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Research Details:

Research Title : <u>Seasonal acclimatization in metabolic rate of the fan-fingered</u>

gecko, Ptyodactylus hasselquistii (Reptilia : Gekkonidae)

<u>Seasonal acclimatization in metabolic rate of the fan-fingered</u> gecko, Ptyodactylus hasselquistii (Reptilia: Gekkonidae)

Description : The resting metabolic rate of the fan-fingered gecko Ptyodactylus

hasselquistii of various body masses was determined in relation to ambient temperatures ranging from 20 to 35 degrees C during winter and summer acclimatization. Oxygen consumption (ml g(-1) h(-1)) decreased with increasing mass at each temperature. The intraspecific exponents of body mass in relation to metabolic rate ranged from 0.63 to 0.79. Winter-acclimatized geckos had significantly lower metabolic rates than summer-acclimatized geckos at different temperatures, especially at low temperature (20 degrees C). The pattern of acclimatization exhibited by P. hasselquistii may conserve energy during inactivity in winter and make activity more easily achieved during active seasons. (C) 1999 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

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