

Honorary Member of the the Russian Society of Nematologists



Dr Vladimir Nikolaevich Chizhov is awarded an Honorary Membership of the Russian Society of Nematologists. Vladimir N. Chizhov was born on October 16, 1947. He became interested in biology from an early age. In 1971, he graduated from the Timiryazev Moscow Agricultural Academy with a diploma in plant protection. It was at the Academy that Vladimir met his future wife Tatyana, who became his faithful and reliable partner in life.

Vladimir began his scientific career as a junior researcher at the Prioksko-Terrasny Nature Reserve (Moscow Region). His postgraduate studies were carried out at Skrjabin All-Union Institute of Helminthology (VIGIS) where he obtained his PhD degree in 1979. His doctoral thesis entitled “Parasitic nematodes of forage cereal grasses in the non-Black Earth region of the RSFSR” was supervised by Prof. T.S. Skarbilovich. Vladimir’s post-doctoral studies on the fauna and biology of plant nematodes in the North Caucasus region and the Eastern European Plain were also carried out at the Institute of Helminthology. In 2006, Dr Chizhov joined the Centre of Parasitology of the Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution of the Russian Academy of Sciences

(RAS), where he continues to work and conduct research in the field of theoretical and applied nematology.

Vladimir Chizhov is recognised in Russia and abroad as an authoritative and widely cited specialist in the study of morphology, systematics and evolution of plant-parasitic and entomoparasitic nematodes. He contributed to the studies on the comparative morphology and evolution of the reproductive system of nematodes, and his research on changes in the classification of phytonematodes of the family Anguinidae and the entire order Tylenchida has received worldwide recognition. Dr Chizhov described several species and genera of nematodes, obligate parasites of plants and insects, and greatly contributed to the molecular genetic database of plant-parasitic nematodes. Since the 1970s, Dr Chizhov has collaborated fruitfully with leading nematologists, Professors Eino Krall, Dieter Sturhan and Derek J. Brown.

Vladimir Chizhov was the editor and co-author of several monographs, including “Biology of Nematode Reproduction”, 1991; “Applied Nematology”, 2006; “Parasitic Nematodes of Russia”, 2012; “Entomoparasitic Nematodes of the Orders Tylenchida and Aphelenchida”, 2019; “Diseases and Pests of Vegetable Crops and Potatoes”, 2013; “Protection of Potatoes and Open-Ground Vegetable Crops”, 2013, 2015. These publications are recognised as the best methodological and practical guides and teaching aids on plant protection in our country. Vladimir is the author of more than 100 scientific papers published in leading domestic and foreign journals.

Vladimir Chizhov actively participates in the popularisation of knowledge of phytohelminthology in agricultural enterprises, in the departments of plant protection and quarantine services, and takes an active part in organisation and conduct of thematic seminars and advanced training courses on species diagnostics of plant parasitic nematodes.

Throughout his years of scientific work, Vladimir has proven himself to be a talented teacher and mentor. He has supervised numerous graduate theses in plant protection and parasitology. Several PhD theses were also completed under his supervision. Nematologists such as S.A. Subbotin, S.N. Kruchina, N.V. Berezina, N.N. Butorina, T.V. Rubtsova, M.V. Pridannikov count themselves among his students. Dr Chizhov was able to instil in his students a love of nematology, the ability to think broadly and comprehensively, and to combine laboratory research with regular field expeditions and observations of natural communities. Vladimir Nikolaevich was the leading researcher in the number of RFBR projects, participated in the Biodiversity and Bioresources RF programmes and a number of international projects, and is currently a member of the Editorial Board of the Russian Journal of Nematology.

Vladimir is a passionate naturalist photographer with a keen sense of nature. He has created a collection of photographs of symptoms of plant damage by various types of nematodes, atlases of the most typical biotopes for various groups of common phytohelminths, microphotographs of the nematodes themselves and their fine structures using modern types of optics, as well as many photographs of animals in their natural environment.