

New distribution records for the Aesculapian snake *Zamenis longissimus* in Greek Thrace

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#	Date & time	Dimensions	Life stage	Location	Weather	Habitat	Notes
1.	8 May 2021, 09:56 h	TL: 536 mm SVL: 445 mm	Young, road-kill	41° 2'25" N, 26° 9'54" E; a.s.l. 228 m. Protected area of Dadia-Soufli Forest, Evros Mountains (Natura 2000 Special Protection Area GR1110002 and Site of Community Importance GR1110005), at a distance of about 3 km north-west of the village of Lefkimmi.	Cloudy and rainy, 17 °C	Mixed pine-deciduous forest, with scattered shrubs, clearings and fields.	Fig. 3A, specimen deposited in the first author's collection. Species is known from the wider area, our record is the southernmost.
2.	10 May 2021, 14:20 h	TL: 673 mm SVL: 545 mm	Subadult, fresh road-kill	41° 15'55" N, 25° 42'47" E; a.s.l. 582 m. Close to the north-western Filiouris River valley limit (Natura 2000 Special Protected Area GR1130011), between the villages of Organi and Smigada.	Sunny, 21 °C	Submediterranean vegetation zone (<i>Quercetalia pubescentis</i>), mainly deciduous forest, low bushes and pastures.	Fig. 3B & C, specimen deposited in first author's collection. Appears to be first record of the species in the prefecture of Rhodope.
3.	13 May 2022, 19:06 h	TL: 282 mm SVL: 233 mm	Juvenile, basking on road	41° 7'22" N, 26° 10'47" E; a.s.l. 184 m. Protected area of Dadia-Soufli Forest - Evros Mountains, at a distance of about 3.7 km west of the village of Dadia	Sunny, mean 22.5 °C	Mixed pine-deciduous forests, with scattered shrubs, clearings, hedges, and cultivated fields.	Fig. 3D, released where captured. Presence of the species in the area already known.
4.	13 May 2022, dusk	TL: 974 mm SVL: 785 mm	Adult, crossing road	41° 9'26" N, 26° 13'29" E; a.s.l. 95 m. At about 7 km from record #3, between the villages of Dadia and Giannouli, within the same protected area	Ditto #3	Ditto #3	Fig. 3E, released where captured. Presence of the species in the area already known.
5.	16 May 2022, 15:10–17:00 h	TL: 317 mm SVL: 265 mm	Juvenile, on dirt road	41° 17'28" N, 25° 55'12" E; a.s.l. 803 m. North-western part of the	Lightly overcast,	Woodland habitat it belongs to the Oro-	Species not reported previously from this area of Evros.

				protected area of Mountainous Evros-Dereio Valley (Natura 2000 Special Protection Area GR1110010), close to the Rhodope Prefecture's borders, next to Hilia Recreation Area	mean 25 °C	mediterranean vegetation zone (<i>Fagion moesiaceae</i>) and is covered by mixed deciduous and coniferous forest, with small clearings	
6.	Ditto #5	TL: 323 mm SVL: 267 mm	Juvenile, road-killed	41° 17'54" N, 25° 55'14" E; a.s.l. 800 m. Ditto #5 but about 430 m further north	Ditto #5	Ditto #5	Ditto #5
7.	16 May 2022, 18:50 h	TL: 342 mm SVL: 285 mm	Juvenile, basking on road	41° 15'54" N, 25° 54'17" E; a.s.l. 752 m. North-eastern part of the protected area of Filiouris River Valley, at about 5.3 km north-east of the village of Kechros	Ditto #5	Deciduous forest remnant, scattered shrubs, cultivated fields, meadows, and pastures	Fig. 3H. Specimen released back into its habitat. Second record of the species in the prefecture of Rhodope.
8.	13th July 2022, 17:45 h	TL: 481 mm SVL: 398 mm	Young, road-kill in poor condition	41° 21'18" N, 24° 58'14" E; a.s.l. 515 m. Northern part of the prefecture of Xanthi, in the area of Thermes settlements	Sunny, 28 °C	Deciduous forest with small openings, shrubs, and some fields	Presence of the species has not been reported previously reported from this area of Xanthi.