

SILVERY LEGLESS LIZARD
(ANNIELLA PULCHRA PULCHRA)



Description

The silvery legless lizard is a slender, limbless lizard, about 4.5 to 7 inches (113 to 175 mm) in total length. It is silvery, gray, or beige above, with a dark line down the

center of the back. Its underparts are yellow, with fine, lengthwise lines between the scales.

Legless lizards feed on insect larvae, small adult insects, and spiders. They usually forage at the base of shrubs or other vegetation.

Habitat

This species burrows primarily in areas with sandy or loose organic soils or where there is plenty of leaf litter. It sometimes seeks cover under objects such as boards and rocks. It has been reported that moisture is an important habitat requirement for this species.

Legless lizards can be active during cool days as well as during morning and evening hours. In warmer areas, they may be active all year.

Range/distribution

Silvery legless lizards occur in the San Joaquin Valley from San Joaquin County south to Kern County.

Photo: William Flaxington, 1998 from Calphotos:
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