

Editorial

XI International Symposium on the Mediterranean Lacertid Lizards

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It has been a long time since an Editorial opened a new issue of *Acta Herpetologica* (it was 2012, volume 7, first issue). The occasion is to inform the readers that the journal of the *Societas Herpetologica Italica* is pleased to host, from the present issue on (and, possibly, in the coming two), some contributions presented during the last “International Symposium on the Mediterranean Lacertid Lizards”, held (on line, sigh!) in Lipari last September 2021.

The International Symposium on the Mediterranean Lacertid Lizards was conceived during the 1st World Congress of Herpetology held in Canterbury (UK) in 1989 to share scientific results, project ideas, conservation initiatives, recruit new enthusiastic students and, overall, enjoying what we are most passionate about studying Lacertid lizards in the Mediterranean and surrounding areas. The 1st Symposium took place in Mytilini, Lesvos (Greece) in 1992. The idea of informally joining scientists, students and conservationists across the Mediterranean and beyond in a stimulating ambient

was so successfully that it has become an appointment every, more or less, three years: Faro (Portugal), 1995; Čres (Croatia), 1998; Maó, Menorca (Spain), 2001; Lipari (Italy), 2004; Mytilíni, Lesvos (Greece), 2008; Palma, Mallorca (Spain), 2010; Koper, (Slovenia) 2013; Limassol (Cyprus), 2016; Tel Aviv (Israel), 2018. The last one has been hold online from the Island of Lipari (Sicily, Italy) in 2021 in an unusual form due to pandemic, but sharing the same spirit as always.

Considering that promoting the study of amphibians and reptiles and the growth of young herpetologists has always been also one of the SHI goals, AH has welcomed the request by the Organization Committee to give the opportunity to publish some of the contributions of the XI Symposium (according to the peer-review standard). You will find such contributions, along with the “normal” ones, marked as follows: “*Presented at the XI International Symposium on the Mediterranean Lacertid Lizards, Lipari 27-28th September 2021*”.

Enjoy the reading!