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## THE 4th SYMPOSIUM ON TRICHOPTERA IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES (MOSCOW, 1993)

I.D.Sukatcheva &amp; V.D.Ivanov

The 4th CIS Trichopterological Symposium was held in Moscow, 7 – 10 September 1993. Sessions took place in the Paleontological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences. I.D.Sukatcheva from the Arthropoda laboratory of this Institute was the convener. More than 20 participants, mainly from Russia, took part in this meeting.

The Symposium began and finished with the paleontological presentations, and an excursion to the Paleontological Museum was organized on the first day. Participants presented new data on fossil faunas (I.D.Sukatcheva), discussed phylogenetical relations of caddisflies to scorpionflies and Diptera (V.G.Novokshonov), compared times of origin and extinction of the different rank taxa in Trichoptera and Plecoptera (I.D.Sinitchenkova), and demonstrated the general trends in the evolution of the freshwater ecosystems (A.G.Ponomarenko). Faunistics were presented in several talks concerning different regions of Russia: The Central Blacksoil Region south of Moscow, the Caucasus, Karelia, and the Kolsky Peninsula. It was a pity there were no specialists from the Far East; high ticket prices excluded workers from the very active Levanidova's group studying caddis faunas in rivers of Far East Russia, Sakhalin, and Kurily Islands.

Besides faunistics, the topics of presentations were the studies of vibrational communication in caddisflies (V.D.Ivanov) and stoneflies (L.A.Zhiltsova). Oral presentations were supported by demonstrations of tape recordings of male and female drumming. These results were discussed with specialists in insect behaviour and communication from the Moscow University who also took part in the Symposium.

Two morphological lectures were given: the first one on certain features of wings (veins, folds etc.) which are found in similar shape in several non-related taxa of Trichoptera as well as in other insect orders (D.L.Grodnitsky), and the second one on the evolution of gonopods (inferior appendages) in male genitalia of caddisflies (V.N.Grigorenko). Both talks concentrated on probable correlations in the shape of structures and possible processes of parallel evolution; numerous cases of homoplasia are present in insects and are a great challenge

to the modern cladistics.

A kind of inertia of building activity overcoming the sensory input was shown by P.M.Filimonov to be present in caddisflies. Thus, the length of the case is regulated mainly by the species-specific program and is not entirely dependent on the sensory stimuli. The presentation by A.T.Kozlov described some kinds of the building behaviour in caddisflies. A colour video film on the building activity was shown. A stimulating talk by E.I.Izvekova presented the methods used by her in the estimation of pollution levels in small rivers. The biodiversity tests used in her studies included caddisflies and other aquatic insects as indicators.

Some students from the Moscow University and even one schoolboy from St.Petersburg took part in sessions. Tea and cakes after meetings were a pleasant feature. Some of the material will be published in the Zoological Journal (Moscow). The next Symposium will be in Voronezh in 1996.



Participants of the 4th CIS Symposium on Trichoptera at the entrance to the Paleontological Institute. From left to right: G.Ryazanova, V.Khrennikov, E.Izvekova, S.Melnitsky, A.Silina, V.Grigorenko, V.Ivanov, I.Kornoukhova, L.Zhiltsova, I.Sukatcheva.

In the park near the Institute. From left to right: I.Sukatcheva, R.Borisov, A.Udalov, A.Kozlov, V.Ivanov, E.Izvekova, S.Melnitsky, V.Khrennikov, A.Silina, I.Sinitchenkova, G.Ryazanova, I.Kornoukhova, L.Zhiltsova.



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