

The Diet of an Introduced Population of *Podarcis pityusensis*. Is Herbivory fixed?

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The Ibiza wall lizard (*Podarcis pityusensis*), a Balearic endemism, has been observed in its original habitat to feed not only on Arthropoda like most Lacertidae but also on vegetal matter as well. This dietary shift seems to be a consequence of the insular conditions (food scarcity, lack of interspecific competition, low predation,) but this is not the general pattern observed in this family. Could then have herbivory become partially a fixed feature? Recently, an introduced continental population was detected in an urban area of Barcelona (NE Spain) allowing to test the feeding habits of this species excluding the insular effect.

The stomach contents of 145 lizards collected in monthly campaigns from March 91 to February 92 were analysed. Data were treated considering the whole population, the size and sex classes and the season of the year. Occurrence (%P), abundance (%N) and the probabilistic (IP) and resource use (IU) indices were calculated for taxonomical and prey size categories. Individual, populational and total accumulated diversity of taxons were also calculated in every case.

Results showed that Homoptera and Formicidae were the main taxons consumed. The trophic use of these OYUs changed drastically throughout the year but not among classes which differed only in secondary preys (especially sexes). The prey size depended on the lizard size and the trophic diversity was high except in winter. The vegetal portion of the diet was very limited in this population (5.3%) but it was absent in syntopic *Podarcis hispanica*. Seeds, flowers and vegetal matter were mainly eaten by adults in summer.

The herbivory has arisen in this primarily entomophagous lineage as an evolutive novelty under insular conditions. However, it is concluded that the diet can shift widely when the environment change showing that the endogenous influence is only partial.