



AGNESA POLIKARPIVNA STADNYCHENKO
(dedicated to the 80th birthday anniversary)

On the 18th of September, Doctor of Sciences (Biology), Professor, an Honoured Education Worker of Ukraine, Academician of the Higher School Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Agnesa Polikarpivna Stadnychenko celebrated her 80th anniversary.

Agnesa Polikarpivna was born into a teacher's family in town of Pyriatin, Poltava Region. Attending schools in Lviv and Chernivtsi, A. Stadnychenko graduated from Lviv Secondary School No. 13 with honours in 1953 and has dedicated much of her life to zoology. In 1958, A. P. Stadnychenko graduated from the Natural Sciences Department of Ivan Franko Lviv State University, obtained specialization "Biologist–zoologist" and has launched her career as a teacher of biology and chemistry at local secondary schools. In 1964, Agnesa Polikarpivna started her successful, fruitful, and long-term scientific activity: the postgraduate course under the supervision of Professor Zdun Vsevolod Illich at the Zoology Department of Ivan Franko Lviv State University, samples collection, field studies and laboratory experiments. After a successful dissertation defense for a Candidate Degree in Biology in 1968, she was employed as a senior lecturer, an associate professor, the head of the Ichthyology and Hydrobiology Department at Astrakhan Technical Institute for Fisheries.

In 1971, A. P. Stadnychenko with her family moved to Ukraine and worked as an associate professor at Zhytomyr Ivan Franko Pedagogical Institute and since 1984 — the professor of the Zoology Department. A. Stadnychenko has been the head of the Zoology Department of Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University since 1973. Agnesa Polikarpivna provides training in "Invertebrate zoology" and "General hydrobiology" courses. A. Stadnychenko assists young scientists in research papers writing, coordinates the student scientific task group, and since 1992 has been supervising the research of postgraduate students in specialty 03.00.08 — "Zoology". Being a many-sided personality, a prominent scientist, and a gifted teacher, Agnesa Polikarpivna is respected by students, postgraduates, as well as by colleagues.

Agnesa Stadnychenko has a wide range of scientific interests: malacology, parasitology, ecology, aquatic toxicology, and hydrobiology. In 1982, Agnesa Polikarpivna successfully defended the thesis "The Trematode Fauna and the Influence of Trematodes on the Freshwater Mollusks of the Ukrainian SSR" for the degree of the Doctor of Sciences (Biology) at Leningrad A. A. Zhdanov State University. Travelling across Ukraine, A. P. Stadnychenko gathered a huge collection of freshwater mollusks' shells (more than 225 species). The NAS National Museum of Natural History (Kyiv), the NAS National Museum of Natural History (Lviv), the RAS Zoological Museum of the Zoological Institute (St. Petersburg), and the Museum of Nature (Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University) exhibit the collection.

A. P. Stadnychenko is the author and coauthor of more than 520 academic works, including 13 monographs, three of which have been published in the leading domestic academic periodical "Fauna of Ukraine". They were dedicated to different groups of mollusks (Vol. 9, is. 29, 1984 — Unionidae, Pisidiidae; Vol. 4, is. 29, 1990 — Physidae, Bulinidae, Planorbidae; Vol. 1, is. 29, 1994 — Littorinoformes, Rissoiiformes jointly with V. V. Anistratenko).

Agnesa Polikarpivna Stadnychenko is the establisher of the unique Research School of Malacology. Since 1976 the research of mollusks has been carried out in various directions by the Malacology School members, concerning primarily malacofauna, systematics, parasitology, distribution, and ecology in Ukraine and surrounding grounds. The scientific coordination Malacology Center has been functioning as a structural unit of the Zhytomyr State University since 2004. In 2008 a research laboratory “Cytogenetics and Environmental Genetic Monitoring of the Environment” was established at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of Zhytomyr State University in close cooperation with the Department of Evolutionary and Genetic Basis of Animal Taxonomy at Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

Nowadays 4 Doctors of Sciences (Biology), 20 Candidates of Sciences (Biology), Senior Lectures, assistants, post-graduate students, master's degree students, students and pupils of secondary schools who are members of the Minor Academy of Sciences of Ukraine exercise systematic research of freshwater and terrestrial mollusks of Ukraine within Malacology School and academic structural units of Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University.

During the Malacology School existence its members attended more than 150 conferences, seminars, meetings of various ranks both in Ukraine and abroad (in Russia, Lithuania, Belarus, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Bulgaria, the USA). Moreover, they initiated and co-organized international malacological conferences (in 2002, 2004, 2006, 2012) which traditionally took place at Zhytomyr State University via organizational support from the institutions of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology, Institute of Hydrobiology, Institute of Geological Sciences) and the State Board of Environment and Natural Resources in Zhytomyr Region.

Agnesa Polikarpivna is a skilful, efficient tutor and scientific supervisor. Under the supervision of A. P. Stadnychenko three theses for the degree of the Doctor of Sciences (Biology) and 18 dissertations for the degree of the Candidate of Sciences (Biology) in zoology, ecology, hydrobiology, helminthology, and parasitology were defended. Four members of the Malacology School became laureates of the President's Award for Young Scientists in Science and Technology, two — laureates of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine Award for Young Scientists, four postgraduates have become scholarship holders of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, one has received the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers Award for Youth Special Achievements in the Development of Ukraine.

A. P. Stadnychenko is the head of the Zhytomyr branch of the Ukrainian Scientific Society of Parasitologists, an editorial board member of two scientific journals — Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University Journal and Zhytomyr National Agroecological University Journal, a member of Scientific Council of the Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology NAS of Ukraine.

Professor A. P. Stadnychenko has received deserved national recognition for her talent, fruitful and hard work, scientific research and teaching activities. Agnesa Polikarpivna won the grant of the International Renaissance Foundation supported by George Soros twice. She was awarded the “Merited Teacher of Ukraine” title, an Honoured Education Worker of Ukraine, Academician of the Higher School Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Agnesa Polikarpivna was granted the “Veteran of Labour” medal, the Medal of the Ukrainian Federation of Scientists, the “Sofia Rusova” medal, the “ZhDU Glory” medal, the medal “For the Scientific Achievements”. Professor A. P. Stadnychenko has received the Honourary Diploma of Verhovna Rada of Ukraine, as well as those of the Department of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Presidium of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

Dear Agnesa Polikarpivna, please accept our sincere congratulations on your 80th anniversary. We wish you happiness, fruitful work, continued good health as well as prosperity and every success in your educational and research activities!

O. V. Garbar, G. E. Kyrychuk, R. K. Melnychenko, D. A. Vyskushenko, L. M. Yanovych