

Podarcis sicula

Italian Wall Lizard

Lacertidae, the true lizard family



Diagnostic Characteristics

- Medium-sized lizard with a long slender body and large deep head
- Tail up to twice the length of body
- Variable appearance: green, yellow, olive, or light brown
- Reticulated or checkered sides
- Underside is whitish, sometimes with a green tint

Background

- Native to Italy; possibly introduced into the U.S. through the pet trade
- Males are aggressive and will attack other lizards
- Highly adaptable to new environments
- Eats vegetation and small invertebrates
- Has been known to eat its own young

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