

New data on Armenian birch mouse

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The unique population of poorly known Armenian birch mouse (*Sicista armenica*) was studied more than 20 years ago. The listing of this species in the Red Data Book of Armenia provides *S. armenica* with nominal protection as a threatened species. The description of this species was done by Russian scientists. They found three specimens on Pambak Ridge in the vicinity of village of Ankavan, in the upper side of river Marmarik, right tributary Razdan river of Armenia. Armenian birch mouse belongs to a group of morphologically similar species of monochrome Caucasus birch mice, so a number of respects it is indistinguishable from other species of this group of closely related species. Studies on distribution of Armenian birch mouse was started in 2012. Pregnant female were captured by live traps on 2015. Morphological measures were done, the biotope of species were characterized. DNA analyses of Armenian birch mouse were done. Final identification of species were done by DNA analysis. Further researches on population status will be done.