**Lacerta trilineata** BEDRIAGA, 1886
Balkan Green Lizard, Three-lined Emerald Lizard

**Identification:** A large lizard with a total length around 33-50 cm. Rostral usually in contact with external nares; 2 postnasals; supraciliaries usually in an intermittent row, between 2-15. 42-55 rows of dorsal scales at mid-trunk; ventrals in 8, rarely in 6 longitudinal rows; femoral pores between 12-19. The dorsum of juveniles usually brown, with five lighter colored longitudinal bands, an intermittent band lateral to the ventral scales may also be present. The venter whitish, yellowish, light green or bluish. With onset of maturity, the dorsum changes to green, the bands become indistinct, a fine black stippling.
appears, more so in females. In old specimens the dorsum is yellowish-green with a fine black stippling. In adult males, there may be a light blue coloration on head laterals. The venter is yellowish-white in males, pinkish-yellow in females.

**Habitat & Biology:** Inhabits woods and areas with close vegetation, shaded stony-rocky areas close to rivers and streams, found within cultivated fields and gardens. Usually shelters between the roots and trunks of bushy vegetation. A very agile species which prefers damp environments. Feeds mainly on various insects. A female lays between 7-18 eggs.

**Distribution:** Its range extends from the Adriatic Sea coast to Balkan countries, Turkey, Caucasica, SW Iran, Syria and Israel; with a vertical distribution to 1500 m. Represented with 9 subspecies in Turkey:

7. *L. t. media* LANTZ-CYREN, 1920: E Anatolia, the eastern parts of Central Anatolia.

The taxonomical status of this species has been recently revised by SCHMIDTLER (1986); according to this author, *L. media* and *L. pamphylica* are separate species, races of which are being investigated.
66A. Lacerta trilineata media

66B. Lacerta trilineata pamphylica
66C. *Lacerta trilineata diplochondrodes*

66D. *Lacerta trilineata cariensis*
66E. Lacerta trilineata isaurica

66F. Lacerta trilineata wolterstorffi
66G. *Lacerta trilineata galatiensis*

66H. *Lacerta trilineata ciliciensis*
661. *Lacerta trilineata dobrogica*