

Algyroides fitzingeri - Pygmi Algyroides



Adult: F / Parc de Verghello (Corsica), 08.09.2013

The distribution range of Algyroides fitzingeri is restricted to Corsica and Sardinia. It's a diminutive lizard with strongly keeled scales like a little fir cone.

In particular on Corsica, the species was formerly supposed to be rare but it seems that it just had been frequently overlooked - due to its small size and its secretive behaviour.

It prefers rather humid (micro-)habitats with enough shade and dense vegetation.

Within its distribution area, it cannot be confused with other species: Archaeolacerta bedriagae and Podarcis tiliguerta are significantly bigger and don't have keeled scales.

Its closest relative is <u>Algyroides marchi</u> in Spain.



Sardinia.



Coastal macchia in southern Corsica: Habitat of Algyroides fitzingeri, Podarcis tiliguerta and Archaeolacerta bedriagae



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