

Darwin Initiative

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the increased number of reports expected in 2005, we will not be able to confirm receipt of reports but will contact you individually should any questions arise

Project Ref. No.	162 / 11 / 025
Project Title	Cross-border conservation strategies for Altai Mountain Endemics (Russia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan)
Country(ies)	UK, Russia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan
UK Organisation	University of Sheffield
Collaborator(s)	Tomsk State University (Russia); Hovd branch of Mongolian State University; Altai Botanical Gardens (Leninogorsk, Kazakhstan)
Report date	31 October 2006
Report No.(HYR 1/2/3/4/5)	HYR 5
Project website	http://www.ecos.tsu.ru/altai (Currently only available locally in Tomsk)

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

Key milestones for first 6-months of Year 5 (April 2006– Sept. 2006):

June 2006 (UK staff in host country) (1 week)

Three UK project staff (Dr. B.D. Wheeler, Dr. S. Shaw, Dr. J. Hodgson) spent a week in Tomsk (Russia) mainly working on the illustrated scientific book "Endemic Plants of the Altai Mountain Country". They also visited Tomsk Secondary Gymnasium №24 (Director Dr.P.P.Yatchenko, vice –director for English Studies Dr. M.G.Soldatova) where discussions were held on setting up twinning scheme between Tomsk & UK schools.

July 2006 Authorization (signing) of action plans by local authorities of three countries

Sets of action plans are authorized (signed) by local authorities in three countries respectively: in Russia – by Dr. I.I. Belevkov Chairman of El-Kurultai (State Regional Parliament) of Altai Republic in Kazakhstan – by Dr. A.N. Danilova, Director of Altai Botanical Gardens, Ridder.in Mongolia – by Dr. G. Nyamdavaa, Governor of Hovd Aimag, Head of the Council of the Western Economic Region

Sept 2006 Publication of the illustrated scientific book "Endemic Plants of the Altai Mountain Country" (in English) (1000 copies)

We are making good progress with the book. The three main chapters (Environment, Vegetation, Endemics) are all in final draft form. The 100 species accounts have been drafted, but are still being checked, which is slow and painstaking work.

Sept/Oct 2006 1 national / local press release issued in the UK and in each of the 3 participating host countries.

This will be done to coincide with the publication of the book

Dissemination of information

Two posters were presented at the 3rd International Conference devoted to outstanding Botanists of Kazakhstan, in Almaty, April 13-15th 2006 and one report at the 4th Russian Conference "Flora and Vegetation of Siberia and Far East" in Krasnoyarsk, 18-21st April, 2006. A special issue of Taxonomical Notes from Tomsk State University Herbarium was published under the Darwin Initiative logo. A list of publications is given below.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with the DI Secretariat:

Changes to the project schedule/workplan:

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

No

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**

List of publications in Year 5:

Published:

1. Morenko M.O., Ebel A.L. Relic, conservative and progressive elements of Chenopodiaceae family in South Siberia and West Mongolia. In: Flora and Vegetation of Siberia and Far East / Proceedings of 4th Russian Conference. Krasnoyarsk, 2006. P. 248-252. [In Russian]
2. Pyak A.I. About the species of genus *Lagopsis* Bunge of the Altai. In: Taxonomical Notes from Tomsk State University Herbarium, 2006. Vol. 95. P. 1-9. [In Russian]
3. Pyak A.I., Schegoleva N.V. A new species of genus *Ranunculus* L. from the South-Eastern Altai. In: Taxonomical Notes from Tomsk State University Herbarium, 2006. Vol. 95. P. 10-12. [In Russian]
4. Schegoleva N.V. A new species of the genus *Ranunculus* L. from the North-Western Mongolia. In: Taxonomical Notes from Tomsk State University Herbarium, 2006. Vol. 95. P. 12-14. [In Russian]
5. Ebel A.L. New taxa of *Delphinium* (*Ranunculaceae*) from the Altai. In: Taxonomical Notes from Tomsk State University Herbarium, 2006. Vol. 95. P. 14-21. [In Russian]
6. Pyak A.I. Endemic flora of Altai Mountain Country. In: Readings after Baytenov – 2: Proceedings of 3rd International Conference devoted to outstanding Botanists of Kazakhstan (April 13-15th 2006). Almaty, 2006. C. 88-90. [In Russian]
7. Ebel A.L. About *Delphinium* species (*Ranunculaceae*) in East Kazakhstan. In: Readings after Baytenov – 2: Proceedings of 3rd International Conference devoted to outstanding Botanists of Kazakhstan (April 13-15th 2006). Almaty, 2006. C. 88-90. [In Russian]

In Print:

8. Schegoleva N.V. New taxon of genus *Ranunculus* L. // Taxonomical Notes from Tomsk State University Herbarium, 2006. Vol. 96 (Accepted for printing) [In Russian]
9. Pyak A.I., Shaw S.C., Ebel A.L., Zverev A.A., Morenko M.O., Hodgson J.G., Oyunchimeg D., Willis A.J. Wheeler B.D. A new species of *Lagopsis* (*Lamiaceae*) from Mongolia // Kew Bulletin, 2006, vol. 61(4)