

Morphology of *Eublepharis angramainyu* ANDERSON & LEVITON, 1966 in Turkey

*Eublepharis angramainyu* ANDERSON & LEVITON, 1966 has been found in the western foothills of the Zagros Mountains, in the upper Tigris–Euphrates basin in Iraq, Iran and northeast of Syria at an elevation ranging between 300 and 1000 meters a.s.l. (ANDERSON & LEVITON 1966; LEVITON et al. 1992; DISI & BÖHME 1996; ANDERSON 1999). GÖÇMEN et al. (2002) reported the species also to inhabit South East Anatolia (Şanlıurfa, Birecik) and described morphological characteristics of the female collected. ANDERSON (1999) provided detailed information on the morphology as well as ecology of the species.

Three adult *E. angramainyu* were collected while they were wandering around in the open on a rocky hillside near the village of Çiçekalan (Birecik-Şanlıurfa, East Anatolia) at an elevation of 400 meters a.s.l. (Zoology Department, Ege University, İzmir ZDEU 13/2002-3 (1♂, 2♀♀) Çiçekalan Köyü, Birecik – Şanlıurfa, Türkiye, 01.07.2002, leg. M. TOSUNOĞLU, D. AYAZ, C. V. TOK & M. AFSAR. These specimens were found in a clear and warm (26 °C) night between 23.00 and 24.00.

Color-pattern (fig. 1): Lilac–brown blotches with wide interspaces on dark yellow ground color of dorsum. This pattern extends on the head of the females. A continuous light vertebral stripe extending from the occiput to the base of the tail. Dark blotches on the dorsum irregularly arranged



Fig. 1: *Eublepharis angramainyu* ANDERSON & LEVITON, 1966 (female ZDEU 13/2002 no 2) from near the village of Çiçekalan (Birecik-Şanlıurfa, East Anatolia).

longitudinally and transversely. In the female specimens, these blotches are smaller, more separated from each other and fewer in number than in males. There are three transverse bars across the dorsum, the first behind the shoulders, the second at midbody and the third in the sacral region. The numerous blotches on the tail are arranged in the form of transverse bars. Legs with lilac–brown blotches. Ventral side of the body spotless whitish.

Total length is 256 mm in the male specimen and 220.5 mm in female number two. The supranasal plate is unified in all of the specimens, separated from its counterpart by an almost hexagonal internasal plate. The width of the internasal plate exceeds its length. The mental scale is of pentagonal shape and shorter than wide. Two big postmental plates that form the first row of the postmentals are in contact with the first infralabial plate. The ventral scales are

Table 1: Measurements and pholidosis counts in three *Eublepharis angramainyu* ANDERSON & LEVITON, 1966 specimens from Turkey (ZDEU 13/2002-3, Çiçekalan Köyü, Birecik–Şanlıurfa). \* - specimen with regenerated tail.

Character	Specimen No (Sex)		
	1 (♀)*	2 (♀)	3 (♂)
Snout-vent-length (mm)	132.00	132.50	151.00
Tail length (mm)	64.00*	88.00	105.00
Ear opening verlical length (mm)	5.34	5.86	6.06
Ear opening horizontal length (mm)	2.08	3.76	5.10
Supralabial scales	11	11	11
Infralabial scales	11	11	11
Periocular scales	46	48	46
Preanal pores	12	11	12
Longitudinal ventral scale rows (middle)	23	26	27
Subdigital lamellae underneath 4th (longest) toe	24	24	24

Table 2: Measurements and pholidosis counts in three *Eublepharis angramainyu* ANDERSON & LEVITON, 1966 of the present study compared with literature data. (+) - GÖÇMEN et al. (2002), (++) - ANDERSON (1999), \* - specimen with regenerated tail.

Character	Present Study	<i>E. angramainyu</i> (+)	<i>E. angramainyu</i> (++)	<i>E. turcmenicus</i> (++)	<i>E. macularius</i> (++)
Snout-vent-length (mm)	♀ 132-132.5 ♂ 151.00	♀ 148	♀ 126-127 ♂ 142-154	130	158
Tail length (mm)	♀ 64*-88 ♂ 105	66	♀ 86-90 ♂ 97-100	80-83.5	-
Supralabial scales	11	11	-	-	-
Infralabial scales	11	11	-	-	-
Periocular scales	46-48	-	41-48	54-55	46-57
Preanal pores	11-12	13	11-17	5-9	-
Ventral scale rows (middle)	23-27	26	27-38	20-22	21-30
Subdigital lamellae	24	24	-	-	-
underneath 4th (longest) toe					
Contact of Infralabial I with Postmental I	present	present	present	absent	present

hexagonal in shape and arranged contiguously. Subdigital lamellae are flat. There are three transverse ventral rows of scales on each ring on the tails of all the specimens. For measurements and pholidosis counts see table 1.

When the colour-pattern and characteristics of pholidosis of the three specimens collected from Southeast Anatolia are compared with literature data (LEVITON et al. 1992; ANDERSON 1999; GÖÇMEN et al. 2002; GRISMER 1988, 1991), *E. angramainyu* clearly differs from *E. turcmenicus* DAREVSKY, 1977 with regard to the number of periocular scales, preanal pores and ventral scales as well as the postmental plates being in contact with the first infralabial plates (table 2), whereas it is distinct from *E. macularius*, defined by BLYTH (1854) with respect to its flat subdigital lamellae, color and dorsal pattern characteristics. However, the specimens examined are in agreement with the descriptions of *E. angramainyu* given by ANDERSON & LEVITON (1966), LEVITON et al. (1992), ANDERSON (1999), and GÖÇMEN et al. (2002), except for the higher supralabial counts (11 instead of 10) and higher ventral scale counts (27 instead of 24) when SZCZERBAK & GOLUBEV's (1996) data are considered.

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