

Late Paleolithic. In earlier epochs the human population was far less significant. In later Neolithic and historic times it was incomparably more numerous, but overwhelming majority of men were no more "big-game" hunters. Being easily found and having the most value among all human prey giants were hunted with zeal even when they became very rare. The hunters rested too numerous for the survival of giants because they kept up their number by using other prey, more fecund than giants. Therefore populations of gigantic herbivores were retained to a deep and steady depression. Such depressive populations were doomed to a destruction by local catastrophic events (severe frosts or droughts, deep snows, floods, etc.), epizootics, degeneration. This is true even for regions, where the depression of prey caused an important decrease of the human population. Such a decrease, for example, was insufficient and (or) belated for the rescue of expiring Siberian mammoths as well as of the "cryophitic-savannah" ecosystems, sustained by giants. The similar situation was repeated in historical times with the extinction of moas and elephants in certain East-African regions during XVIII c. A. D. as well as of elephant-sustained ecosystems.

The depression and subsequent extinctions of gigantic herbivores entailed environmental changes, pernicious for many other animals. This is the principal cause of numerous secondary extinctions supplemented in many cases by different subsidiary or secondary reasons. Some of these reasons are common for all zoogeographical regions. They are: competition with man (for some predators and omnivores), new conditions of predation (with man as the topmost predator and the changing influence of other predatory species; peculiar effect of the "primitive underkill" of the fecund prey described by G. Krantz), increased frequency and intensity of fires (because of the vanishing of the largest grazers and by man-made burning out done for different purposes). There are also factors peculiar for each region. These factors are responsible for regional differences of the Pleistocene crisis.

ЗАМЕТКИ

Тахины (Diptera, Tachinidae) — паразиты пестрянок (Lepidoptera, Zygaenidae) в Крыму.— Для следующих 6 видов тахин подсемейства Exoristinae, выведенных из пестрянок К. А. Ефетовым, приводятся ранее неизвестные хозяева (лишь для *Phryxe prima* было известно паразитирование в *Zygaena carniolica*). *Exorista larvarum* L. выведена из коконов *Zygaena dorycii* Ochs. (2 ♂, 2 ♀ Казантип, 23, 30—31.08, 1.09.1998), *Lomacantha parra* R.d. выведена из гусениц *Adscita chloros* Hb. (2 ♂, ♀, Казантип, 29.05.1989, 9.05.1990) и из гусениц *A. graeca* Jord. (3 ♂, ♀, Казантип, 30.05.1989, 27.05, 2.06.1990). *Phryxe prima* В. В. выведена из кокона *Zygaena filipendulae* L. (♀, Симферополь, 18.06.1985), из гусениц *Z. carniolica* Scop. (2 ♂, Караулоба, 11—12.06.1989), из гусениц *Z. punctum* Ochs. (♀, Веселое Судакского р-на, 9.06.1989). *Alsomyia capillata* R.d. выведена из гусениц *Zygaena punctum* Ochs. (2 ♂, Алушта, 4.06.1989, 22.06.1990). *Alsomyia olfaciens* Papd. выведена из гусениц *Zygaena purpuralis* Grünp. (♀, Лозовое, 20.05.1989) и из гусениц *Z. punctum* Ochs. ♀, Алушта, 24.05.1989). *Platymyia antennata* В. В. выведена из кокона *Adscita geryon* Hb. (♂, Симферополь, Битак, 1.06.1990) — **В. А. Рихтер** (Зоологический институт РАН, С.-Петербург), **К. А. Ефетов** (Крымский медицинский институт, Симферополь).