

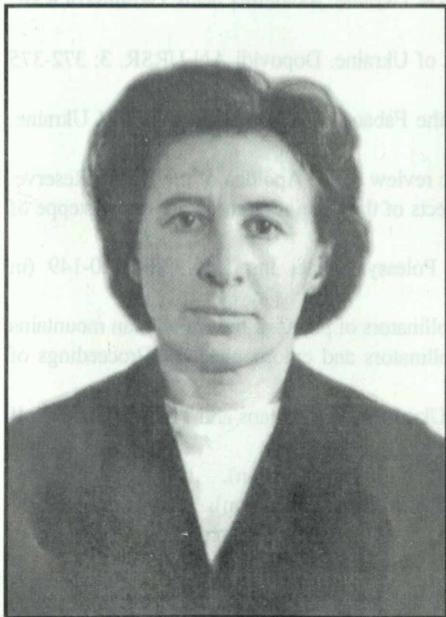
Anna Zakharovna Osytshnjuk (1926 – 1998). Obituary

JÓZEF BANASZAK *, ZLATA GERSHENSON ** & LUDMILA ROMASENKO **

* Department of Biology and Environmental Protection, Pedagogical University,
Chodkiewicza 30, 85-064 Bydgoszcz, Poland

** Institute of Zoology, Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Khmelnycky 15, Kiev 252601,
Ukraine

Entomological sciences suffered a severe loss on the 13th May 1998. This was because of the death of Anna Zakharovna Osytshnjuk, one of the most eminent contemporary experts on wild bees.



A. Z. Osytshnjuk was born on 25 Sept. 1926 in the village of Bandurovka, Kirovograd District, Ukraine. Her parents were peasants. After graduating from secondary school in 1946 she went to the Shevchenko Kiev State University, where she took a 5-year course at the Faculty of Biology and Soil Science and specialised in entomology. Soon she started research on wild bees and devoted all her scientific activities to this task. During her studies at the University she carried out many field experiments with wild bees, enthusiastically and with the characteristic diligence, even in her spare time. She participated in many large scientific expeditions, studying the fauna, life cycles and behaviour of the Apoidea of the various natural landscapes of the vast territories of the former USSR, from the Polish border to the Russian Far East.

She collected many new species and studied the ecology and systematics of many families of the Apoidea, particularly of the Colletidae and Andrenidae.

In 1952 Anna Zakharovna graduated from the university and started postgraduate studies at the Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine. In

1955 she received a Ph.D. in biology for research on wild bees. Then A. Z. Osytsnjuk continued her research, first as a junior researcher at the Department of General Entomology and since 1962 as a senior researcher at the same department.

A. Z. Osytsnjuk published four monographs and over 60 papers in a number of scientific journals and other publications. Throughout her career Anna Zakharovna replenished the collections of the Apoidea of the above-mentioned Institute. Now they include nearly 1300 species with 1401 type specimens, most of them described by her.

Anna Zakharovna carried out a great work associated with scientific supervision of postgraduate students. Nine of her pupils obtained a Ph.D. in biology. Anna Zakharovna was also frequently asked for expert advice (e.g. for identification of bee specimens) by many scientific and business institutions.

Anna Zakharovna almost until her last days of life had been writing a key to species of the genus *Andrena* of the Palaearctic Region for the München Zoologische Staatssammlung. She managed to finish the main part of this fundamental work.

Anna Zakharovna was a very modest and well-disposed colleague, so it is a very painful loss to all the entomologists who knew this eminent hymenopterologist.

List of selected publications

- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1959. Bees (Apoidea) of the steppes of SW Ukraine. Akademia Nauk Ukrainiskoi RSR. Inst. Zool. Kyiv. 3-92 (in Ukrainian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1960. Bees (Apoidea) new to the fauna of Ukraine. Dopovidi AN URSSR. **3**: 372-375 (in Ukrainian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1960 Relationships between bees and the Fabaceae in the steppes of SW Ukraine. Entomol. Obozr. **39**: 384-394 (in Russian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1963. A preliminary ecological-faunistic review of the Apoidea of the Kanev Reserve. Materials for research on the fauna and ecology of insects of the main regions of the forest-steppe of Ukraine. Kiev. 179-199 (in Russian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1964. Bees (Apoidea) of Ukrainian Polessya. Praci Inst Zool. **20**: 120-149 (in Ukrainian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1967. Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) - pollinators of plants of the Carpathian mountains and the high mountain meadows. Useful insects - pollinators and entomophagous. Proceedings of Zoological Institute **38**:366-382.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1967. Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) of Ukrainian Carpathians and Transcarpathians. II Melittidae and Megachilidae. Vestnik Zool. **2**: 64-71.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1970. Colletid bees. Fauna Ukrainy **12** (4): 5-158 (in Ukrainian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1977. Andrenid bees. Fauna Ukrainy **12** (5): 5-328 (in Ukrainian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z., PANFILOV D.V., PONOMAREVA A.A. 1978. Apoidea. Opredelitel nasekomykh europeiskoi chasti SSSR. Vol. III Pereponchatokrylye. Leningrad, Izd. Nauka **1**: 279-519.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1982. New Asiatic *Andrena* species (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae) Vestn. Zool **5**: 25-30.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1982. New species of genus *Andrena* (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae) from Tadjikistan. Vestn Zool. **2**: 32-37.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1983. Three new Asiatic *Andrena* species (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae) from Kazakhstan. Vestn. Zool. **1**: 20-27.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1983. A new subgenus and new species of bees of the genus *Andrena* F. (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae) from the Asiatic part of the USSR. Entomol. Obozr. **62**: 794-799.

- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1984. New and little known bees of the subgenus *Carandrena* WAR. (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae, *Andrena* F.) in the fauna of the USSR. Proceedings of the Zoological Inst. **128**: 3-15.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1985. Two new Asiatic *Andrena* species (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae). Vestn. Zool. **3**: 19-23.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1986. New Palaearctic species of the subgenus *Euandrena* HED. (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae, *Andrena* F.). Entomol. Obozr. **65**: 407-418.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z., ROMASENKO L.P. 1991. The bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) of the Kanev reservation. The problems of general and molecular biology. Kiev. **9**: 60-67. (in Russian).
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1993. New subgenera and new species of Palaearctic *Andrena* bees (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae). Communication 1-2. Vestn. Zool. **3**: 17-23; **5**: 60-66.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1993. New Palaearctic species of bees of the subgenus *Micrandrena* ASHMEAD (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae, *Andrena* FABR.). Entomol. Obozr. **72**: 401-409.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1994. New subspecies of Palaearctic *Andrena* bees (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae). Vestn. Zool. **1**: 30-36.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1994. New subgenera and new species of Palaearctic *Andrena* bees (Hymenoptera, Andrenidae) Communication 3. Vestn. zool. **4-5**: 17-34.
- OSYTSHNJUK A.Z. 1995. Colletidae (coauthor ROMANKOVA T.G.) Andrenidae. Opredelitel nasekomych Dalnego Vostoka Rossii. IV (1): 480-527.
- SCHÖNITZER K., GRÜN WALDT W., GUSENLEITNER F., OSYTSHNJUK A.Z., SCHUBERTH J. 1995. Klärung von *Andrena forsterella*, mit Hinweisen zu den anderen Arten der *Andrena labialis* - Gruppe (Hymenoptera, Apoidea, Andrenidae). Linzer biol. Beitr. **27**: 832-850.