



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**

Strauch's Racerunner

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

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

Biology: Strauch'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.

