

Deryabina T.G. Przewalski Horses (*Equus Ferus Przewalskii* Polj., 1881) in Chernobyl Exclusion Zone in Belarus // News Biosphere Reserve "Askania Nova", vol. 17, 2015. –P.54-59.

The results of observations of the initial stage of growth of the Przewalski horse population in the territory of Poleski State Radiation-Ecological Reserve. (216.5 thous. hectares). The reserve was created in 1988 in the most contaminated after the Chernobyl accident (1986) lands of Gomel region. Przewalski horses came to the territory of the reserve from the Ukrainian Chernobyl exclusion zone in 2007. The horses stick to open spaces in the reserve: former agricultural lands, overgrown grass fields, elevated areas (grassy meadows) in the Pripjat floodplain. The animals rest in abandoned buildings of former settlements – barns, piggeries. 20 foals were born in the reserve. The number of horses has increased from 6 to 28 individuals during their stay on the territory of the reserve. It is necessary to monitor alien species on contaminated lands of the reserve.