

**ECTOPARASITE FAUNA OF DOMESTIC
WATERFOWL IN THE NORTHERN REGION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**Ștefan RUSU¹, Dumitru ERHAN¹, Maria ZAMORNEA¹, Oleg CHIHAI¹,
Viorelia RUSU¹, Rita GOLBAN², Ion GOLOGAN¹, Elena CIBOTARU³**

¹Moldova State University, Institute of Zoology, 1 Academiei Street,
Chișinău 2028, Republic of Moldova

²Technical University of Moldova, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,
168 Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt Boulevard, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

³Technical University of Moldova, Faculty of Agricultural,
Forestry and Environmental Sciences, 168 Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt Boulevard,
Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Corresponding author email: rusus1974@yahoo.com

Abstract

*A study on the ectoparasite fauna of domestic waterfowl (ducks and geese) from the Anatidae family in the northern region of the Republic of Moldova showed that domestic ducks (*Anas platyrhynchos domesticus*, Linnaeus, 1758) were infested with six species of chewing lice: *Trinoton querquedulae*, *Anatoecus icterodes*, *Anatoecus dentatus*, *Anaticola crassicornis*, *Anaticola anserinum*, and *Menopon obscurum*, as well as the gamasid mite *Dermanyssus gallinae*. Domestic geese (*Anser anser domesticus*, Linnaeus, 1758) were found to host ten species of ectoparasites, including eight species of chewing lice: *Trinoton querquedulae*, *Trinoton anserinum*, *Anatoecus icterodes*, *Anaticola crassicornis*, *Anaticola anserinum*, *Anatoecus adustus*, *Menopon obscurum*, and *Lipeurus caponis*. In addition, geese were infested with the gamasid mite *Dermanyssus gallinae* and the argasid tick *Argas persicus*. These findings indicate a high diversity of ectoparasites infesting domestic ducks and geese in the northern region of the Republic of Moldova, with differences between host species. The presence of lice, mites, and ticks highlights the need for monitoring and controlling ectoparasite populations in order to maintain the health of domestic waterfowl in this region.*

Key words: ectoparasite fauna, habitat, mixtinvasions, monoinvasions, waterfowl.