
OBITUARY

In Memory of Yu. A. Pesenko (1944–2007)

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Russian and World hymenopterology has suffered an irreplaceable loss. Yuri Andreevich Pesenko, a Leading Researcher at the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Doctor of Biology, passed away on September 23, 2007. We have lost a man of bright talent and principle. Of the several monographs that he planned, the still unpublished review of Halictidae of the Russian Far East happened to be his last work.

Yu.A. Pesenko was born on October 18, 1944 in Leningrad, and spent his childhood and youth in Rostov-on-Don. In 1961 he entered the Faculty of Biology and Soil Sciences of Rostov State University, where in 1962 he started his research of the fauna of wild bees of Rostov Province, phenology and behavior of some species, and formation of the cenotic complexes of bees. This work was interrupted by three years of military service, which he spent in the DDR, having been awarded a commemorative medal “20 Years of Victory in the Great Patriotic War.” After demobilization Yu.A. continued his education at Rostov University, from which he graduated with honors in 1969. Already as a student, he prepared three research papers for publication.

In 1970, after about a year of work as a plant quarantine officer in Rostov, Yu.A. became a postgraduate student at the All-Union Research Institute of Plant Protection (Pushkin, Leningrad), where he continued his studies of bees as pollinators of wild and cultured plants in Rostov Province, paying special attention to the quantitative parameters of bee communities, interactions of bees with their food plants, and the role of different species in the faunal complexes. He developed an original method of studying the biocenology of bees, well-founded from the viewpoint of biology as well as mathematics. In 1973 Yu.A. maintained his Candidate’s thesis *Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) of the Lower Don Basin (Fauna, Trophic Links, and Biocenology)* and took a position at the Laboratory of In-



sect Systematics of the Zoological Institute. In 1992 Yu.A. defended his Doctoral thesis *Methodological Analysis of Systematics and Eco-Faunistic Studies, by the Example of Hymenopterans of the Superfamily Apoidea*.

Yu.A. was involved in an exceptionally broad range of scientific research. He published fundamental works in phylogeny, evolution, taxonomy, and biology of bees, the theory of phylogenetic analysis, and quantitative methods in faunistics, ecology, and biogeography.

Yu.A. was well known in Russia and abroad as the utmost authority in the taxonomy and biology of bees, a vast group of pollinators, constituting an important component in most terrestrial ecosystems and having a great economic significance. His studies of bees, mostly those of the family Halictidae, were reflected in over 70 publications, including a *Fauna of the USSR* volume on the tribe Nomioidini (1983) and four co-authored monographs on the halictid bees of Poland (2000, 2002), Madagascar (2001), and Africa

(2005). Yu.A. also published revisions of the genera *Cellariella*, *Ceylalictus*, *Dufourea* s. str., *Evylaeus*, *Lasioglossum* s. str., *Nomiooides*, and *Pachyhalictus*. In all, he described 115 new taxa (1 genus, 45 subgenera, 63 species, and 6 subspecies). In the last years, he paid special attention to halictid bees of various countries and regions: Africa, Madagascar, the Eastern Palaearctic and the entire Palaearctic Region, Poland, Yakutia, northwestern European Russia, and China, and also worked on a volume on the genus *Halictus* for the series *Fauna of Russia and Adjacent Countries*, which remained unfinished.

Yu.A. devoted a considerable part of his work to problems of bee phylogeny. He carried out comparative morphological studies and was the first to publish phylogenetic reconstructions of subfamilies and tribes within the family Halictidae, genera and subgenera within the tribe Nomiooidini, genera with two submarginal cells in the forewing within the tribe Eucerini, and subgenera within the genera *Halictus* and *Eucera*.

The monograph *Biology of Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea)*, published by Yu.A. Pesenko and V.G. Radchenko in 1994, drew a wide response all over the world. In particular, it presented a new hypothesis concerning the early evolution of bees and a detailed analysis of the origin and major trends of their sociality. Another monograph, devoted to the alfalfa leafcutter bee (1982), was of great economic importance.

Thorough bibliographic research, carried out by Yu.A. for many years, was summarized in *Annotated Bibliography of Russian and Soviet Publications on the Bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea; Excluding Apis mellifera): 1771–2002*, prepared in co-authorship with Yu.V. Astafurova. This index covers 3027 publications with comprehensive comments.

The studies into quantitative methods in faunistics, ecology, and biogeography, performed by Yu.A., deserve special attention. They were covered in one of his first monographs, namely *Principles and Methods of Quantitative Analysis in Faunistic Research* (1982), which became the principal reference book for many zoologists. Among other new and improved methods, Yu.A. developed formalized pluralistic approaches to estimating similarity, diversity, and some other parameters of faunas, animal assemblages, and ecological communities. These approaches allow one to avoid subjectivity during data collection and analysis, and considerably reduce the risk of making ambiguous or

biased conclusions. Yu.A. was also interested in theoretical taxonomy. Two large papers published under the common title *Methodological Analysis of Systematics* (1989, 1991) were immediately noticed by the Russian scientific community. In all, Yu.A. published 139 works, including 9 monographs, 4 of them in English.

Yu.A. took part in many research expeditions to Central Asia, Kazakhstan, and the Far East, and made collections in the Caucasus, Ukraine, and Siberia. Owing to these expeditions and active exchange with foreign museums, the bee collections of the Zoological Institute were considerably enlarged.

Yu.A. organized three large conferences on quantitative methods in animal ecology, held at the Zoological Institute and the Institute for Plant Protection (1971, 1976, and 1980). He also worked as secretary of the Organizing Committee of VII Congress of the All-Union Entomological Society, and headed the apidological sections at all the subsequent congresses of the Society.

Yu.A. was actively involved in editorial work. He was the editor of many collected volumes (mostly those published by the Zoological Institute) and monographs; for seven years he was a conscientious and demanding editor of the institute wall newspaper. He translated into English many papers from the *Entomologicheskoe Obozrenie* and edited the translations of hymenopterological publications for the *Entomological Review*. The editors of many journals, such as *Zoologicheskii Zhurnal*, *Ekologiya*, *Entomologicheskoe Obozrenie*, and *Zhurnal Obshchei Biologii*, knew him as a reliable reviewer. When his review contained critical remarks, and even when he considered a paper unsuitable for publication, Yu.A. always asked the editor not to make the review anonymous, implying that he would be glad to help the author improve the manuscript.

Yu.A. devoted much time and effort to his students, five Candidate's dissertations having been maintained under his guidance. He actively supervised all the apidological research in the former USSR states, and carried out extensive and diverse advisory work for many Russian and foreign specialists, students, and amateur entomologists.

Yu.A. Pesenko was loved and respected by his colleagues from the Zoological Institute and various Russian and foreign research institutes for highly exacting attitude to himself and others, adherence to principles, responsibility and thoroughness of research work,

goodwill and sympathy. It will be hard to realize that this outstanding researcher and rare personality is no longer with us. His demise is an irretrievable loss not only for his relatives, friends, and colleagues, but also for Russian and world science.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF YU.A. PESENKO

1970

1. "On the Fauna of Halictid Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in the Lower Don Steppes," in *Abstracts of Papers, VI Congr. of the All-Union Entomol. Society* (Voronezh, 1970), p. 139 [in Russian].

1971

2. "Contributions to the Fauna and Ecology of Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in Steppes of the Lower Don Basin. Communication I. The Family Megachilidae," *Entomol. Obozr.* **50** (1), 66–78 (1971) [Entomol. Review **50** (1): 38–47 (1971)].
3. *Instructions for a Quantitative Survey of Insect Pollinators* (VNII Zashchity Rastenii, Leningrad, 1971) [in Russian].
4. "Foundations of the Main Parameters of the Survey Methods to Determine the Abundance of Insect Pollinators," in *Abstracts of Papers, Conf. on Biocenology and Methods of Population Monitoring of Agricultural and Forest Pests. Leningrad, 7–9 December 1971* (Nauka, Leningrad, 1971), pp. 47–48 [in Russian].
5. [Review] "A.Z. Osychnyuk, 'Fauna of the Ukraine. Vol. 12: Bees, Issue 4: Colletid Bees' (Nauk. Dumka, Kiev, 1970)," *Vestnik Zool.*, No. 4, 89–90 (1971) (with V.I. Tobias).
6. "Quantitative Counts of Insect Pollinators," in *Abstracts of Papers, 6th Conf. of Young Researchers of the All-Union Institute of Plant Protection, December 1971* (VNII Zashchity Rastenii, Leningrad, 1971), pp. 10–11 [in Russian].

1972

7. "On Methods of Quantitative Counts of Insect Pollinators," *Ekologiya*, No. 1, 89–95 (1972).
8. "Contributions to the Fauna and Ecology of Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in Steppes of the Lower Don Basin. Communication II. The Family Halictidae," *Entomol. Obozr.* **51** (2), 282–295 (1972) [Entomol. Review **51** (2): 170–179 (1972)].
9. "On the Effects of Chemical Treatment on Species Composition and Abundance of Plant-Pollinating Solitary Bees," in *Abstracts of Papers, All-Union Conf. 'Technological Works by Young Researchers Attempting Intensification of Agriculture, November 22–24, 1972* (Leningrad, 1972), pp. 160–162 [in Russian].
10. "A Conference on Biocenology and Methods of Population Monitoring of Agricultural and Forest Pests," *Zool.*

Zh. **51** (5), 78–79 (1972) (with G.S. Medvedev).

11. "Developing the Theoretical Basis of Plant Protection," *Zashchita Rastenii*, No. 5, 52–53 (1972).
12. "Contributions to the Fauna and Ecology of Bees (Apoidea) in the Lower Don Basin. Communication 3. Phenology and Trophic Links of the Andrenidae," *Zool. Zh.* **51** (8), 1196–1200 (1972).
13. "Population Density Estimation Using a Mathematical Model Based on the Diffusion Theory," in *Abstracts of Papers, Research Conf. 'Computing Machinery in Agricultural Production,' October 1972* (VNII Rastenievodstva, Leningrad, 1972), pp. 19–20 [in Russian] (with L.R. Ginzburg, G.E. Sergeev, and G.S. Epelman).
14. "A Nomogram for Distribution of Animal Species by Classes of Relative Abundance Based on a Five-Point Logarithmic Scale," *Zool. Zh.* **51** (12), 1875–1878 (1972).

1973

15. *Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) of the Lower Don Basin (Fauna, Trophic Links, and Biocenology)*. Candidate's Dissertation in Biology (Leningrad, 1973).
16. "Chemical Protection and Insect Pollinators," *Zashchita Rastenii*, No. 10, 11–12 (1973).

1974

17. "Estimation of the Total Species Number in a Local Fauna (or Flora)," *Zool. Zh.* **53** (3), 449–453 (1974).
18. "Pollination of Entomophilous Plants by Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in the Lower Don Basin and Discussion of Their Possible Significance in Speciation of the Angiosperms," in *Reports at the 26th Annual Readings in the Memory of Prof. N. A. Kholodkovskii* (Leningrad, April 6, 1973) (Nauka, Leningrad, 1974), pp. 3–48 [in Russian].
19. *Instructions for Rearing the Alfalfa Leaf-Cutter Bee (Megachile rotundata) and its Use for Pollination of Alfalfa* (VNII Rastenievodstva, Leningrad, 1974) [in Russian] (with P.A. Lubenets, A.I. Ivanov, and A.Z. Osychnyuk).
20. "Contributions to the Fauna and Ecology of Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in the Lower Don Basin. Communication IV. The Family Anthophoridae," *Entomol. Obozr.* **53** (2), 324–333 (1974).
21. "On the Biocenological Approach to Studying Pollination Ecology of Zoophilous Plants," *Zh. Obshch. Biol.* **35** (4), 507–517 (1974).
22. "Contributions to the Fauna and Ecology of Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in the Lower Don Basin. Communication V. Biotopic Distribution and Formation of Wild Bee Populations in Secondary Biocenoses," *Zool. Zh.* **53** (6), 882–887 (1974).
23. "On the Use of Quantitative Methods in Eco-Faunistic Studies of Insects," in *Proc. 7th Congr. of the All-Union*

- Entomological Society, Leningrad, 4–8 February, 1975. Part 1* (Leningrad, 1974), pp. 102–103.
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24. “A Diffusion Model for the Method of Exhaustion of Animal Populations for Estimation of Their Absolute Density and Rate of Dispersion. 1. Theory of the Method,” *Zool. Zh.* **54** (2), 289–294 (1975) (with L.R. Ginzburg, G.E. Sergeev, and G.S. Epelman).
 25. “The Greatest Forum of Soviet Entomologists,” *Zashchita Rastenii*, No. 6, 2–5 (1975) (with V.I. Tobias).
 26. “Contributions to the Fauna and Ecology of Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in the Lower Don Basin. Communication VI. Survey of Trophic Links,” *Entomol. Obozr.* **54** (3), 555–564 (1975).
 27. “VII Congress of the All-Union Entomological Society of the USSR Academy of Sciences. February 4–8, 1975,” *Entomol. Obozr.* **54** (3), 681–685 (1975) (with V.I. Tobias).
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 29. “A Method for Estimating the Biocenotic Relation between Components of an Ecosystem,” in *Quantitative Methods in Ecology and Biocenology of Terrestrial Animals. Abstracts of Papers, the 2nd Biocenotic Conf., Leningrad, 20–22 January, 1976* (Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Leningrad, 1976), pp. 53–54 [in Russian].
 30. “On a Diversity Index Based on the Number of Relocations,” in *Quantitative Methods in Ecology and Biocenology of Terrestrial Animals. Abstracts of Papers, the 2nd Biocenotic Conf., Leningrad, 20–22 January, 1976* (Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Leningrad, 1976), pp. 55–57 [in Russian].
 31. “Use of Similarity Indices for Analysis of Biocenotic Interactions between Components of an Ecosystem (by an Example of Correlations between Wild Bee Populations and Entomophilous Plants),” *Ekologiya*, No. 2, 7–12 (1976).
 32. “On the Formation of Wild Bee Populations (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in Alfalfa Fields,” *Zool. Zh.* **55** (6), 856–859 (1976).
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33. “Resolution of the 2nd Biocenotic Conference ‘Quantitative Methods in Ecology and Biocenology of Terrestrial Animals’ (Leningrad, 20–22 January, 1976),” *Ekologiya*, No. 1, 111–112 (1977).
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 38. “Comparative Analysis of Similarity Indices,” in *Animal Morphology, Taxonomy, and Evolution: Collected Papers* (Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Leningrad, 1978), pp. 27–29 [in Russian].
 39. “Key to Families of the Superfamily Apoidea,” in *Keys to Insects of the European Part of the USSR. Vol. 3. Hymenoptera. Part 1* (Nauka, Leningrad, 1978), pp. 280–281 [in Russian].
 40. “Contributions to the Fauna and Ecology of Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in the Lower Don Basin. Communication VII. Phenology, Seasonal and Daily Dynamics of Abundance,” *Entomol. Obozr.* **57** (4), 762–771 (1978).
 41. “*Nomioides (Nomioides) minutissimus* (Rossi): Map of Distribution in Russia and Mongolia,” in *Geographical Ranges of Insects of the European Part of the USSR* (Nauka, Leningrad, 1978), p. 14 [in Russian].
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 44. “A New Species of the Bee Genus *Nomioides* Schenck (Hymenoptera, Halictidae) from Middle Asia,” *Trudy Vses. Entomol. Obshch.* **61**, 176–178 (1979).
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46. “Preface,” in *Quantitative Methods in Animal Ecology* (Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Leningrad, 1980), pp. 3–6 [in Russian].
 47. “On the Interpretation of Accounting by Traps Intended for a Single Animal,” in *Quantitative Methods in Animal Ecology* (Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Leningrad,

- 1980), pp. 24–28 [in Russian] (with A.G. Bogolyubov).
48. "On the Classification of Known Measures of Resemblance and the Equivalence of Some Measures Derived from the Concepts of Association, Distance, Correlation and Diversity," in *Quantitative Methods in Animal Ecology* (Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Leningrad, 1980), pp. 103–107 [in Russian].
49. "The Ecology of Pollination of *Strigosella grandiflora* and *Erysimum badghysi* (Brassicaceae) by Wild Bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) in Badghys: Estimation of the Competition Pressure," Entomol. Obozr. **59** (4), 768–782 (1980) [Entomol. Review **59** (4), 58–73 (1980)] (with V.G. Radchenko and M.S. Kaigorodova).
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50. "Nomiooides Schenck, 1866: Proposed Designation of Type Species (Insecta, Hymenoptera, Halictidae). Z. N. (S.) 2178," Bull. Zool. Nomencl. **38** (3), 225–227 (1981) (with I.M. Kerzhner).
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55. *Principles and Methods of Quantitative Analysis in Faunistic Research* (Nauka, Moscow, 1982) [in Russian].
56. *The Alfalfa Leaf-Cutter Bee, Megachile rotundata, and Its Management for Pollination of Alfalfa* (Nauka, Leningrad, 1982) [in Russian].
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63. "Bees of the Tribe Nomiooidini (Hymenoptera, Halictidae) in the Mongolian Fauna: Additions and Corrections," in *Insects of Mongolia. Vol. 9* (Nauka, Leningrad, 1984), pp. 482–483 [in Russian].
64. "On the Methodological and Technical Aspects of Special Zoogeographical Regionalization as a Way of Studying the Animal Distribution and the History of the Faunas," in *Abstracts of Papers, VII All-Union Zoogeographical Conf., Leningrad, 6–8 February, 1985* (Akad. Nauk SSSR, Moscow, 1984), pp. 416–418 [in Russian].
65. "A Synonymic Annotated Catalogue of the Species-Group Names of Bees of the Genus *Halictus* Latreille sensu stricto (Hymenoptera, Halictidae) in the World Fauna," Trudy Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR **128**, 16–32 (1984).
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73. [Collection Reports] "Zoological Institute, Academy of Science," Melissa, No. 2, 17–18 (1987).
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77. "Comparative Analysis of the Distribution of the Bee Genera *Halictus* Latreille s. str. and *Lasioglossum* Curtis s. str. (Hymenoptera, Halictidae) in the Palaearctic," in *Connections between Insect Faunas of Northern Europe and Siberia. Collected Papers* (Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Leningrad, 1988), pp. 126–141 [in Russian].

1989

78. "A Key to Bees of the Genus *Dasypoda* Latreille (Hymenoptera, Melittidae) of the European Part of the USSR, with Designation of Lectotypes," Trudy Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR **188**, 114–121 (1989) (with V.G. Radchenko).
79. "Bees of the Tribe Homioidini (Hymenoptera, Halictidae) of the Transcaucasia and Asia Minor, with Description of a New Species of the Genus *Homioides* Schenck," Trudy Zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR **188**, 122–128 (1989).
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1990

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1992

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