

# ATLAS OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES . . . . . IN EUROPE. . . . .



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## *Podarcis bocagei* (Seoane, 1884)

### Main synonyms

*Lacerta muralis* var. *bocagei* Seoane, 1884 ; *Lacerta bocagei bocagei* Mertens & Müller, 1940 ; *Lacerta hispanica bocagei* Klemmer, 1959 ; *Podarcis bocagei* Pérez Mellado, 1981.

### Common names

GB : Bocage's wall lizard ; F : Lézard de Bocage ; D : Nordwestiberische Mauereidechse ; E : Lagartija de Bocage ; P : Lagartixa de Bocage.

### Terra typica

La Coruña, Northeast Spain, restricted by Mertens & Müller (1928).

### European subspecies

*Podarcis bocagei bocagei* Seoane 1884 : Northwestern Iberian Peninsula and Western Portugal, including some Atlantic islands) ; *Podarcis bocagei carbonelli* Pérez Mellado, 1981 : Western part of the Sistema Central mountain range, from Serra da Estrela in Beira Alta, Portugal, to Sierra de Francia. *Podarcis bocagei berlengensis* Vicente, 1985 : Berlengas islands (Portugal).



**Distribution**

*Podarcis bocagei* is an Iberian endemism probably originated in the northwestern corner of the Iberian Peninsula. It occurs in the Northwestern Iberian Peninsula (regions of Galicia and western Asturias, León province and north of Zamora province), as well as Portugal, at least north of Lisbon, but it may be also present in lower latitudinal locations. In Central Iberian Peninsula the range extends to the east from the Serra da Estrela in the Beira Alta province (Portugal) to Sierra de Francia in the south-east of the Salamanca province (Spain). Inhabited islands : on the Atlantic coast of the Iberian Peninsula it is recorded from Pancha, Ansrón, Toja Pequeña, Beiró, Sisarga Grande, Sisarga pequeña, Salvora, Gabeiras, San Antón, Lobeira Grande (Lugo, Coruña and Pontevedra provinces, Galice region, Spain), and Berlengas islands (Central Portugal). Records from Castrillo de la Reina in the province of Burgos (Spain), can be discarded, as well as those from Doñana National Park, Sierra del Guadarrama (Segovia province, Spain), and la Tablada (Madrid Province). Its current distribution can be considered as the result of the reduction of a wider geographical range occupying the whole Western Iberian Peninsula, prior to the last Würm glaciation. Present in open areas of deciduous forests of Olm Oak, *Quercus pyrenaica* and its successional scrubland, mainly dominated by *Cistus* spp. and *Erica* spp. It is also recorded in anthropogenic areas of Galice, as well as from the edge of pine and eucalyptus forests. In Central Iberian Peninsula it can be considered as a ground-dwelling lizard, while in the northwestern part of its range, especially in Northern Galice, it occupies ground microhabitats as well as rocky areas. Usually not present in dryer areas of Western Iberian Peninsula, such as evergreen forests of *Quercus ilex* and *Quercus rotundifolia*, or Mediterranean scrublands.

**Altitudinal distribution**

Ranges from sea-level up to 1850 m (Peña Trevinca) in Galice and 1300 m in the Asturias region. In the Sistema Central, it covers a range from 900 to 1400 m.

**Populations status and conservation problems**

Not covered in Spain and Portugal by national regulations of herpetofauna protection (Real Decreto 3181/1980 in Spain) prior to the publication to the general recognition of *Podarcis bocagei* as a full species (see above). It is considered as an Out of Danger (O) species in Spain and in Portugal but some insular populations of Berlengas and coastal Galice probably deserve special protection.

**Special references**

MONOGRAPHS : Pérez Mellado (1986).

DISTRIBUTION : Mellado & Olmedo (1981), Pérez Mellado (1983 c), Galán (1985 a, 1986, 1987 b, 1987 c), Vicente (1985), Magraner (1986).

SYSTEMATICS : Klemmer (1959), Pérez Mellado (1981 a, 1981 b), Seoane (1884), Vicente (1985), Pérez Mellado & Galindo Villardon (1986).

BIOLOGY : Pérez Mellado (1982 a, 1983 a, 1983 b), Galán (1987 a, 1992 a, 1992 b, 1992 c, 1992 d), Domínguez & Salvador (1989, 1990), Vicente (1989).

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<b>Total number of squares :</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1,71 %</b>
◦ before 1970 :	1	1,27 %
* extinct :	0	
• after 1970 :	78	98,73 %
▲ introduced :	0	