

Fauna, ecology and zoogeography of the Auchenorrhyncha of the Chuvash Republic

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The Chuvash Republic occupies a territory of about 30 000 km². The main part of its territory belongs to the European nemoral region of the Hyadean subkingdom, the area on the left bank of the Volga, to the transitional zone from the Eurosiberian taiga region to the European nemoral one, and the south of the republic, to the transitional zone from the European nemoral region to the Scythian steppe region of the Tethyan subkingdom. The territory of Chuvashia lies entirely within the western subcontinental sector of the subboreal belt of Eurasia.

The Auchenorrhyncha of Chuvashia are studied for over 30 years. More than 280 species of 10 families are registered (Anufriev & Kirillova, 1998, 2001; Anufriev, Gorshkova & Chanova, 2002). Nearly all administrative districts of Chuvashia have been investigated, as well as the largest protected territories: the "Chuvash forest" National Park, the "Prisursky" Nature Reserve, the former "Zavolzhye" Nature Park, 10 wildlife sanctuaries and some nature monuments. Some rare species of Cicadidae (*Cicadetta montana* Scop.), Tettigometridae (*Tettigometra atra* Hgb. and *T. depresssa* Fieb.), Achilidae (*Cixidia confinis* Zett. and *C. lapponica* Zett.), Delphacidae (*Criomorpha wilhelmi* An. & Av., *Achorotile longicornis* J. Shlb., *Metropis mayri* Fieb.), and Cicadellidae (*Amplipcephalus nebulosus* Ball) have been found in the protected territories. These species were recommended for inclusion in The Red Book of Chuvashia.

Ecological groupings of the Cicadina have been analysed. Among the thermogroups, micromesotherms, micropermesotherms, and submicromesotherms predominate. They are notable for wide tolerance to the temperature conditions of the temperate climate. With regard to the factor of moisture, eumesophils, hydromesophils, and mesophils prevail. Hortobionts dominate. Five basic biotopic groups are distinguished, with more than half species belonging to the forest-meadow group and about 10%, to the forest-steppe and steppe group.

The nucleus of the local fauna of Auchenorrhyncha is formed by species with European nemoral, Eurosiberian boreal and European-Eurosiberian distribution ranges.

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