



forum



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**O13.
Mediterranean Invaders: Origin and Genetic Diversity of the
Common Wall Lizard in England**

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The common wall lizard (*Podarcis muralis*) has been introduced outside of its native range on many occasions. There are about 30 populations in England, spanning an introduction history of about 100 years. These populations provide opportunities to assess how introduction history and founder events shape patterns of genetic and phenotypic diversity, and the consequences thereof for



population viability. We have identified the geographic and taxonomic origin of the wall lizard populations in England, which falls into five major native lineages. The data suggest a moderate loss of genetic diversity compared to native populations, but there is no evidence that this loss of genetic variation causes inbreeding depression in introduced populations. Multiple origins are common in introduced populations and the patterns of genetic variation suggest a complex history of establishment using different native and introduced sources. These data helps to assess the importance of genetic variation and mixing of animals from different origins for establishment success in non-native lizards.

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