back the lighthouse Far del Moscarter is still visible.



Sunday, the 10th of May 2015 - Ibiza: **Portinatx** (E01)



After sampling on the island, we decided to catch some lizards on the other side of the small channel, to look for possible differences. Within the 2,3,0 specimens caught, no big differences were found. However one of the females surpassed the yellow scaled female from the other side with a big dot of yellow scales.

The 5 specimens from this location are clustered in our map overview (see image 73) with the 10 specimens from our 2014 trip at the nearby Far del Moscarter (E01) location.

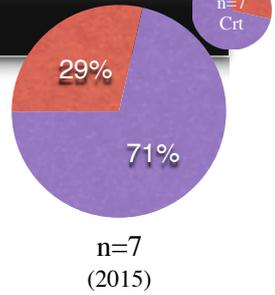


Image 6.
More yellow scales in this female from the peninsula Punta Galera.



Image 7.
View on Illa de Punta Galera from the peninsula Punta Galera, our second sampling location of the day.

Sunday, the 10th of May 2015 - Es Canaret (Crt)



Probably the most orphaned and neglected population of *Podarcis pityusensis* should be the one of Es Canaret island. The only person that bothered to collect data on this island was ANTONIA CIRER during preparations of her master dissertation in 1981 (CIRER 1981). Based on 6,5,0 specimens she described *Podarcis pityusensis canaretensis* (CIRER 1980), which she later in her PhD work included in *Podarcis pityusensis pityusensis* (CIRER 1986 ; CIRER 1987). Her taxonomic proposition, clustering all populations in a few groups, was not accepted by others, with the result that *Podarcis pityusensis canaretensis* is still today considered as a valid subspecies. This all based on the insights of scientists who probably never ever have seen a single Es Canaret lizard; isn't that funny?

At least we will enhance the total record of this population with 6,1,0 specimens, collected during the afternoon.

Image 8.

Male *Podarcis pityusensis*
on Es Canaret island.



Image 9.

Female *Podarcis pityusensis*
on Es Canaret island.



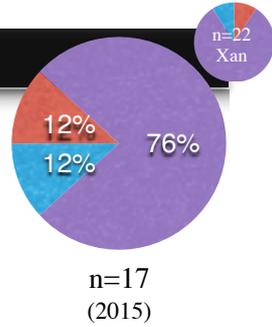
Es Canaret

Image 10.
West side of Es Canaret island.



Image 11.
East side of Es Canaret island, with part of the small channel dividing it from mainland Ibiza.

Monday, the 11th of May 2015 - Illa de la Xanga (Sal Rossa) (Xan)



First thing on Monday morning was meeting the girls at the office of the Espais Naturals Protegits d'Eivissa i Formentera and discussing the possibilities within both parks. When we told them that we were about to swim to Illa de la Xanga and asked for those who want to come along, all four faces gave a grimace and were nodding no!!! Strange, because the swim was really nice, without jellyfish or other terrible accidents nor discomforts, and the lizards were beautiful as always.

Our intention was to sample just one island for a change, and so we did, resulting in a quite large sample of 10,7,0 specimens.

Image 12. Illa de la Xanga, with in the background Torre de Sal Rossa and Platja d'en Bossa.



Illa de la Xanga (Sal Rossa)

Image 13.

Pallenis maritima (syn. *Asteriscus maritimus*), aka yellow lizard-lipstick.

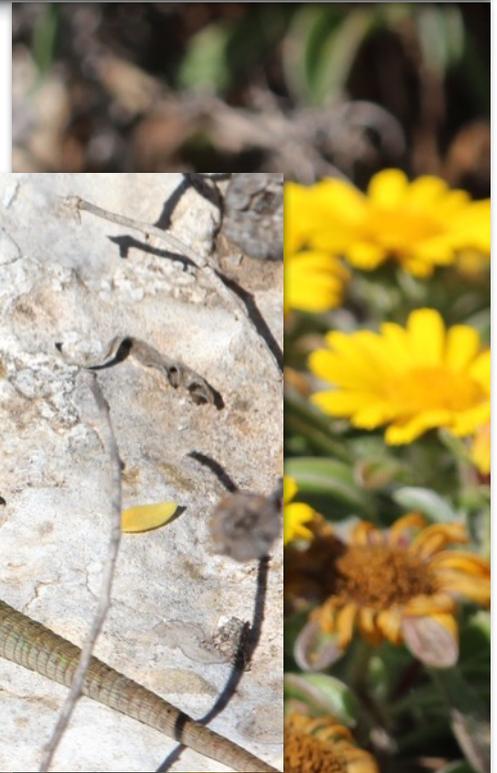


Image 14.

Male *Podarcis pityusensis* on Illa de la Xanga.



Image 15.

Female *Podarcis pityusensis* on Illa de la Xanga.



Tuesday, the 12th of May 2015 - Formentera

On Tuesday we took one of the early ferries to Formentera, where we intended to make a short walk up to Es Ministre restaurant, where we sampled at the Pouet peninsula and next to Es Ministre, and than back to Es Pujols, in order to visit the Ses Perreres and Fonoll Mori islands. One of the reasons for walking was to observe the variation in coloration within the lizards along this track. At the first third of the track lizards were still abundant, mostly the ordinary bluish sides and green backed types, but also some complete bluish ones and those more resembling the lizards from Ibiza. On the second third part of the track, up to Ses Illetes beach, the lizards seemed to have disappeared completely. The habitat in this area seems not very suited to the lizards, and this confirms our idea of isolation between the Trucadors part and the rest of Formentera. Regrettably we had to skip both islands at Es Pujols, because there was not enough time left to do some real sampling.



Image 16. Part of the route we walked.

Image 17. (right top) MIKE, MICHAEL and HANS (Observer and dedicated caterer during the first 5 days) on the Ferry to Formentera.

Image 18. Bluish *Podarcis pityusensis* male at the very start of today's journey.



Tuesday, the 12th of May 2015 - Pouet de Ses Illetes (PSI)

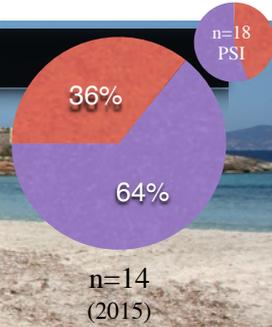


Image 19.
Former island Pouet.

Before MIKE and MICHAEL even had finished their respective coke and coffee, MARTEN already caught a good part of the adult population of the former island Pouet, at least around the buildings. In total we were able to add 7,7,0 specimens to our database.

Although Pouet is at the moment not a real island, the sandy bridge connecting it to the beaches seemed now even broader than during our last visit in 2011, some degree of isolation is still present. At least is the coloration in this population much more pronounced as on the other side of the land bridge. Therefore we consider this population still as a distinct population.

Image 20.
Male *Podarcis pityusensis*
at Pouet.



Tuesday, the 12th of May 2015 - Es Ministre (Tru)

n=46
Tru

100%

n=1
(2015)

The main reason for visiting Formentera was trying to catch a single lizard we already caught during our trip back in 2011, and which was probably the northernmost bluish lizard on Formentera (*ZBK 00087*). This male was a big contrast to the rest of the population in the area, all palish looking *Podarcis pityusensis grueni* like lizards. The centre of his home-range (we observed this specimen on three different days) was a small bush, which was shared with a palish female (*ZBK 00032*) and two juveniles (*ZBK 00085* and *ZBK 00086*), the latter probably a male, with a non-palish coloration.



Image 21. Male 00087 (2011).

Image 22. Male 00087 (2011).

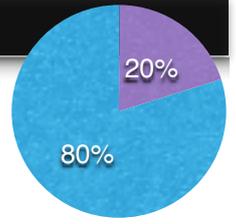
Image 23. Juvenile 00086 (2011).

Now we realize that this might have been the beginning of a translocated mixed population. This is plausible, because the bush is located next to a big parking area, with all the possibilities of an accidental translocation.

Image 24. Bush, home to male 00087 in 2011, photographed during this trip, with two traps visible.



Es Ministre (Translocated origin)



n=5
(2015)

Within 10 minutes it became evident that we were not trying to catch one bluish lizard, but several bluish lizards. So we concentrated our traps on these bluish lizards, but still one *P. p. grueni* like lizard was caught as bycatch, and added to the Trucadors record.

In total we did trap 3,2,0 bluish lizards, which turned out to be not identical to all previous caught lizards in 2011. Our intention to catch that single special lizard failed, but it is clear that these bluish lizards are almost certain related to him, and to the bluish juvenile.

We doubt if this situation with the translocated lizards is desirable, but monitoring this event in the future could be interesting and revealing.

Image 25. *P. p. grueni* male 00806.



Image 26. Bluish male 00803.



Image 27. Bluish female 00804.



Image 28. Mixed bellied female 00805.



Image 29. Bluish male 00807.



Image 30. Bluish male 00808.



Wednesday, the 13th of May 2015 - **Grossa de Purroig** (SIP)

It turned out to become the hottest day of the trip, 29 °C in the shade, and after having done some preparations in Ibiza town, HANS for his return flight that evening, and us arranging transport to Rates and the Malvins, we went to Es Torrent beach in order to walk the cliffside towards Illa Grossa de Purroig. Quite a sweaty and tiresome experience, so MARTEN preferred a nice cool and even faster swim. Conditions for catching lizards were not optimal, but we managed to add 5,0,0 specimens to our database.

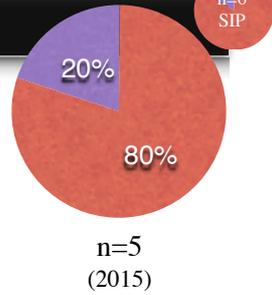


Image 32. 900 m “walk” or swim from Es Torrent beach.

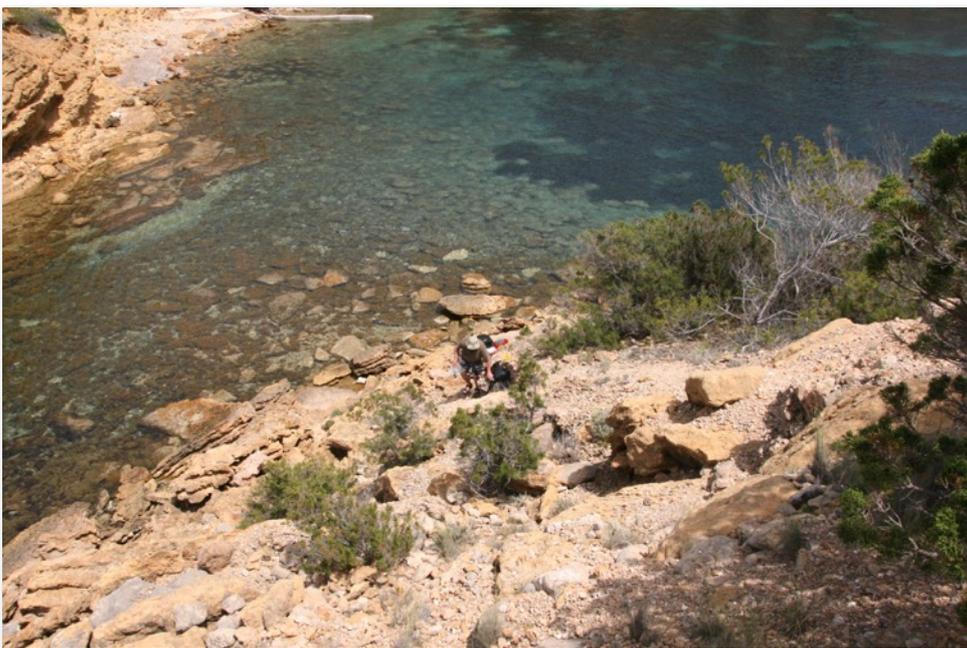
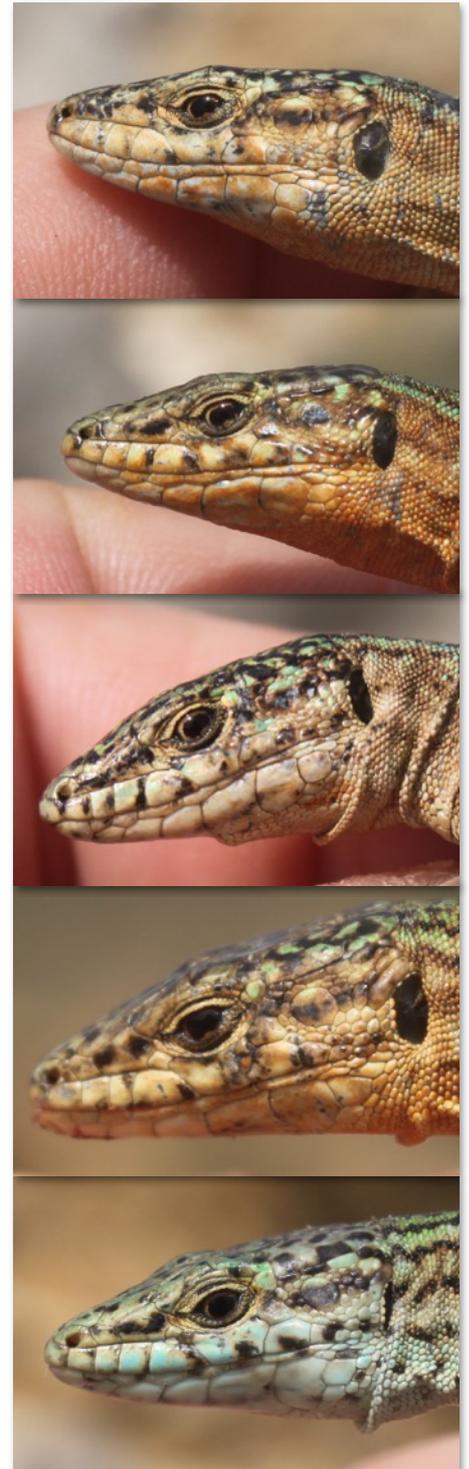


Image 33. Steep access mainly consisting out of loose rock and gravel.

Image 31. Purroig males en profile.



Thursday, the 14th of May 2015 - **Es Vedrà** (Vdr)

n=12
Vdr

100%

n=7
(2015)

Thursday at last, our first scheduled day within the National Park, and a new opportunity for us to get on Vedranell for the first time. We were picked up at Cala Comte by HELENA and the new skipper ABEL, and hopeful we went into the right direction. But the seaway was about to spoil this opportunity again, however, the new skipper did something the old skipper never ever would have done under similar circumstances; he put us on Es Vedrà instead, in doing so earning his complimentary Cava right on his first trip. We could say: Es Vedrà, we went there before. But we won't. Perfect! We were able to enhance our small sample of the island with 4,3,0 specimens, and are very grateful for that. During the morning the waves even got worse than on arrival. It is heartwarming to experience the great concern expressed by HELENA about getting us safe of the island, even that she should be enabled to make international phone calls in such case. Well, please don't call us while staying on any of the islands (of course you're welcome every other moment), we don't mind remaining there, and if we really want to leave, we will just jump into the water. Yes, we are a little bit crazy!



Image 34. Our new skipper ABEL and HELENA.

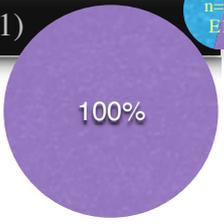
Image 35. Not all girls in the neighborhood seem so nice and friendly.





Friday the 15th and Saturday the 16th of May 2015 - Ibiza: Es Figueretes (E11)

n=26
E11



n=3
(2015)

We had an appointment with the guys from the diving center SOMNI BLAU IBIZA at 9:00, but as always we were much earlier, both days, and there was a beautiful concolor male living on the wall in front of the diving center. Therefor we did some pre-trip sampling (1,2,0 specimens), just to kill the time.

On Friday that time turned out to be plentiful, because the diving center had lost their boat overnight, when it was quite stormy. It caused some panic on their side, but in the end the boat was found around the corner on its way to Ibiza harbor. Because they had to check it during the afternoon, only a two hour timeframe remained, which we spent on Rates island.

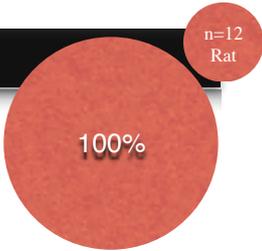


Image 36. Pre-trip sampling at Figueretes.

Image 37. Concolor male caught on Saturday.



Friday, the 15th of May 2015 - **Rates** (Rat)



n=4
(2015)

What can we say about our visit to Rates? We had to be quick, the lizards were not very cooperative, not in getting photographed nor in getting caught. Most of the time they just moved around inside the bushes, and they all had a big flight distance. For now we should be glad to add at least 4,0,0 specimens to our database.



Image 38. Male.



Image 39. Female.



Image 40. View on the citadel of Ibiza town.

Friday, the 15th of May 2015 - Ibiza: Near Calders (E20)

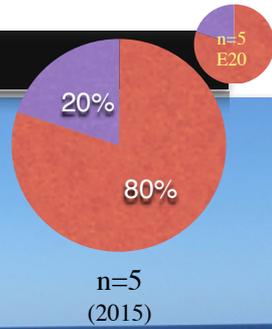


Image 41. View on Calders from the sampling site.



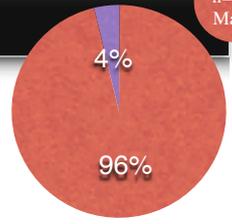
Image 42. Nasty waves from two sides.

After lunch at our house we went to the north again in order to do some sampling on Calders island. Although not separated by a wide channel, this afternoon the conditions were not in favor for a relaxed swim. Again some setback this day, all due to last nights stormy weather. We did caught some lizards at the Ibiza side instead and were able to add 4,1,0 specimens to our collection.



Image 43. Red bellied male.

Saturday, the 16th of May 2015 - **Malví Rodó** (MaR)



n=26
(2015)

Saturday was a complete different story, everything went according to plan. The boat was where it should be, a morning- and afternoon dive planned, so we could spent 5 hours on Malví Rodó, the southernmost of the Malvin islands.

No setbacks at all? Regrettably no. Quite soon after having placed the traps, a mixed colored female and a blue belly male were trapped. After a quick look MARTEN lost the blue male while putting it back into the pre-sample container. This male had a complete uniform blue belly. We kept on trying to recapture it, or at least one other lookalike, but we didn't succeed. In hindsight this might have been the reason why we collected the huge amount of 16,10,0 specimens, all but one red bellied lizards, like the ones we took pictures of while strolling the island.



Image 44.
Profiles of some of the caught lizards on Malví Rodó.

Image 45. Habitat with view on our transport.



Sunday, the 17th of May 2015 - Malví Pla (MaP)

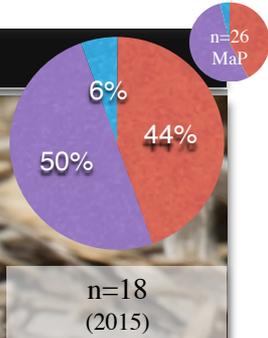


Image 46. Malví Pla, another story from red ...

Sunday morning we were setting sail again with the guys from SOMNI BLAU, in an arrangement like Saturday, but this time to Malví Pla, the northernmost of the Malvins. In the hours given we were able to collect 11,7,0 specimens, but what a difference in the results compared to Saturday. We knew what to expect from our previous visits to this island, but after having gathered today's collection the picture is undeniable; there is something wrong with this population, or there is something wrong with the descriptions so far. Maybe the remark, although given without explanation nor illustration, of translocated lizards from Formentera by MARTÍNEZ-RICA & CIRER (1982), is the only thing that might persevere. To dig into the details is beyond the scope of this trip report, so we ask the reader for some patience; we will return to this subject in our future description of all populations.

Image 47. ...until blue.



Monday, the 18th of May 2015 - S'Espardell (Epl)

n=6
Epl

100%

n=6
(2015)

We knew the boat of the Ses Salines park was broken, so in our minds the visits to the Es Freus islands, and especially S'Espardell, were cancelled. However NÚRIA was able to arrange the boat of the Es Vedrà park to be relocated to Ibiza harbor on Sunday, so two visits to the Es Freus went on.

Monday morning we were dropped off by our skipper ABEL at S'Espardell, a first time visit to us, high on our wish list because of the expected red belly coloration on this relative long separated island, with an estimated divergence time of 9350 years before present (VAN DEN BERG 2015). We were able to add 4,2,0 specimens to our database. The population turned out quite homogeneous in coloration and pattern. Everywhere where we observed the lizards on the northern part of the island (the rest was off limits because of the nesting gulls) no extraordinary lizards were spotted.

Image 48. S'Espardell.

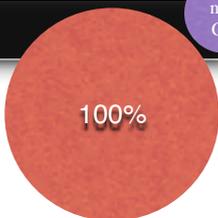
Image 49. Male *Podarcis pityusensis* on S'Espardell.

Image 50. Female enjoying a spider.

Monday, the 18th of May 2015 - **Calders** (Cal)



On the days we are traveling with the boat of the park, there is always enough time for additional sampling in the afternoon. During this afternoon we wanted to try reaching Calders again, and this second time we were successful. After a short swim to a climbable spot on the west side of the island, 3,1,0 specimens were sampled.



n=9
Cal

n=4
(2015)

Image 51.
Also what seemed to be mixed-bellied lizards were wandering around on Calders island.



Image 52.
View from the top of Calders, the more vegetated area of the island.



Tuesday, the 19th of May 2015 - **Penjats** (Pen)

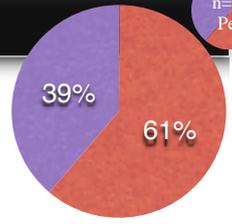


Image 53. Heavy container.

Another first timer for us: Penjats. We were brought by our skipper in the early morning. Heavy clouded skies and a little drizzle prevented us from using traps. But the old-fashioned turning of stones worked perfect again. MICHAEL even found under a not that big sized stone approximate 20 lizards, of which he could grab a handful. No wonder that in the end a tail without the accompanying lizard left over. That is why we brought some containers with ethanol as well. During the whole trip 3 accidents with tails occurred, so provided us the same amount of old-fashioned tissue samples.



Image 54. Dark clouds over Penjats island.



Image 55. Macabre findings on Penjats.

During our 2014 trip MARIANA told us, being on Dau Gran, about the time rangers did find a human skeleton on Penjats, and the hassle it gave with the Guardia Civil.

In the old days Penjats (what means "hanged") was used to hang Pirates and other criminals.

Wednesday, the 20th of May 2015 - Ibiza: **Punta des Cavallet** (E21)

Image 56. The office at Calle de Murcia.

Ses Margalides was on today's schedule, but the wind conditions prevented this. Instead we went to the office of the Espais Naturals Protegits d'Eivissa i Formentera a second time, in order to bring the girls our complimentary cake, as tradition demands. Whilst in town, a quick visit to a bookstore is, at least to some of us, not surprising.



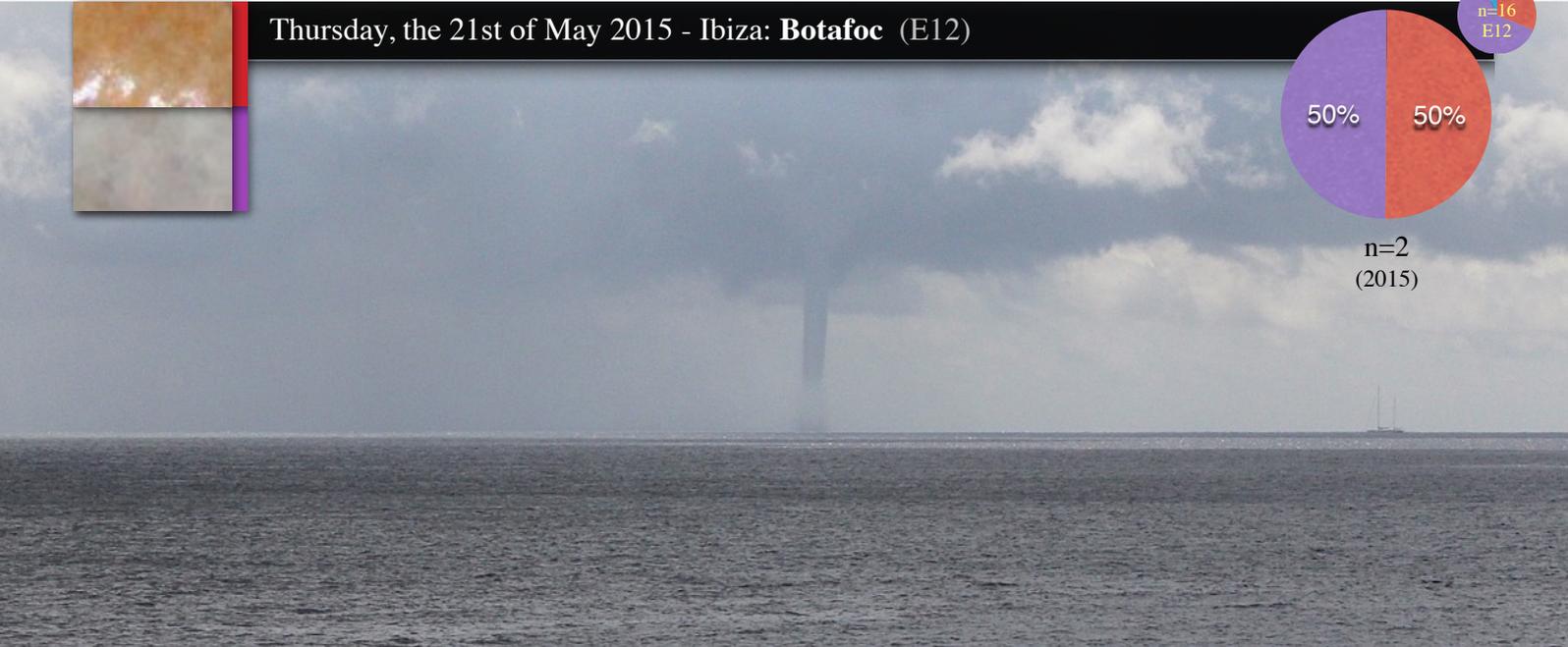
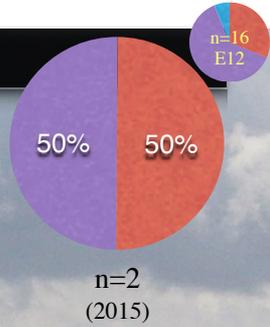
Sampling was done in a forested area on one of the isolated interglacial high water refuges in the southeast of Ibiza, near Punta des Cavallet. During the afternoon we were able to add 5,1,0 specimens to our database.

Thursday we were to meet the boat of the park at Cala Comte again, for another try to reach Vedranell. When the boat was arriving it was clear that on this day Vedranell was out of reach again. VIRGINIA and MARIANA were still on the boat and not on Espartar, where they should have been. Bad luck, next trip new chances.

Image 57. View from our sampling location at Punta des Cavallet towards Ses Salines and the Es Freus islands.



Thursday, the 21st of May 2015 - Ibiza: **Botafoc** (E12)



Thursday mornings alternative destination was the former island Botafoc in the harbor of Ibiza. During the 2014 trip we almost didn't find lizards at this location, and we caught none. Now we could observe more lizards, less cats (only four), and trapped at least 2,0,0 of the lizards.

Image 58. Waterspout as seen from Botafoc.

Image 59. Botafoc lighthouse.



Image 60.

Light green and bluish male at Botafoc, with a distortion behind the neck, what appears as the result of a survived attack. The coloration in the affected area is however black and reddish.



Image 61. Our competition at Botafoc.

Thursday, the 21st of May 2015 - Ibiza: **Can Pilot** (E17)

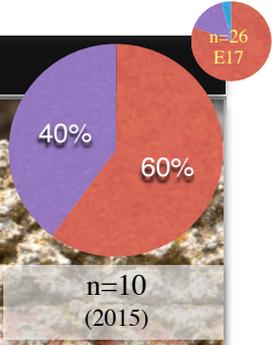


Image 62. Lizard apartments at Can Pilot. No vacancies.

When around noon the skies became black, we went back to our house at Can Pilot. Later in the afternoon, when the skies turned clear again, we wandered around the property of the house. Next to some structures near the water basin we found, besides cherries and apricots, a lizard hot-spot, where we collected another 7,3,0 specimens. The lizards seemed not to be the only reptiles around, as MIKE spotted a snake creeping out of a drainage tube on the roof, which went over the top of the tube back to the roof, where it disappeared between the hay bales, which were placed there for isolation sake. I don't think CHEMA would have approved it, if we had demolished this roof just to find a nasty snake.

Image 63. Snake tube.



Image 64.

New technique of catching lizards hidden in a hole. Like chimpanzees catching termites with a twig, MARTEN used a straw to pull the lizards out. Quite effective.



n=12
SMa

Friday, the 22nd of May 2015 - Ses Margalides (SMa)



n=12
(2015)



Image 65. Ses Margalides.



Image 66. Luxury transportation.

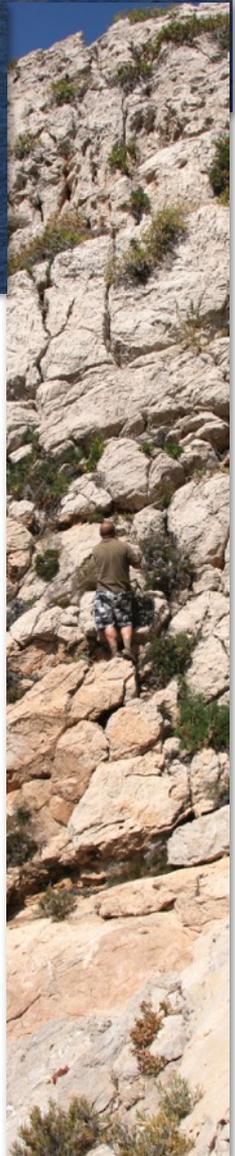
Friday became the highlight of this trip; a long-awaited visit to Ses Margalides, made possible by the owner of our house, CHEMA RAMON, who also happens to be the owner of a nice yacht. The lizard population on this island exceeded our expectations; extraordinary!!! We

were able to catch 5,7,0 specimens. But there were lots more. We will keep the findings to ourselves right now, because this exceeds the scope of this trip report by far, and deserves a dedicated article. So, to be continued!



Image 67.
Male *Podarcis pityusensis* at Ses Margalides, looking pretty much like what was described.

Image 68.
MARTEN at a slope, trying to catch something completely different and not even green-backed.



Saturday, the 23rd of May 2015 - Ibiza: Illa Grossa (E12)

After having dropped MARTEN at the airport for his flight back to Amsterdam, MIKE and MICHAEL still had a few hours left to do some sampling. The former island Illa Grossa became their target, and an additional, and provisional last, 3,4,0 specimens were added to our database.

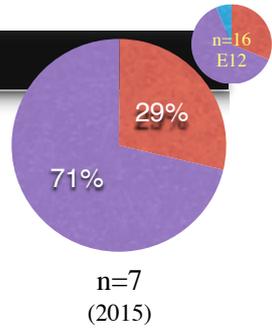


Image 69. Grossa profiles.



Image 70. Illa Grossa and Botafoc not so long ago, before construction of the new quay and Ferry terminals.



Image 71 Extremely green female on Illa Grossa.

Conclusion

Spring 2015 was a very productive trip and “partir c'est mourir un peu”, so we hope to be back soon. Our black and grey spots in image 73 are again reduced compared to our last trip, and the number of populations we still have to visit are becoming overseable: Murada, S'Hort, Cala Salada and Escull de Figueretes outside the parks, Vedranell, Escull Vermell, Escull de Tramuntana, Es Vaixell inside the Es Vedrà park, and Caragoler, Negra Norte and Gastaví inside the Ses Salines park. We also need some more data from and around Formentera, and a few islands ignored in the past are also in the pipeline for a visit. So, we have enough reason to come back at least three times, but then the real work starts, translating our impressions and data into a comprehensive description of the populations, and giving our verdict on the subspecific status of these populations.

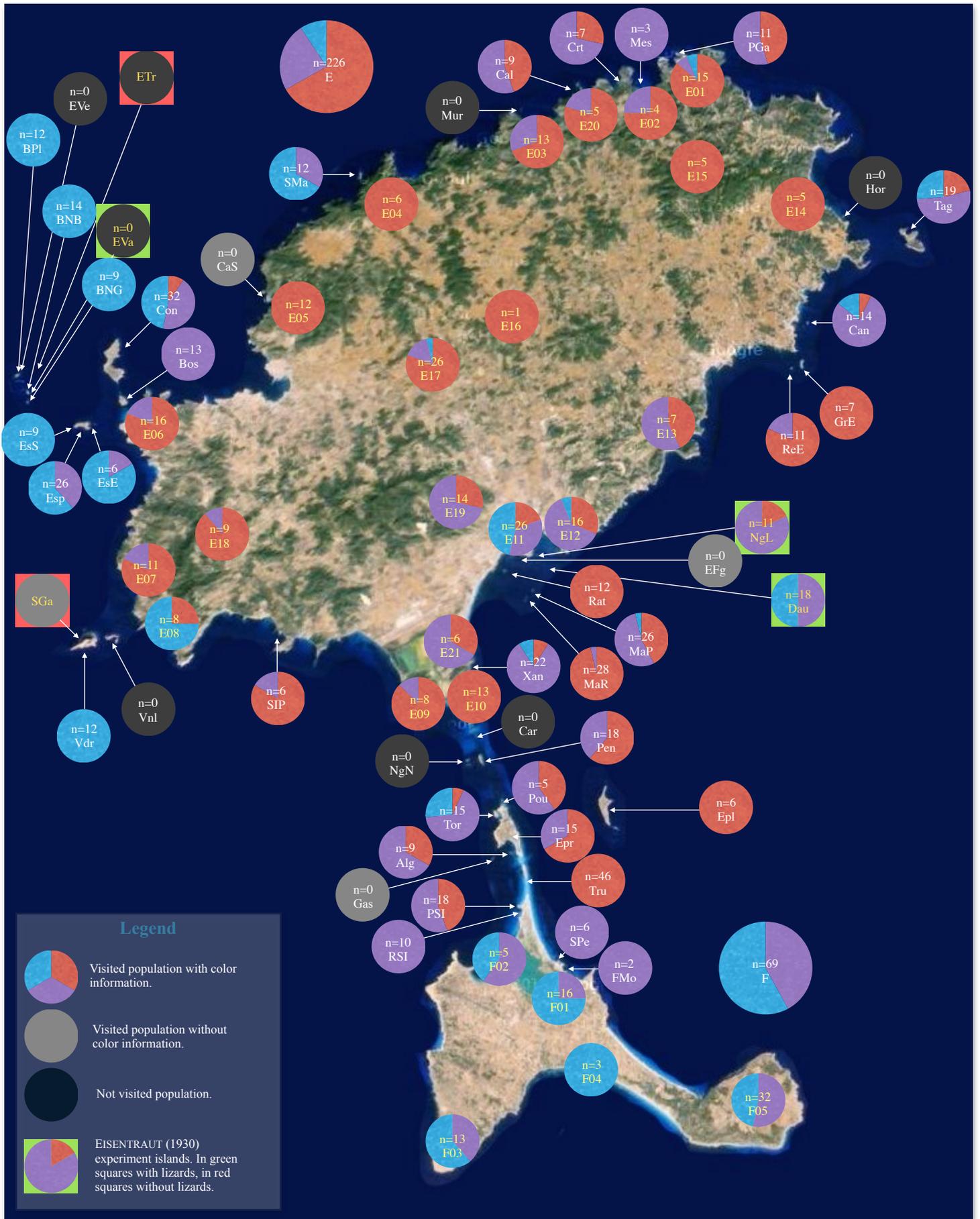


Image 73. All 48 known Pityusic populations of *Podarcis pityusensis*, with data gathered so far (for details see table 2).

| Abr | Population | Specimens | Red | Mixed | Blue | Abr | Population | Specimens | Red | Mixed | Blue |
|-----|------------------------------|-----------|-----|-------|------|-----|-------------------------|------------|-----|-------|------|
| E | Ibiza | 152,72,21 | 151 | 54 | 21 | EFg | Escui de Figueretes | | | | |
| PGa | Punta Galera | 4,6,1 | 5 | 6 | | NgL | Negra Llevant | 8,4,0 | 2 | 9 | |
| Mes | Sa Mesquida | 3,0,0 | | 3 | | Dau | Dau Gran | 8,11,0 | | 9 | 9 |
| Crt | Canaret | 6,1,0 | 2 | 5 | | ReE | Redona de Santa Eulària | 7,5,0 | 9 | 2 | |
| Cal | Calders | 4,1,0 | 4 | 5 | | GrE | Grossa de Santa Eulària | 6,2,0 | 7 | | |
| Mur | Murada | 1,0,0 | | | | Can | Es Canar | 10,5,0 | 1 | 11 | 2 |
| SMa | Ses Margalides | 7,10,1 | | 4 | 8 | Tag | Tagomago | 10,7,3 | 4 | 10 | 5 |
| CaS | S'Illeta de Cala Salada | | | | | Hor | S'Hort | | | | |
| EVe | Escull Vermell | | | | | Car | Caragoler | | | | |
| BPl | Bleda Plana | 9,2,2 | | | 12 | Pen | Penjats | 8,12,0 | 11 | 7 | |
| BNB | Bleda Na Bosc | 8,5,1 | | | 14 | NgN | Negra Norte | 1,0,0 | | | |
| EVa | Es Vaixell | | | | | Pou | Pou | 2,4,0 | 2 | 3 | |
| BNG | Bleda Na Gorra | 5,5,0 | | | 9 | Epr | Espalmador | 15,5,1 | 10 | 5 | |
| Con | Conillera | 20,10,3 | 3 | 14 | 15 | Tor | Sa Torreta | 8,6,1 | 1 | 10 | 4 |
| Bos | Bosc de Conillera | 4,6,3 | | 13 | | Alg | S'Alga | 7,2,0 | 3 | 6 | |
| EsS | S'Espardell de S'Espartar | 7,4,0 | | | 9 | Epl | Espardell | 2,1,0 | 6 | | |
| Esp | S'Espartar | 14,16,0 | | 10 | 16 | Gas | Gastaví | 3,0,0 | | | |
| EsE | Escui de S'Espartar | 4,2,0 | | 1 | 5 | Tru | Trucadors - Es Ministre | 39,34,12 | 46 | | |
| Vdr | Es Vedrà | 10,7,1 | | | 12 | F | Formentera | 43,32,8 | | 29 | 40 |
| Vnl | Vedranell | 1,0,0 | | | | PSI | Pouet de Ses Illetes | 9,9,1 | 8 | 10 | |
| SIP | Ses Illetes de Purroig | 6,0,0 | 5 | 1 | | RSI | Redona de Ses Illetes | 7,3,0 | | 10 | |
| Xan | Illa de la Xanga (Sal Rossa) | 13,9,0 | 2 | 18 | 2 | SPe | Ses Perreres | 6,0,0 | | 6 | |
| MaR | Malví Rodó (South) | 19,10,0 | 27 | 1 | | FMo | Fonoll Mori | 2,0,0 | | 2 | |
| MaP | Malví Pla (North) | 16,11,0 | 11 | 14 | 1 | ETr | Escull Tramuntana | no lizards | | | |
| Rat | Rates | 9,5,0 | 12 | | | SGa | Sa Galera | no lizards | | | |

Table 2. Populations of *Podarcis pityusensis*, with number of specimens in our database and belly color distribution.

Acknowledgment

We want to express our gratitude to IVAN RAMOS TORRES for making the first arrangements necessary to this trip, including the CEP permits. We thank DENNIS RÖDDER and URSULA BOTT (ZFMK) for recommending us and quick assistance to every request we made. We are also grateful for the assistance of all the staff of the Espais Naturals Protegits d'Eivissa i Formentera, especially to “our girls”, VIRGINIA PICORELLI SASTRE, NÚRIA VALVERDE COSTA, MARIANA VIÑAS TORRES and HELENA RIBAS MARÍ, and of course to our new hero, skipper ABEL O’FERRAL BALDOMERO. Also many thanks to the staff of diving center SOMNI BLAU IBIZA for getting us on Rates and the Malvins. Last but not least many thanks to CHEMA RAMON and family, for their hospitality at Xem’s house in Can Pilot, and getting us on Ses Margalides. Then we almost forgot HANS STEENKAMP, our kitchen princess, for providing us the extra tasteful calories, so we could survive another week and a half, when he left for home.



Image 74. CHEMA RAMON.

Image 75. Farewell to HELENA...



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Image 76. ...and to VIRGINIA and MARIANA.



Image 77. Cheers! and dankjewel.