Darevskia sapphirina, Van Lizard

Assessment by: Yakup Kaska, Yusuf Kumluğan, Aziz Avci, Nazan Üzüm, Can Yeniyurt, Ferdi Akarsu


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**Taxonomy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Reptilia</td>
<td>Squamata</td>
<td>Lacertidae</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Taxon Name:** *Darevskia sapphirina* (Schmidtler, 1994)

**Common Name(s):**
- English: Van Lizard

**Assessment Information**

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern [ver 3.1](http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2009.RLTS.T164770A5924778.en)

**Year Published:** 2009

**Date Assessed:** December 14, 2008

**Justification:**
This species is listed as Least Concern because there are no current or anticipated major threats. Although there appear to be none planned at present, if development were to occur within its range, it could be susceptible to significant declines because it has a small range and does not tolerate habitat modification.

**Geographic Range**

**Range Description:**
This species is endemic to eastern Turkey, where it is known only from the vicinity of Ercis within Vilayet Van of eastern Anatolia (Baran and Atatür, 1998). It is present at an altitude of around 2,000m asl.

**Country Occurrence:**
**Native:** Turkey
Distribution Map

Darevskia sapphirina

Range
- Extant (resident)

Compiled by:
IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)

Source: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment R-Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2009.RLTS.T164770A5924778.en
Population
This species is rare within its limited range (Kumlutaş, pers. comm. 2008).
Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)
It is found on rocky and stony open slopes and high steppe habitats. The females typically lay a clutch of between three and four eggs (Baran and Atatür, 1998). This species cannot tolerate modified habitat (Kumlutaş, pers. comm. 2008).

Systems: Terrestrial

Threats
There appear to be no major threats to this species.

Conservation Actions
This species is not found in any protected areas. More research is needed to understand the distribution and population dynamics of this species.

Credits
Assessor(s): Yakup Kaska, Yusuf Kumlutaş, Aziz Avci, Nazan Üzüm, Can Yeniyurt, Ferdi Akarsu
Reviewer(s): Neil Cox and Helen Temple
Bibliography


Citation


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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2009.RLTS.T164770A5924778.en), please see the Red List website.
Appendix

Habitats
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Suitability</th>
<th>Major Importance?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Grassland -&gt; 4.4. Grassland - Temperate</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Marginal</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0. Root -&gt; 6. Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Research Needed
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Research -&gt; 1.2. Population size, distribution &amp; trends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Research -&gt; 1.3. Life history &amp; ecology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Data Fields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper elevation limit (m): 2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population severely fragmented: No</td>
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