

## Kurzmitteilungen

### Longer than the longest – two record-breaking specimens of *Anguis fragilis* from north-western Croatia

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### Länger als die Längsten – zwei Rekord-Exemplare von *Anguis fragilis* aus Nordwestkroatien

Auf dem Vugrovec und im Bizek-Steinbruch, beide in der Nähe von Zagreb, Kroatien, wurden zwei außergewöhnlich lange Blindschleichen gefunden: ein Weibchen von 60,0 cm sowie ein Männchen von 60,7 cm Gesamtlänge.

**Schlüsselbegriffe:** Reptilia, Blindschleiche, *Anguis fragilis*, Größenrekord, Kroatien.

The genus *Anguis* Linnaeus, 1758, previously regarded as monotypic, was recently split into five species in Europe and the Middle East: *Anguis cephalonica* (Werner, 1894), *Anguis colchica* (Nordmann, 1840), *Anguis fragilis* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Anguis graeca* (Bedriaga, 1881), and *Anguis veronensis* (Pollini, 1818) (Gvoždík et al. 2013). Of them only *A. fragilis* appears to be present in Croatia (Gvoždík et al. 2010, Gvoždík et al. 2013, Jablonski et al. 2016). The maximum total length for this legless lizard stated in literature is around 50.0 cm (Arnold & Ovenden, 2004, Speybroeck et al. 2016). Up till now, the current reliable record of 57.5 cm was held by a male from Okuje, near Velika Gorica, Croatia (Arnold & Ovenden, 2004, Böhme, 2012, Speybroeck et al., 2016) the name of the village was spelled incorrectly as „Ukuje“, N: 45.671994°, E: 16.054234°). We report the finding of two total length record-breakers in the vicinity of Zagreb, Croatia.

General herpetofauna inventories were carried out in 2006 and 2012, at the area around Vugrovec Village and the occasionally active Bizek quarry, respectively. Vugrovec is located on the SE foothills of Medvednica Mt., NE of Zagreb, N of Sesvete. At that time a part of the area was still within the Medvednica Nature Park, until the Park's borders were shrunk in 2009 (Anonymous, 2009). The Bizek quarry is on the SW foothills of Medvednica Mt., at the very edge of Zagreb. It is still within the Medvednica Nature Park's borders. Exploitation of stone from the quarry stopped in the late 80s, but extraction is still occasionally permitted for restoration of the Zagreb Cathedral.