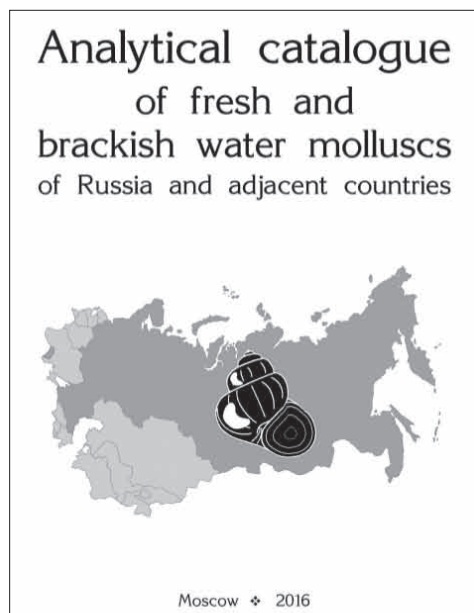


Книжное обозрение Book review

Vinarski M.V., Kantor Y.I. Analytical Catalogue of Fresh and Brackish Water Molluscs of Russia and Adjacent Countries. Moscow: A.N. Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution of RAS, 2016. 544 p. [In English].

Винарский М.В., Кантор Ю.И. Аналитический каталог пресноводных и солоноватоводных моллюсков России и сопредельных стран. М.: ИПЭЭ РАН, 2016. 544 с. [На англ. яз.].



The catalogue is an attempt to describe current state of taxonomy of freshwater molluscs (both gastropods and bivalves) in the territory of the former USSR. As it is stated in the introduction to the book, it is not first review of limnetic malacofauna in the region, but the book is the most full and up-to-date summary in the subject. This book is a continuation of previous catalogues by authors (*Kantor Yu.I., Sysoev A.V.* 2005. *Catalogue of Molluscs of Russia and Adjacent Countries*. Moscow: KMK Scientific Press, Ltd. 627 p.; *Kantor Yu.I., Vinarski M.V., Schileyko A.A., Sysoev A.V.* 2010. *Catalogue of the Continental Mollusks of Russia and Adjacent Territories* (online publication; available at: http://www.ruthenica.com/documents/Continental_Russian_molluscs_ver2-3-1.pdf).

Special attention in the book is paid to a review of taxonomic contradictions between European specialists and Soviet malacologists used a «comparative (comparatorial) method» as the main (or even the only) tool in taxonomic studies. Usage of this method lead to a significant increase of the species number considered as valid by Soviet and then by Russian taxonomists, but many of these species, however, had not been adopted anywhere apart of the former USSR and usually were considered as a synonyms of widely distributed species.

Species in the catalogue are divided in two lists: first list contains species which are universally accepted by both Russian and European taxonomists; the second one includes species which were supported only by means of the comparative method, these species are usually indicated by a remark «valid until synonymized». The following information is given for each species: list of synonyms, data on type locality and extant type materials, general distribution and distribution in the territory of the former USSR, brief data on habitat and conservation status.

The book does not contain photographs of shells nor identification remarks. The catalogue will be useful for taxonomits who interested in Eurasian freshwater molluscs, moreover, it unifies nomenclature and would become a useful tool for specialists dealing with species lists (e.g., ecologists, conservation biologists and biogeographers).

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