

## Obituary

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# Dmitry Krivolutsky

04.10.1939–30.10.2004

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Prof. Dmitry Krivolutsky, the corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and member of the editorial board of "Ekologija", died on October 30, 2004 of a serious illness. He was 65 years old and met his last birthday on October 4 in the hospital.

He was born to the family of young scientists who worked at Moscow State University (MSU), but his father was mobilized in the Red Army and Dmitry met his father only after the war. In 1947 father took Dmitry to a Caucasus expedition of the MSU, and Dmitry got his first scientific education in the expedition. Geography and geology became his second science flame due to the family tradition, because he decided to be a zoologist.

He entered the biology-soil science faculty of MSU in 1957 and graduated in 1962. Dmitry defended his CSc thesis in 1964 and his DrSc thesis in 1977. Both degrees were the result of very interesting and original studies of oribatid mites.

However, Dmitry was the prominent scientist in different fields of soil zoology such as oribatid taxonomy and ecology, soil ecology, soil radioecology, soil animal biogeography. He published over 400 papers and 14 books. His (together with Prof. Ghi-

larov) determination key of oribatid mites is one of the best keys for the group and is used by the second generation of oribatodologists. He received the State Prize of the USSR in 1980 for this monograph. He was the first to publish data on ecological after-effects of the Chernobyl disaster and got the Prize of the Russian Government for this study. His last research was devoted to oribatid mites in bird plumage where he found more than 100 species.

He headed the Institute of Parasitology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Department of Biogeography of the Geography Faculty of MSU and the Laboratory of Bioindication of Institute of Ecology and Evolution of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Dmitry founded the schools of oribatologists and soil ecologists and his students defended 40 CSc and 10 DSc theses.

He was member of the soil zoology steering committee ISSS and the steering committee on Bioindicators IUBS.

He was a member of the editorial board of Applied Soil Ecology up to 2003.

He was a participant of all soil zoology colloquiums from 1967 and the General Secretary of Moscow Soil Zoology Meeting in 1985.

He was a friendly and frank guy and a clever and bright man.

We lost a good friend and a fine scientist.

**Andrei Pokarzhevskii**

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