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EVOLUTION OF ECOLOGICAL THOUGHT ON UKRAINIAN LANDS

(the beginning of the IX–XX centuries)

Summary

Nowadays, when Ukraine consolidates its independence, the necessity of deep study of our science history is urgent. Among its directions the history of ecology takes one of the leading positions. The history of the development of ecological thought in Ukraine is important scientific heritage of our domestic scientists – ecologists. Familiarization with it will contribute to the formation ecological consciousness and culture.

Natural scientific folk knowledge has been acquired and accumulated by people for millenniums. And in our time it hasn't not lost their significance. The first attempts of ecological approach to environmental cause were known as far back Yaroslav the Wise time. Subsequent development of Ukrainian ecological traditions continued in the cossack epoch. During the Hetmanship (XVI–XVIII cent.) these environmental traditions were kept and expanded. At the end of the XIX cent. the ecological education in Ukraine was improved. The first scientific center of environmental research in Ukraine was established in 1930. It was the sector of ecology at the Institute of zoology and botany of Kharkiv State University.

The development of ecological thought in Ukraine is the integral part of general history of the world science. The recreation of the complete picture its formation in our country is possible only owing to study previous researchers' heritage.

The purpose of the article is to research the history of ecological thought in Ukraine based on the different methods. The article through the prism of the historical aspect is about becoming and development of ecological thought and education in Ukraine which have furthered the raising its economic activity. Historical analysis was used to analyze the discoveries according to the environmental principles. The ecological method of approach to solving the actual tasks of agriculture was substantiated. The chronological, historical and descriptive methods of research were used as well as the content analysis.

An excursus into the history of ecological thought was conducted. And the contribution of scientists who founded it was carried out. It was determined that in old times ecological thought in Ukraine hadn't any scientific basis. Ecological works of Ukrainian scientists are connected closely with researches in natural sciences. These works make radical changes to the level of cognition and therefore have a global significance.

Key words: *evolution, becoming and development, research of nature, environment, development of science, agrarian science, agriculture, ecology.*