

*HERPETOLOGIA  
PETROPOLITANA*

**Proceedings  
of the  
12th Ordinary General Meeting  
of the  
Societas Europaea Herpetologica**

12 – 16 August 2003  
Saint-Petersburg, Russia



Edited by  
**Natalia Ananjeva and Olga Tsinenko**

**Saint-Petersburg, 2005**

# ***HERPETOLOGIA PETROPOLITANA***

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**Cover photo: Toad-headed agama, *Phrynocephalus mystaceus* (Pallas, 1776)**

**Photograph: Nikolai Orlov**

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## **Foreword**

It was a particular proud for us and for Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences that the SEH followed our invitation to organize the 12<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting (OGM) in St. Petersburg in August 2003. It was of special importance that it was held in conjunction with 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Meeting of A. M. Nikolsky, s Herpetological Society under the Russian Academy of Sciences and North Eurasian Reptile Specialist Group of SSC/IUCN that should promote mutual enrichment and further development of cooperation between both societies in the field of fundamental and conservation research.

Approximately 340 delegates from 33 countries attended five days of meeting (August 12 – 16). Because of combined meeting of two societies there were much more participants than in the last previous OGM SEH (176 persons in France, 9<sup>th</sup> OGM SEH, in 1998, 148 persons in Cretea, Greece, 10<sup>th</sup> OGM SEH, in 1999 and 86 persons in Slovenia, 11<sup>th</sup> OGM SEH in 2001). Zoological Institute meeting hall was too small for housing this herpetological forum. Therefore, the main sites of the 12<sup>th</sup> OGM were beautiful historical buildings of the St. Petersburg Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg State University, and Zoological Institute.

Herpetologica Petropolitana includes great part of the contributions presented as talks or posters during the 12<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting of the Societas Europaea Herpetologica held in St. Petersburg, August 12 – 16, 2003.

All manuscripts received were subjected to a reviewing process and were sent to reviewers.

### **List of scientific and linguistic reviewers:**

Natalia Ananjeva, Leo Borkin, Miguel A. Carretero, David Cundal, Igor Danilov, Mathieu Denoël, Jeff Ettlign, Jakob Hallermann, Georgy Lada, Luca Luiselli, Robert Macey, Claude Miaud, Tatyana Platonova, Andrew Snider, Anton Stumpel, Oksana Tishenko, Miguel Vences.

Their help was inestimable; we express our gratitude to all of them.

We are also thankful for assistance under preparation of this volume to Larissa Iohanssen and Roman Khalikov.

**St. Petersburg  
March 28, 2005**

**Natalia Ananjeva,  
Olga Tsinenko**