characterized by a predominance of faded olive-gray, sandy, and gray shales in the spring, unlike the richer green color of lizards from other parts of this subspecies range.

Comparative notes. Mehely (1909) and all succeeding investigators placed the Crimean lizards in the nominal subspecies L.s. saxicola Eversmann. However, even Lantz and Cyren (1936) expressed the view that different forms of this subspecies inhabit the Crimea and Northern Caucasus, and gave the name Lindholmi to the Crimean subspecies. This name was listed as a nomen nudum among the synonyms even in the latest list of Mertens and Wermuth (1960). Later, the subsepcific independence of the Crimean lizards was conclusively established by Shcherbak (1962a), according to whom L.s. lindholmi is very close to the northern Caucasian L.s.darevskii differing from it in smaller dimensions, some scalation of the head, and coloration. In particular, green shades do not occur in the female Crimean lizards.

Specimen examined. Crimea: ZIL 14454 (1), Nizhnie Limeny; 14455 (1), Manchuk-Kale; 14461 (1), Shan-Kaya mountain, around Simeiz; 16345 (5), Baidary; 17082 (7), river gorge of the Rozovaya, Kuibyshev region; ZMMSU 2475 (15), Karadag; 2476 (20), southern shore; 2492 (2), Kastropol; 2501 (7), Alupka.

Lacerta saxicola nairensis ssp. n.
(Table II A; Fig. 5 B; photo 6).

L. saxicola caucasica, Chernov (non Mehely), 1926:67 -- saxicola defilippii, Chernov, 1939:111; Darevsky, 1957:28.

Holotype. ZIL, Academy of Sciences, USSR, 17941, ♂, around the village Lchashen, shore of Lake Sevan in Armenia, July 29, 1961, collected by I.S. Daresky (photograph 6B).

Paratypes. ZIL, Academy of Science, 17794 (18), around village Antarut (Inaklyu) in the Ashtarak region of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic, June 3, 1956, collected by I.S. Darevsky.

Description of holotype. The width of the frontonasal is somewhat greater than its length (in several paratypes, they are equal). The rostral is separated from the frontonasal. The suture between the frontonasal and postnasal is somewhat shorter than that between the nasal (in most paratypes, the sutures are nearly equal). The sutures between the prefrontal and frontal are straight. The supraciliaries are set off from the supraoculars by a continuous row of 8 - 9 granules. The upper postorbitals do not reach the

parietals (in several paratypes, they are joined by a short suture). The first supratemporal is large, somewhat constricted, and posteriorly truncate; posteriorly alongithe edge of parietals, 3 tiny posttemporals are present on each side; these posttemporals are nearly equivalent in size to the other tiny scales of the temporal region, The mid temporal is tiny (in several paratypes, its size varies from very small to moderate). Between the midtemporal and the fairly large tympanic scales 2 - 3 slightly enlarged scales lie along the sides of the head (in several paratypes, their number varies from 2 to 5). Along the mid line of the throat to the collar, there are 26 scales. The dorsal scales are smooth and fairly prominent; there is 52 scale row around the middle of the body. The ventral scales meet more often with 3 than with 2 dorsal scales laterally. The pectorals and ventrals are arranged in 26 transverse rows. Anterior of the large anal, two large preanals are present symmetrically (in one of the paratypes, a tiny third one was wedged between them). The femoral pores on each side number 19 and 20. Ventrally on the abdomen between the pores and the outer row of enlarged scales, there are 6 transverse rows of tiny scales. The dorsal scales of the crus have weak keels not exceeding the spinal ones in size. Around the middle of the right crus, 19 tiny scales lie in a single row. The scales on the anterior third of the tail have well-developed longitudinal keels;the posterior edge of some scales protrude slightly posteriorly at an obtuse angle. The snout-vent length is 67 mm, its ratio to the length of the unregenerated tail is 0.60.

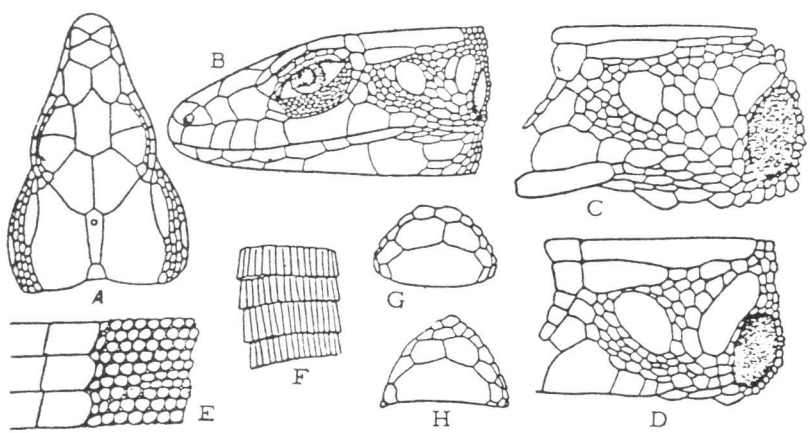

Fig. 25. Major scalation of L. s. nairensis.

A - Head, dorsal view; B - head, lateral view; C, D - temporal region; E - contact zone between dorsal and ventral scales; F - dorsal anterior third of the tail; G, H - anal region. (D - Byurakan, rest - Lchashen).

The dorsal coloration is light-fawn (in several paratypes, it varies through grayish-brown, tobacco-brown, nut-brown, dark olive, and olive-gray). The occipital stripe forms a continuous reticular pattern covering the entire width of the back, the pattern consists of irregular forms of small, out-stretched, dark-brown spots. The broad temporal stripes are formed of 4 rows of distinct, closely spaced dark ocelli with whitish and bluish centers; along the upper edge, these ocelli are bounded by a row of bright, dark-rimmed ciliary ocelli stretched into a single line.

The venter, including the head (in live animals)is yellowish-green. Small dark blotches are present on the outer row of the ventral scales on a general bluish background. During the breeding season, the venter of adult males acquires a very bright yellowish-green or dark green color, the lateral rows of ventral scales and a large portion of ocelli along the side of the body, especially at the pectoral level, are bright, dark-blue or violet in color such that the sides of the trunk possess a continuous blue or bluish-green coloration.

Geographical distribution. The distribution of this subspecies encompasses southwestern and partly central Armenia and adjacent regions of northeastern Turkey. The northern edge of the range crosses into Armenia at Leninakan and after encircling the Aragats mountain from the south-west, ascends the gorge of the Razdan River to the Sevan basin where it reaches the neighborhood of Martuna along the southwestern shore of the lake. The southern edge runs along the foothills of Aragats and extends into Turkey, and continues along the left shore of Araks Valley where this lizard is known from around Zanzak in the west according to the collection of P.V. Nesterov. From northeastern Turkey along the valley of the upper course of the Kura, it penetrates like a tongue into southern Georgia reaching the neighborhood of Khertvisi in the lower levels of the rive gorge of the Akhalkalakichai (Fig. 26,2). It occurs sumpatrically with L.s. valentini and also with L. armenica on the slopes of Aragats and in Sevan basin. It is sympatric with L.r. macromaculata in in the gorge of the Akhalkalakichai.

Geographical variation.. Samples were studied from 4 populations separated by distances of 140,40 and 30 km from west to east. As may be seen from Fig. 27, all the three Armenian populations (table 10) differ little from one other in the basic scalation characters; only the lizards in the isolated population around the village of Fantan differ considerably in the number of scales around the middle of the ankle and along the mid line of the throat. At the same time, within these populations, the cline tends to decrease from south to north with respect to several characters. On the other hand, the populations from the gorge of the upper course of

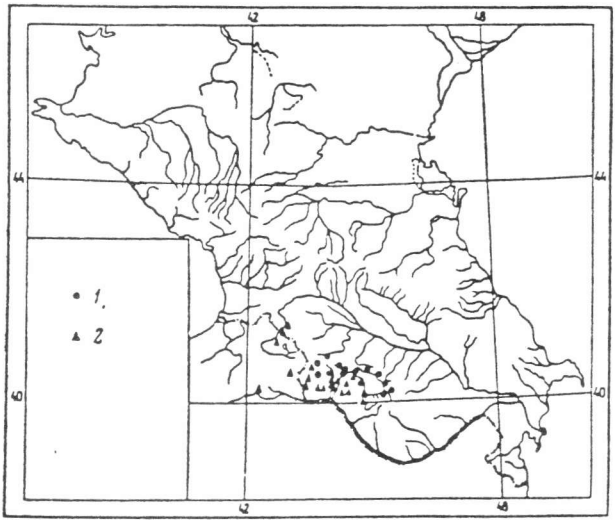

Fig. 26. Main distribution in the Caucasus.

1 - L. unisexualis; 2 - L. s. nairensis.

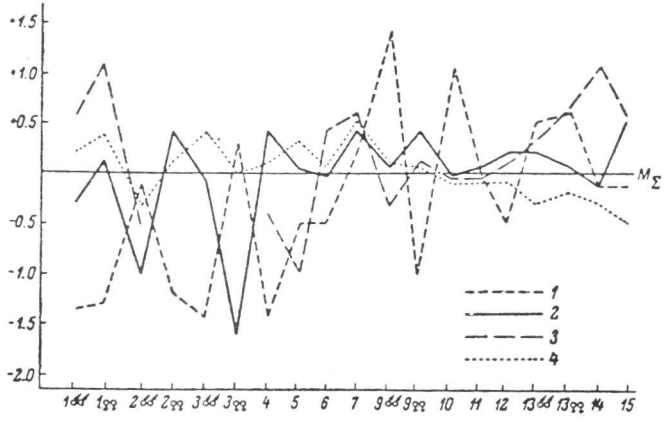

Fig. 27. Summary graph of the variation of L. s. nairensis.

1 - Khertvisi; 2 - Byurakan; 3 - Fantan; 4 - Lchashen.

Kura in southern Georgia (Khertvisi) which are far separated, differ noticeably from the Armenian specimens in several characters particularly in the number of transverse rows of pectoral and ventral scales (index 9).

As may be seen from Fig. 63d, the differences in the average body length of males and females within the subspecies is generally strongly

correlated with the elevation of their habitat, i.e. the pattern noticed here is the same as in several other forms of rock lizards.

Comparative notes. As pointed out previously (Darevsky, 1957), this subspecies forms some well-developed ecotypes in Armenia. Further investigations have demonstrated that the specimens formerly identified as L.s. defilippii from the western and northwestern parts of the range form a distinctly independent subspecies L.s. nairensis, a description of which has already been given [1]. Apart from distinct differences in scalation and body coloration, the new subspecies differs from the its closest relative (L.s. raddei) in several behavioral characteristics especially in the unique copulatory behavior males holding females behind the thighs

Specimens examined. Armenia: ZIL 14398 (10), Antarut, Ashtarak region; 14427 (3), Kamal kir near Erevan; 14611 (1), Karabulag Aparan region; 14549 (8), around Erevan 17434 (33), Lchashen, Seven region; 17779 (7), Fantan, western slope of Gegam range; 17794 (18), Antarut, Ashtarak region; ZMMSU 2784 (10), around Arzakend; ZIA (6), Razdan; (5) Maralik; (10) around Leninakan; (15) around Martuna; (5) around Kamo. Georgia: ZIL 17428 (6), Khertvisi in the gorge of Kura. Turkey (northeastern); ZIL 10815 (4), Zanzak, Erzerum vilayet; 17485 (1), around Kars.

Lacerta saxicola parvula Lantz and Cyren 1936
(Table II, D; Fig. 28; photo 19)

L. saxicola f. typica, Méhely (part.), 1909:497; Nesterov, 1912:80 -- saxicola saxicola, Nikolskii (part.), 1913:69 -- saxicola var. Parvula, Lantz and Cyren, 1913:163, Fig. 2 and 3 -- saxicola parvula Nikolskii, 1915:379; Lantz and Cyren, 1936:165; Bodenheimer, 1944:25; Terentiev and Chernov, 1949:188.

Holotype. Not designated. Described by Lantz and Cyren (1936) from a large series of specimens from northeastern Turkey (Artvin, Borchka, and Ardanuch).

Description. The width of the frontonasal is greater than or equal to its length. The rostral is set off from the frontonasal or just touches it with a short suture. The suture between the frontonasal and postnasal is equal to or slightly longer than that between the anterior and posterior nasal. The sutures between the prefrontal and frontal are usually straight. The supraciliaries are set off from the supraoculars by a full or, very

[1] *From the Armenian word "Nairi", the old name of Armenia.*