

Zur Ortstreue von Schlüpflingen der Smaragdeidechse (*Lacerta viridis*)

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On site fidelity of green lizard (*Lacerta viridis*) hatchlings

Site fidelity of green lizard hatchlings (*Lacerta viridis*) was investigated in a relict population in Brandenburg (eastern Germany). Therefore distances between the hatching site and the nearest observation point in the following year were determined for 16 well documented individuals. The results show a remarkable bipartite: About half of the youngs remain more or less in the surrounding of the hatching site whilst the other half shifts its individual activity area over more than 100 metres. Concerning the individual lizard this can be interpreted as a discontinuous, resource oriented expansion. Concerning the population as a whole this type of space utilisation has advantages because it enables the settlement of new parts as well as the existence of young animals in parts of the habitat which are already used by the species.

Key words: Reptilia, Squamata, Lacertidae, *Lacerta viridis*, hatchlings, site fidelity.