



ЗАМЕТКА

***Myotis brandtii* (Chiroptera, Vespertilionidae) in Eastern Ukraine: the First Identification for the Fauna of Luhansk Region [*Myotis brandtii* (Chiroptera, Vespertilionidae) на востоке Украины: первая идентификация для фауны Луганской области].** — The Brandt's bat, *Myotis brandtii* (Eversmann, 1845), is a sibling species of the whiskered bat (*Myotis mystacinus* s. l.) and one of the most rare bat species in Ukraine. There are just 2 known collected specimens among more than 1600 bat specimens deposited in zoological museums of Ukraine (Zagorodniuk, Godlevska, 2001; Zagorodniuk et al., 2002). Recently this species was found in the Kharkiv province (Vlaschenko, Naglov, 2005; Vlaschenko, 2006) but all known records of this group in neighboring Luhansk province were attributed to *M. mystacinus* only (Kondratenko, 1998; Kondratenko et al., 2002). In a recent review of rare and endangered species of Eastern Ukraine we suppose more wide distribution of Brandt's bat in eastern provinces, first of all in floodplain forest of the Siversky Donets basin (Zagorodniuk, Korobchenko, 2008), and new data confirm this assumption. *Myotis brandtii* was identified in the zoological collection of the Laboratory of Biodiversity of the East-Ukrainian National University (curator V. Foroschuk). This specimen was collected in 8–10 August of 2001 in site "Rig" of the "Prydintsivska Zaplava" division of the Luhansk Natural Reserve (leg. V. Stusik, without species identification). The bat was captured in the flood-land forest, under exfoliated bark. This sample is adult male fixed in formalin. Its diagnostic features are the followings: color of back fur is hazel, outside basis of ears is light-pink, forearm length is not less than 33.8 mm (decalcification of bones did not allow to make measure more precise), *glans penis* is bulb-shaped and has 2.4 mm width in apical part, the crown of P³ reaches 2/3 of P² height, and both these premolars are located in the axis of the tooth-row, the large upper premolar (P⁴) has well-developed cingular cusp higher than P³. This new record of *Myotis brandtii* is the southernmost and the easternmost in Ukraine, and it supports a viewpoint about deep penetration of the boreal and forest fauna in the steppe zone along the Siversky Donets river-bed. The same phenomenon is established earlier for some other mammals, among which there are *Myotis nattereri*, *Talpa europaea*, *Myodes glareolus*, *Terricola subterraneus*, *Apodemus agrarius*, *Martes martes*, etc. This new record of rare bat species together with recent records of three other rare bat species, *Myotis nattereri* (Kuhl, 1817), *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* (Leach, 1825) and *P. kuhlii* (Kuhl, 1817) (Kondratenko et al., 2002; Zagorodniuk, Korobchenko, 2008) changes the number of bats known for the Luhansk Natural Reserve from 10 species (Skokov et al., 1992; without *Rhinolophus hipposideros* mentioned erroneously) to 14 species. — **I. Zagorodniuk** (Luhansk National University, e-mail: zoozag@ukr.net), **M. Korobchenko** (National Natural History Museum, Kyiv, e-mail: aquamarine@ukr.net).