

SIZE-WEIGHT AND SEXUAL STRUCTURE
OF *PELOPHYLAX RIDIBUNDUS* AND *BOMBINA BOMBINA* (AMPHIBIA, ANURA)
POPULATIONS IN THE FLOODPLANE OF THE MEDVEDITSA RIVER
(SARATOV REGION)

M. V. Yermokhin¹, V. G. Tabachishin², and G. A. Ivanov¹

¹ Saratov State University
33 Astrakhanskaya Str., Saratov 410012, Russia
E-mail: ecoton@rambler.ru

² Saratov branch of A. N. Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Russian Academy of Sciences
24 Rabochaya Str., Saratov 410028, Russia
E-mail: tabachishinvg@sevin.ru

The size, weight and sexual structure of *Pelophylax ridibundus* and *Bombina bombina* populations was analyzed during their spawning migrations in 2013 – 2015 in four lakes of the Medveditsa River floodplane (Saratov Region, Lysogorsky District). The body length of *Pelophylax ridibundus* males ranged from 29.3 to 101.3 mm (the weight from 2.10 to 152.2 g), and that of females did from 36.1 to 120.2 mm (the weight from 4.45 to 181.0 g); for *Bombina bombina* males – from 25.4 to 50.6 mm (the weight from 1.06 to 8.5 g), and that of females from 32.1 to 49.7 mm (the weight from 2.64 to 8.43 g). No stable long-term trend of any decrease in the size and weight parameters in the studied amphibian species with a near-water life mode was observed, unlike predominantly terrestrial ones. The sexual dimorphism of *P. ridibundus* meant the predominance of females in size and weight parameters (from 9 to 14% in body length and from 32 to 67% in live weight), and that of *B. bombina* was more pronounced in body weight (from 6 to 96% in different years). The sex ratio in the population of *P. ridibundus* ranged from 1.96:1 to 4.13:1 with the predominance of males (their proportion gradually increases), and that in *B. bombina* ranged from the balanced one (1:1) to 1.73:1 (there was no stable trend of sexual structure changes).

Key words: *Pelophylax ridibundus*, *Bombina bombina*, body length, body weight, sexual dimorphism, sex structure, Saratov Region.

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