

CHRONICLE AND INFORMATION

**TO THE JUBILEE OF LIDIYA SALEKHOVA**



On 29 January, 2021, our dear Lidiya Salekhova, one of the oldest employees of the A. O. Kovalevsky Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas, turned 90 years old. Friends and colleagues heartily congratulate L. Salekhova and share the highlights of her biography.

Her whole life is connected with Sevastopol. Here she was born in 1931 and went to school in 1938. She did not leave her native city during the Great Patriotic War: she survived the hungry years of siege and occupation by fascists and together with other Sevastopol schoolchildren helped the defenders. Sharing her memo-

ries, Lidiya Salekhova talks about the empty soup in the besieged Sevastopol, incessant shelling and bombing, long road along the Laboratornoe highway in a vain attempt to evacuate, and mass shootings of citizens in the already captured city. On the day of its liberation, she together with other Sevastopol citizens cheered loudly and sincerely the Soviet soldiers.

After the end of the war, L. Salekhova returned to her studies; in 1949, she graduated from school No. 4. In 1950, she entered the faculty of ichthyology of the A. I. Mikoyan Moscow Technical Institute for the Fishery Industry; in 1955, she received a diploma of ichthyologist and fish breeder and came back to native Sevastopol.

Lidiya Salekhova began her scientific career in August 1955 in the ichthyological laboratory of the Sevastopol Biological Station of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union as an intern. After completing practice in December 1955, she was hired as a laboratory assistant. As a young specialist, she studied sex inversion, reproduction, and development of the annular sea bream *Diplodus annularis*. In November 1956, she received a position of junior researcher at the already transformed Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union. In 1958, her first research cruise took place on the RV “Akademik A. Kovalevsky” – to the Adriatic Sea.

On 24 June, 1966, L. Salekhova successfully defended PhD thesis at the dissertation council of the Kaliningrad Technical Institute for the Fishery Industry. On 17 December, 1966, the scientific degree of candidate of biological sciences was awarded to her.

From 1969 to 1977, Lidiya Salekhova took part in seven IBSS cruises on the Mediterranean, Balearic, Adriatic, Aegean, and Black seas, collecting material on various types of Mediterranean migrants: fish of the family Sparidae. She studied morphological, morphophysiological, and biological characteristics of three fish species of this family, carried out a comparative analysis of their variability in the Black Sea, and characterized different geographical groupings of *Spicara flexuosa*. The results obtained were of great importance for identifying the role of the environment in the process of microevolution of these fish and formed the basis of her monograph “Sparidae fishes of the seas of the Mediterranean Basin” (1979).

Since 1976, L. Salekhova worked in IBSS ichthyology department in the position of a senior researcher. She wrote more than 70 scientific papers, became the author of one individual and two collective monographs, and was an editor and compiler of scientific publications. She prepared a biological part for several species guides: of Black Sea fish, Black Sea fish larvae, fish families of the Mediterranean Sea. Lidiya Salekhova took part in research cruises on the RV “Akademik A. Kovalevsky” and “Professor Vodyanitsky” to the seas of the Mediterranean Basin and to the Atlantic Ocean. For a number of years, she supervised the practice, as well as coursework and diploma work of students of biological faculties of several universities in the country and worked with schoolchildren of the Junior Academy of Sciences of the city.

Dear Lidiya Pavlovna, we remember you as a highly qualified specialist, who made a significant contribution to the study of fish biology in the seas of the Mediterranean Basin. You have always been distinguished by your high capacity for work, dedication and scrupulousness in scientific research, as well as exceptional intelligence, sensitivity, and kindness to people. We express our admiration for your professional and human qualities, and we wish you good health and active longevity!

*Colleagues from IBSS ichthyology department*

### **К ЮБИЛЕЮ ЛИДИИ ПАВЛОВНЫ САЛЕХОВОЙ**

В январе 2021 г. отметила юбилей Лидия Павловна Салехова — одна из старейших сотрудниц ИнБЮМ. Л. П. Салехова является автором более чем 70 научных публикаций, в том числе монографии «Смаридовые рыбы морей Средиземноморского бассейна».