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VOLODYMYR M. SEMENENKO`S COLLECTION OF NEOGENE MOLLUSCS

Natural collections are of crucial importance for modern scientific research, which significantly expands the field and methodology of information extraction. Moreover the locaties of fossil fauna and flora for various reasons become inaccessible for collecting new samples. Therefore, the importance of paleontological scientific collections as a source and repository of information only grows with the passage of time and will grow even more in the future. The inventory, arrangement and cataloging, first of all, of historical paleontological collections stored in the Institute of Geological Sciences of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine is one of the key problem [1].

The Department of Stratigraphy and Paleontology of Cenozoic Deposits stores collections of various groups of Paleogene and Neogene fauna and flora. Mostly these are working and monographic collections of current and former researchers of the department, collected in numerous expeditions within Ukraine and abroad. There are also collections donated by scientists from other institutions and countries.

The collection of Volodymyr Mykolayovych Semenenko (1934-2012), a Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, is mainly based on his own samplings from the outcrops and wells of the Sea of Azov region and other parts of the Eastern Paratethys Basin. These collections served as the material basis of his theoretical works on the stratigraphy of the Paratethys, realized in numerous scientific publications, including large generalizing monographs [2, 3, 4].

Organizing the collection of V.M. Semenenko is currently ongoing. More than 230 lots originated from over 45 wells have been pre-processed. Most of the lots represented by boxes of selected and identified bivalve and gastropod shells. Altogether we have pre-catalogued more than 60 species. Although V.M. Semenenko did not describe new taxa, his collection has a didactic value as a collection of shells identified to species rank (the so-called reference collection). In addition, part of the samples is primary ("stone") material from wells and outcrops, suitable for further lithological and paleontological study.

Integral parts of the collection of V.M. Semenenko also are his field note-books. They are currently pre-digitized and will be decrypted and correlated with material lots.

After the preliminary inventory, the arrangement and cataloging of the collection is planned. Based on the results of this work, a database will be developed in the Microsoft Access environment.

Microsoft Access is a database management system that has a large number of functions, including linked queries, sorting by various fields, and communication with external tables and databases. This will allow in the future to quickly find information for each element of the collection and the location of the well, accordingly to quickly find and sort the necessary information and communication for each position of the database.

Thus, the collection of Neogene molluscs of V.M. Semenenko will be ready for the work of taxonomists and stratigraphers.

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