06.
Who am I?
The green lizards of Slovenia (Lacerta viridis complex)

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Green lizards are widespread in Slovenia. Until now little is known about their taxonomic allocation. First mitochondrial (cytochrome b) and nuclear (β-fibrinogen-intron7) data show that three different lineages of green lizards occur in Slovenia. In addition to two lineages of eastern green lizards (Lacerta viridis), the existence of the so called ‘Adriatic lineage’ is confirmed. In immediate vicinity (Italy and island of Cres, Croatia), the western green lizard (L. bilineata) occurs. This raises the question of whether there is gene flow between these two species. The nuclear marker provided evidence for gene flow. These results challenge the species status of L. bilineata and L. viridis.

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