



ЗАМЕТКА

A First Record of the Caucasian Dwarf Goby, *Knipowitschia caucasica* (Teleostei, Perciformes, Gobiidae), in the Siverskiy Donets River Drainage, Ukraine [Первая находка бычка-бубыря кавказского, *Knipowitschia caucasica* (Teleostei, Perciformes, Gobiidae) в бассейне Северского Донца (Украина)]. – The Caucasian dwarf goby *Knipowitschia caucasica* (Berg, 1916), is a very little (commonly not exceeding 4 cm TL) Ponto-Caspian gobiid fish widely distributed in marine and brackish waters, rarely in freshwaters of coastal area in the basins of Caspian, Azov, Black, Adriatic and Aegean Seas (Iljin, 1927, 1938; Berg, 1949; Svetovidov, 1964; Gueorguiev, 1966; Smirnov, 1986; Kottelat, Freyhof, 2007). Recently, a female of this species has been sampled in Ukraine rather far from the mouth (about 380 km) in the lower part of the Middle Dnieper River near Zaporizhzhya (Pan'kov, 2007). Our data show that freshwater area of *K. caucasica* in Ukraine extends for a great distance from the coastal area to the upper parts of big rivers. Adult female of this species, TL 14,5 mm, SL 12.2 mm and weight 250 mg, was captured with a fine mesh net on a sandy slightly slimy bottom, at depths 0.5–1.0 m, in the Upper Siverskiy Donets River (about 780 km from the shore of the Sea of Azov) in the vicinity of V. Haidary, Zmiev Distr., Kharkiv Region, 5.05.2009. The specimen has the following morphological characteristics: D₁ VI, D₂ I 8, A I 7, P 15/15 segmented rays; caudal fin symmetric, rounded, with 12 branched rays; head and back in front of D₂ naked; scales on flanks of the body form 34 transversal rows and 8 longitudinal rows between origins of D₂ and A. Anterior oculoscapular canal begins slightly behind of the anterior eye margin. Posterior oculoscapular canal is short. *K. caucasica* is considered to be an aboriginal species in the Upper Siverskiy Donets River, because there is no evidence of shipping traffic or any introduction. Since now, according the last faunistic reviews (Shandikov, Kryvokhyzha, 2008; Shandikov, Goncharov, 2008), the contemporary fish fauna of the Siverskiy Donets river system accounts about 60 species. Together with *K. caucasica*, 7 species and forms of fishes were captured: 2 invasive species of the Dnieper River fish fauna: *Pungitius platygaster* (Kessler, 1859) and *Syngnathus abaster* (Risso, 1827); and 5 native fishes: *Rhodeus amarus* (Bloch, 1782), *Cobitis melanoleuca* (Nichols, 1925) and a polyploid form of spined loach – *Cobitis* “tanaitica”, *Neogobius fluviatilis* (Pallas, 1814) and *Proterorhinus semilunaris* (Heckel, 1837). – G. A. Shandikov, D. V. Kryvokhyzha (Kharkiv V. N. Karazin National University, Ukraine), I. V. Slipko (Kerch State Marine Technological University, Ukraine).