

## ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF D. SC. ALEXANDER PRAZUKIN



On 1 September, 2022, D. Sc. Alexander Prazukin celebrates his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday – the leading researcher of IBSS laboratory of extreme ecosystems.

A fifth-grader Sasha Prazukin who was keen on biology first came to IBSS in 1965. There, in the club “Dolphin” formed by the institute’s employees, he began his scientific path with the study of ichthyology and zoobenthos. Four years later, he met the prominent scientist Kirill Khailov. A. Prazukin remains a faithful student and follower of Khailov’s scientific ideas.

After graduating from the Odesa University, he came to work at IBSS in 1977. He started as a laboratory assistant, and now he is a leading researcher. During these decades, he published about 200 scientific papers, 7 monographs, *inter alia* 5 authored ones. His research covers many areas: functional morphology of multicellular algae; spatial organization of phytosystems; and biological and ecological aspects of phytosystem functioning in coastal shallow waters and lakes of different salinity. Alexander Prazukin developed the issues of the hierarchical organization of aquatic bioinert phytosystems; general methods for estimating habitable space in phytosystems of different organization levels; methods for determining photosynthetic activity of plant mats, *etc.* At all the stages of his scientific activity, he is interested in the practical application of knowledge – the multi-purpose use of seaweed biomass, principles of constructing artificial reefs, *etc.*

In 1991, A. Prazukin defended his PhD thesis in hydrobiology “Structural and Functional Changes in the Black Sea *Cystoseira* Under Eutrophication (Hierarchical Approach).” In 2013, he defended his D. Sc. dissertation in ecology “Structural, Functional, and Environmental Organization of Terrestrial and Aquatic Phytosystems in the South of Ukraine.”

He is a member of editorial boards of several scientific journals (“Marine Biological Journal”, “Bulletin of MSTU”, and “Ecological Safety of Coastal and Shelf Zones of Sea”) and a member of the specialized dissertation council in hydrobiology at IBSS. He is a deputy chairman of the Crimean Branch of Russian Hydrobiological Society of the RAS and a member of the Russian Botanical Society of the RAS.

Over the years, scientific activity of Alexander Prazukin does not decrease. In the last five years, along with the implementation of the state research assignment, he headed the RFBR project. Moreover, he remains the executor of the Russian Science Foundation grant. He generously shares his knowledge with young people who are as curious as he was. For 15 years, he gave lecture courses “Fundamentals of Ecology” and “Natural Science” at the Sevastopol Branch of the Ushinsky OSPI.

Alexander Prazukin has already done a lot, but he has many scientific plans. Colleagues from IBSS wish him good health, inspiration, and implementation of all his ideas!

**К ЮБИЛЕЮ ДОКТОРА БИОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ НАУК  
АЛЕКСАНДРА ВАСИЛЬЕВИЧА ПРАЗУКИНА**

1 сентября 2022 г. исполнилось 70 лет Александру Васильевичу Празукину — д. б. н., в. н. с. лаборатории экстремальных экосистем ФИЦ ИнБЮМ. А. В. Празукин — автор около 200 публикаций, член редколлегии нескольких научных журналов и заместитель председателя Крымского отделения Гидробиологического общества при РАН.