

A lizard diversity snapshot in the poorly studied Mila Region of north-eastern Algeria

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This article is the first study in the region of Mila (Algeria) that deals with the diversity of lizards. It was conducted between May and October 2020, and we collected 75 individuals of lizards which were identified on-site and released afterward. The results show the presence

of seven species of lizards: *Acanthodactylus erythrurus*, *Chalcides ocellatus*, *Chamaeleo chameleon*, *Podarcis vaucheri*, *Psammodromus algirus*, *Tarentola mauritanica*, and *Timon*

pater. According to the results obtained, the best-represented species is *Podarcis vaucheri* (26.67%) followed by *Tarentola mauritanica* (25.33%), while the rarest species recorded-represented with only one individual was *Chalcides ocellatus*. This study aims to establish a foundation for major projects dedicated to lizard studies in other Algeria regions and promote herpetology as a zoological discipline.

Key words: Algeria, *Chalcidesocellatus*, North Africa, Lizard, *Timon pater*, Semi-arid