

SEASONAL AND SPATIAL VARIABILITY IN THE DIET OF *PODARCIS PITYUSENSIS*

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Podarcis pityusensis (Boscà, 1883) is an endemic lizard from Ibiza, Formentera and surrounding islets. From all of the lacertids species of the Mediterranean region, *Podarcis pityusensis* is one of the few species that includes a large proportion of plant material in its diet.

In the present study I analyse the significance of plant material and its spatio-temporal variation in the diet of the population of this specie in the Natural Reserve of Ses Salines. This study was carried during a whole year in 5 different areas: Es Codolar (Eivissa), Llevant (Formentera) and islets of Espalmador, Espardell and Penjats.

The diet composition of the study population showed great spatio-temporal variation. The plant material is most important in Espardell, Formentera and Espalmador. With regard to temporal variability, the consumption of fleshy fruits is greatest during summer and autumn. A total of 522 scats were examined, and 171 seed appeared intact after passing through lizards guts. These seeds correspond to different Mediterranean plants: *Juniperus phoenicea ssp turbinata* (56%), *Rubia peregina* (16%), *Cneorum tricoccon* (12%), *Pistacia lentiscus* (11%) and *Asparagus stipularis* (5%)

Formicidae, Coleoptera, Aranae and Gasteropoda were the most abundant preys and no seasonal variation was found in their contribution to the diet of *Podarcis pityusensis*.