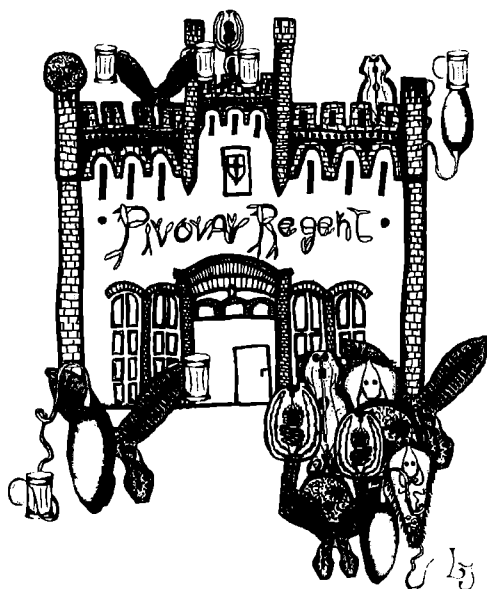


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STUDY OF THE NEMATODE FAUNA IN WATERFOWLS ON THE UKRAINIAN POLESIE

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There are approximately 105 species of wild hydrophilic birds in Ukraine. The most of researchers dealt with helminth fauna of waterfowls, and only a few studies were dedicated to the parasitic nematodes. We have analyzed literature of the current knowledge on the parasitic nematode fauna in waterfowls in Ukrainian Polesie.

The first publications describing of the waterfowl nematodes was published in 1874 (Shtandel, 1874). However, only a few publications in this field are known up to the XX century. K. I. Skrjabin initiated detailed studies of this subject during his helminthological expeditions on the territory of Ukraine in 1920s (Skrjabin, 1916, 1923, 1926). Next period of the studies began after the War World II. The most famous and important studies on were performed by L.A. Smogorzewka (1954, 1976), V.A. Leonov (1956), N.I. Srebradolska (1964, 1969), E.O. Saakova (1952) and M.I. Sergienko (1968). After the 1980s, the investigations on waterfowl nematodes decreased; only few publications are known after 1990. During this period scientists accumulated information not only about fauna, but about morphology, life cycles and ecology of nematodes from this region.

Our literature analysis of the biodiversity of nematode fauna in waterfowls revealed that from 81 species (Smogorzewka 1976, 1990) of parasitic nematodes registered in Ukraine. Totally, 36 nematode species were registered in the Polesie region: 23 species – in Belarus (Merkusheva, 1981). 15 – in Poland (Okulewicz, 1997) and 18 – in Ukraine). Six nematode species: *Eucoleus contortus*, *Amidostomum anseris*, *Echinuria uncinata*, *Porrocaecum crassum*, *Porrocaecum semiteres* and *Tetrameres fissispina* were found to be common in all three countries.

Further studies are necessary to increase our knowledge on biodiversity of the parasitic nematodes in waterfowls and clear up their taxonomic status.