

ABSTRACT

Individual stability is important for the development of personality, and above all two patterns of consistency - structural and differential. The main goal of this diploma thesis was to monitor changes in the repeatability of behavior over time (i.e., differential consistency) during ontogenesis and to compare the consistency of selected elements of behavior in behavioral tests and a selected cognitive test. Testing of a model species of squamate reptile, the common leopard gecko (*Eublepharis macularius*), in standard behavioral tests and in a selected cognitive test across ontogenesis over three life stages (juvenile, subadult and adult phase) showed, after statistical examination, high estimates of repeatability and significant influence of ontogenetic phase. Behavioral consistency between juveniles and adults could increase or decrease for certain behaviors or remain consistent in only one phase of life. In the subadult period, the behavior was generally inconsistent, except for vocalization in the reactivity test, where it was demonstrated by high estimates of repeatability. The aim of testing in the selected cognitive test was to determine the non-cognitive component of variability, which could be explained by different personalities. Yet, cognitive styles associated with personality have not been demonstrated. The best estimates of repeatability were measured in leopard geckos in tests related to feeding behavior. This thesis emphasizes the need for optimization of theoretical models referring to the animal personality ontogenesis.

KEY WORDS: personality, ontogeny, repeatability of behavioural tests