Comparative analysis of the development of the lizard, Liolaemus tenuis tenuis. II. A series of normal postlaying stages in embryonic development

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In this work, we have completed a study of the development of the ovoviviparous lizard Liolaemus tenuis tenuis. Ovoviviparity in this lizard is a condition in which eggs are retained within the reproductive duct for about 60 days. During this period the phases of segmentation, gastrulation, neurulation, presomitic, and somitic embryos transpire. During the months of December and January the eggs are laid, and at this time the embryos are comparable to stage 27 Liolaemus gravenhorsti lizard embryos, or to stage 29 Calotes versicolor lizard embryos. Differentiation of the facial region occurs between Days 12 and 42 after egg laying. Limbs develop rapidly between the 8th and 23rd days. By 53 days the appendicular skeleton is completely formed. After 36 days the mesonephros begins to degenerate, and its function is gradually taken over by the developing metanephros. Newborn lizards do not possess an egg caruncle. During the period up to hatching, there is a great increase of liquid within