

Arkhipov M.P., Gaichenko V.A., Gashchak S.P. On the question of changes in the fauna of the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone // Bulletin of Ecological State of Exclusion Zone of Absolute (Mandatory) Resettlement. – 1999. – Vol. 14. – P.38-39.

Agricultural and forestry activities in the Chernobyl zone was stopped and after that started intensive processes naturalizing of land, also took place consecutive changes in plant communities, enrichment of species and quantitative composition of animal complexes. There are about 50 species of fish, 11 species of amphibians, 7 species of reptiles, about 200 species of birds and 70 species of mammals. In addition, during the seasonal migrations about 60 species of birds visited the exclusion zone. About 38 species of animals are protected under the Red Book of Ukraine and 207 - under the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern, 1979). Moreover the territory of the exclusion zone, as a crossroads of large migratory routes of birds, is subject to protection under Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979). There were proposals for the introduction of large hoofed animals in the ChZ such as bison, mouflon, fallow deer, "recovering" turn and Przewalski's horse. Moreover, in the autumn of 1998, 20 horses had already been imported and kept in a semi-free state. Mentioned the necessity to prepare multipurpose interdisciplinary scientific program of research of wild animals in the ChZ, whose purpose is solving the problem of increasing faunal diversity and giving part of the exclusion zone the status of a protected area.