



ECOLOGICAL SPECIFICITY OF AMPHIBIAN POPULATIONS

**ADVANCES
IN AMPHIBIAN RESEARCH
IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION**



**Volume 7
2002**

 **PENSOFT.**

**IUCN (The World Conservation Union)
Species Survival Commission
Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force
Regional Group for the Commonwealth of
Independent States**

**Russian Academy of Sciences
A.N. Severtzov Institute of Ecology
and Evolution**

ECOLOGICAL SPECIFICITY OF AMPHIBIAN POPULATIONS

**ADVANCES IN AMPHIBIAN RESEARCH
IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION**

Volume 7
2002



**Sofia - Moscow
2002**

IUCN (The World Conservation Union)
Species Survival Commission
Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force
Regional Group for the Commonwealth of
Independent States

Russian Academy of Sciences
A.N. Severtzov Institute of Ecology
and Evolution

**ADVANCES IN AMPHIBIAN RESEARCH
IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION**

ISSN 1310-8840

Editor:

Sergius L. Kuzmin, Moscow

Associate Editor:

Ronald Altig, Mississippi State University

Editorial Board:

Nikolai N. Iordansky, Moscow

Yurii B. Manteifel, Moscow

Andrew N. Misyura, Dnepropetrovsk

Mikhail M. Pikulik, Minsk

Evgeny M. Pisanetz, Kiev

Emilia I. Vorobyeva, Moscow

All inquiries about subscription should be addressed to:

Pensoft Publishers

Dr. Lyubomir D. Penev, Akad. G. Bonchev Street, Bl.6, Sofia 1113, Bulgaria

Fax: +359-2-8704508

E-mail: pensoft@mbox.infotel.bg

Pensoft Online Bookshop: www.pensoft.net

Copyright

By submitting a manuscript, authors agree to transfer the copyright of all published material to the publisher.

© Pensoft *Publishers*

All rights reserved

ISBN 954-642-178-2 (Volume 7)

Photo on the cover by S. L. Kuzmin: *Rana temporaria*

Records of Overwintering Larvae of the Siberian Newt (*Salamandrella keyserlingii*)

VLADIMIR L. VERSHININ

Institute of Plant and Animal Ecology, Uralian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences, Ul. 8 Marta,
202, Ekaterinburg 620144 Russia

Accepted 27 December 2001

РЕЗЮМЕ: Находки перезимовавших личинок сибирского углозуба (*Salamandrella keyserlingii*). В.Л. Вершинин. Впервые сообщается о находках двух перезимовавших личинок сибирского углозуба в природе: в 1961 и 1976 гг. Обе находки сделаны в водоемах на берегу оз. Шарташ в г. Екатеринбург.

ABSTRACT: This is the first report of overwintering larvae of *Salamandrella keyserlingii* in nature. Larvae were found near Shartash Lake, Ekaterinburg City in 1961 and 1976.

Larvae of the Siberian Newt (*Salamandrella keyserlingii*) usually undergo metamorphosis in the summer, but in some cases it is delayed until autumn. Larvae sometimes are found after air temperatures fall below 0°C (Emelianov, 1944). Such instances have led to suppositions that some larvae overwinter in ponds in Sakhalin, Khabarovsk Region, Yakutia and near the the cities of Tomsk and Novosibirsk (see The Siberian, 1995, for review). It remains unclear whether these larvae survive during the winter or all or a part of them die.

In 1961, an overwintering larva was observed in a pond on the eastern side of Shartash Lake (V.G. Ishchenko, pers. comm.). At the end of the third week of April 1976, A.S. Melnik, a second-year student at the Uralian State University, caught one overwintering larva of the Siberian Newt from a pond near the western shore of Shartash Lake, Shartashkii Forest Park in Ekaterinburg City, Transuralia. The larva was caught with adult newts during their period of reproduction. This individual looked like a large young-of-the-year with gills and was about 4 cm total length. The larva was given to L.Y. Toporkova at the Department of Zoology of the Uralian State University. These are the first documented data on overwintering larvae of *S. keyserlingii*.

I thank V.G. Ishchenko for his information.

REFERENCES

- Emelianov, A.A. 1944. Amfibii i Reptilii Sovetskogo Dalnego Vostoka [Amphibians and Reptiles of the Soviet Far East]. – D. Sc. Diss. Vladivostok, Far Eastern Filial of the USSR Acad. Sci., 2 volumes (in Russian).
- The Siberian Newt (*Salamandrella keyserlingii* Dybowski, 1870): Ecology, Behaviour, Conservation. 1995. Moscow: Nauka Publ., 237 p. (in Russian).