



ЗАМЕТКА

First Record of *Myotis brandtii* (Mammalia, Vespertilionidae) in the Central Polesie of Belarus [Первая находка *Myotis brandtii* (Mammalia, Vespertilionidae) в Центральном Полесье Беларуси]. — Brandt's bat (*Myotis brandtii* Eversmann, 1845) is one of the rarest bats of Belarusian fauna, which distribution is unclear and fragmentary. A. Ruprecht (Kurskov, 1981) has identified this species in the collections of A. N. Kurskov among samples collected in Belarusian part of the Belovezhskaya Pushcha Forest. P. P. Strelkov (1983) has found one specimen of *M. brandtii* among samples captured in Belovezhskaya Pushcha and deposited in the mammalogical collection of ZIN (Zoological Institute of the Ros. Acad. Sci., St. — Petersburg). Later, in June 2001, two specimens of *M. brandtii* (♂ and ♀) are caught by M. G. Demjanichik and V. T. Demjanichik (2004) in the Brest district (Chersk and Charsy villages). All these findings concern the western part of Belarus, and *M. brandtii* is not recorded in other parts of the country till now. In particular, examination of more than 300 specimens of *Myotis* genus, captured in the southwest of Belarus during 1995–1999, has not allowed to identify the Brandt's bat in this region (Pikulik, Demjanichik, 1999). The researches carried out by the author in the Gomel region, have permitted to expand distribution concept of *M. brandtii* in Belarusian Polesie. The male of Brandt's bat was collected on July 19, 2003 in the vicinity of Koptsevichi village (Petrikov district, Gomel region). The specimen was found in an oak cavity (hollow type) (*Quercus robur*). The vital state of the tree has showed 2 points according to the scale of Ruchinsky (Ruczynski, Ruczynska, 2002) in modification by A. Vlashchenko (2005): a tree live, there are hollows, cracks, the top and/or some skeletal branches can be dead. Diameter of a trunk was 38.7 cm. The cavity was placed 4.2 m from the ground area. Cavity entrance had roundish form, 11 mm width and 14 mm height. The hollow cavity was situated lower than the hollow entrance. Morphological parameters of the caught specimen is following: body length (L) 45.0 mm, tail length (Ca) 41.8 mm, forearm length (R) 35.7 mm, ear length (Au) 14.2 mm, tragus length (Tr) 8.1 mm. Postcalcar lobe is completely absent. The penis is narrow, with typical for this species bulb-shaped end. The coloring of fur and other mentioned morphological features correspond to the descriptions of the Brandt's bat (Kozhurina, 1997; Zagorodniuk et al., 1999, 2002; Pavlinov et al., 2002). After biometric processing the specimen has been released. This new finding of *M. brandtii* is located in about 360 km from the nearest known records of this species in Belovezhskaya Pushcha and other sites in the Brest region. In all the Polesian regions of Ukraine this species was not recorded in the literature available. — **A. V. Shpak** (The State Scientific and Production Amalgamation «The Scientific and Practical Center of National Academy of Sciences of Belarus for Bioresources», Minsk; e-mail: dverg@mail.ru).