

## ANNOTATION

The diploma thesis deals with parental behavior and recognition of youngs by two kinds of desert geckos of genus *Teratoscincus*, specifically *T. scincus* and *T. keyserlingii*. The geckos inhabit a very extreme environment where it is not easy to survive, especially for the small hatchlings. Therefore, it is probable that small hatchlings live together with their parents in their territory for some time. If the parents tolerated them inside their territory, they would provide them with an indirect form of parental care.

In the first part of the thesis the hypothesis that adults tolerate to the presence of juvenile conspecifics and heterospecifics (*Eublepharis macularius*) was tested. The main goal was to determine whether adults tolerate juveniles generally or whether they recognize juveniles conspecifics. To support the hypothesis of the adults' tolerance of juveniles the eggs of the adult geckos living in pair were left in their terrarium until the hatching of the juvenile. Further, the reaction of adult geckos to the presence of a *E. macularius* juvenile (small), admitted into the terrarium, was tested. The aim was to find out whether the two kinds of geckos, preying other geckoes in the nature, show predatory behavior toward the *E. macularius*.

The standard experiment was carried out in the second part of the thesis. The experiment served for confirming the general degree of reactivity proper to the two kinds of geckos (tactile stimulus simulating an attack of a predator). A higher degree of reactivity by one of the two kinds of geckos could relate to possible differences in behavior toward a juvenile.

It appears that the two kinds of geckos - *T. scincus* and *T. keyserlingii* - are quite tolerant to juvenile geckos in their territory. Among them, there were only small differences in their overall reaction to juveniles and a moderate qualitative difference in the reactivity to the stimuli simulating a predator's attack. Also the adult geckos of both kinds did not attack but tolerated the juveniles of *E. macularius* in their terrarium.

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## KEY WORDS

parental care, young, tolerance, conspecifics, territoriality