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**SHULHA**  
**Volodymyr P.,**  
Candidate of Geographical Sciences,  
National Aviation University,  
[Shulhavp@online.ua](mailto:Shulhavp@online.ua)  
(Kyiv)

## **SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL OF PROFESSOR M. KRAVCHENKO: ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Summary**

The author has proved that professor M. Kravchenko made a significant contribution to the formation and development of scientific bases of cattle breeding in the second half of the 30's - early 80th century in Ukrainian SSR. He is one of the developers of the theory and methodology of breed creation, bases of selection, the methods of genealogical analysis and line breeding of farm animal. One of the achievements of M. Kravchenko is he founded known scientific school at the Kyiv Veterinary University in 1946.

This article describes the activities and achievements of scientific school have not generalized because the author has set a goal of this study. The basis of the research sources is the scientific papers of scientists of the school. Methodology of the research is based on the integrated using of general, structural-functional and historical methods, source and content analysis.

On the basis of documentary sources the author has found that professor M. Kravchenko is the successor of Y. F. Lyskun` Scientific School. He trained 6

doctors and 45 candidates of agricultural sciences. His scientific legacy is about 250 scientific papers, including 7 monographs and 6 textbooks for higher education.

The author identified the following main areas of research of scientific schools: the development of theoretical bases of breeding improvement of existing breeds of cattle, creation of new dairy and beef breeds and types of cattle with high productivity. Scientific school optimized organizational bases of breeding work, developed theoretical aspects of farm animal selection. They have perfected a system of linear breeding and genealogical analysis in cattle, actualized problems of individual of farm animal development, substantiated the principles of preservation of breed gene pool, introduced the basics of strategic livestock planning and others.

The M. Kravchenko` scholars prepared a series of dissertations dedicated to the breeding work of Simmental. So M. Dedov developed methods of selection and genetic improvement in breeding plants of RSFSR. A. Samusenko explored ways of creating of the high-performance factory herds of Simmental in cattle breeding areas. O. Chirkova outlined ways to improve Simmental cattle in terms of stations of farm animal artificial insemination. I. Sokolenko studied the origin, patterns of productivity and ways to use cows with a record performance in the Simmental. I. Hiller conducted original research of the Simmental productive traits due to polymorphic systems of blood, explained the possibility of their use in breeding.

N. Kononenko dedicated research of effective methods of improving the red steppe cattle in conditions of pure breeding. She has developed an original method of line inventory, examined red steppe cattle in 10 regions of the Ukrainian SSR. As a result of this work she held experiment with forming a new genealogical structure of the breed in the first time in the practice of livestock.

I. Nedokus, V. Mushkarov, V. Tkachuk, S. Speka, C. Dimitrov developed problems of forming beef cattle industry in Ukraine. I. Nedokus researched the economic biological characteristics of specialized beef breeds of Italian selection, explained the efficiency of their crossing with gray Ukrainian cattle. O. Marchenko made an analysis of genealogy of Charolais and their crossing with Simmental. C. Dimitrov made evaluation of calves received at creation of Ukrainian beef breed.

The author proved that academician M. Zubets developed traditions of M. Kravchenko` scientific school in the best way. He developed a theoretical and practical issues of breed creation process in dairy and beef cattle; put forward a new hypothesis of the breed genesis. The scientists actualized the problem of crossing, heterosis and inbreeding depression, intermediate inheritance in cattle. One of the most significant achievements of M. Zubets is original method of fat milk herd creation tested in leading Simmental plant "Trostyanets" of Chernihiv region. He is the co-author of the Ukrainian Red-and-White, Ukrainian Black-and-White, Ukrainian Red and Ukrainian Brown Dairy; Ukrainian, Volynska, Poliska and South Beef breeds.

The article noted that developments of M. Kravchenko and his scholars were widely used in breeding work in the USSR in the second half of the 30's - early 80th century. Some of its developments are is relevant in the current stage of animal husbandry.

*Key words: animal husbandry, breeding work, selection, breed, farm animals, productivity, breeding methods.*