

A Preliminary Study on Feeding Biology of the European copper skink, *Ablepharus kitaibelii* (Bibron & Bory, 1833), collected from Denizli Province

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Aim of the study:In this study, the feedingbiology of *Aplepharus kitaibelii*, collected from Denizli province and examined first time for feeding biology.

Material and Methods:12 (7♂♂,5♀♀) *Aplepharus kitaibelii* samples collected from Denizli province between 2009 and 2010 years. The skinks were anesthetized in ether filled glass containers, guts were dissected out by using surgical scissors and forceps. Prey items were classified and counted.

Results:As a result of the research, the majority of the diet consisted of the class Insecta in the identified preys in diet of the *Ablepharus kitaibelii*: Heteroptera (28.57%), Orthoptera (14.28), Diptera (10.71%) Hymenoptera (7.14%), Coleoptera (3.57%) and Arachnida (35.75%) species. Some plant materials were observed in gut of *Aplepharus kitaibelii*. This plant parts are accidentally swallowed in feeding activity.

Keywords:*Aplepharus kitaibeli*, Denizli, Feeding Biology, Turkey