

# Tertiary Avian Localities of Russia (European Part)

J. MLÍKOVSKÝ

Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Charles University,  
Albertov 6, 128 43 Praha 2, Czech Republic;  
and Institute of Ecology, Czech Academy of Sciences,  
Květná 8, 603 65 Brno, Czech Republic.

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**Abstract:** Only four, less important Tertiary avian localities are known from the European part of Russia.

**Key-words:** Aves, Tertiary, Oligocene, Miocene, Pliocene, Russia.

## INTRODUCTION

Russian scientists were interested in Tertiary birds already since the middle of the 19th century, but the localities they studied lay now in Ukraine (see Mlíkovský, this volume). First remains of Tertiary birds from the European part of Russia were described only in the 1950s (Burčák-Abramovič 1953, Jan'kova 1959).

The stratigraphy follows Mein (1990). Museum acronyms are as follows:

**CMGE:** Central Museum of Geological Exploration, Sankt Peterburg, Russia

**RM:** Rostov County Museum of National History, Rostov, Russia.

## LIST OF LOCALITIES

### (1) SČIGRY (Stshigry)

**Location:** south-western part of Kursk Province. Oligocene (?) (Nesov 1992).

**Avifauna:** Indeterminate bone fragments of small birds (Nesov 1992). Deposited in CMGE(?).

### (2) MATVEEV KURGAN

**Location:** at Azov, Rostov Province. Late Pliocene, MN 17 (cf. Gromov 1948, Burčák-Abramovič 1953).



**Fig. 1.** Tertiary avian localities of the European part of Russia. The numbering of the localities corresponds with that in the text. A – Jantarnyj (see chapter on Finland). Scale bar = 500 km.

**Avifauna:** Bones of an ostrich, *Struthio* (Gromov 1948, Burčak-Abramovič 1953). Their whereabouts is unknown.

### (3) LIVENECK

**Location:** Rostov Province. "Late Pliocene" (Jan'kova 1959).

**Avifauna:** Tarsometatarsus of an ostrich, *Struthio* (Jan'kova 1959). Deposited in RM.

### (4) SEMENOVKA

**Location:** Bogatovsk County, Kujbyšev Province. Pliocene (?) (Pidopličko and Goldin 1964).

**Avifauna:** Eggshell fragments of an ostrich, *Struthio* (Pidopličko and Goldin 1964). Their whereabouts is unknown.

## DISCUSSION

The exceedingly meagre record of the Tertiary birds in the European part of Russia is caused by the geological past of the country. Only ostriches could be identified so far.

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