

Kurzmitteilungen

Terrestrische Paarung des Laubfroschs (*Hyla a. arborea*)

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Terrestrial mating behaviour of the European treefrog (*Hyla a. arborea*)

Video recordings of the terrestrial mating procedure of six pairs of the European treefrog were analysed. The filled vocal sac hampers the mounting of the male. Otherwise the terrestrial mating (hedgerow, stone etc.) has some advantages compared with the aquatic mating: no competition with other males or absence of predators like snakes and waterfrogs.

Key words: Amphibia, European treefrog, *Hyla arborea*, mating behaviour, terrestrial.

Laufgeschwindigkeiten und Fortbewegungsweisen des Feuersalamanders (*Salamandra s. terrestris*)

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Terrestrial locomotor performance of the fire salamander (*Salamandra s. terrestris*)

In forest areas in the south of Essen (North Rhine-Westphalia) burst speeds and terrestrial locomotion types of 31 fire salamanders were studied in 66 trials. The salamanders exhibited burst speeds of 0.1–0.8 km/h to traverse 1 m of the racetrack. During the night the salamanders reached at average 0.46 m/s \pm 0.16 for the one meter distance, whereas they covered a distance of one meter 0.23 m/s \pm 0.08 during day time respectively. The fastest individuals needed 4.75 s (= 0.8 km/h) for the distance, the slowest 30.0 s (= 0.1 km/h). Burst speed was not affected by the mass of the salamanders. In addition to the typical locomotor performance of urodeles short, jump-like movements resulting from hasty escape behaviour of some individuals are described.

Key words: Amphibia, *Salamandra salamandra terrestris*, burst speed, locomotion types, flight reaction.

Autotomieraten und Zeckenbefall in Mauereidechsen- Populationen unterschiedlicher Herkunft

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Caudal autotomy and tick infestation in common wall lizard populations of different origin

Tail autotomy and tick infestation of 642 common wall lizards (*Podarcis muralis*) were examined within seven introduced and one native population in Germany. In total, autotomy frequency and therefore predominantly predation pressure was rather high and ranged from 39 to 66% within populations. Considering only adult lizards up to 80.4% of individuals had regenerated tails without significant sex-specific differences. Tick infestation (*Ixodes ricinus*) within populations varied greatly (0–93% of hosts infested) and was strongly influenced by habitat, especially humidity and vegetation cover. Tick infestation was extraordinary high within a quarry in Bramsche and rather low to absent in dry habitats with less vegetation cover such as railways.

Key words: Reptilia, *Podarcis muralis*, tail loss, ectoparasites.

Fortpflanzungserfolg der Erdkröte (*Bufo bufo*) in hochalpinen Gewässern

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Successful reproduction of the common toad (*Bufo bufo*) in ponds of high altitude in the Alps

In several parts of the Alps (Tyrol, Lower Engadine, Bernese Oberland) stable common toad populations with successful reproduction could be documented in altitudes between 2000 and 2200 m. In the region of Grindelwald (Bernese Oberland) the species goes up to 2300 m, but these very small populations are not yet stable and the success of reproduction is doubtful.

Key words: Amphibia, *Bufo bufo*, reproduction, high altitude, Alps.