

A Tribute to the Eightieth Birthday of Prof. Adiyagiin Tsendsuren

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This year professor Adiyagiin Tsendsuren, who was one of the senior biologists and leading scientists of Mongolia, must have been to reach the 80th year of his life. He was a scientist, who led to the development of modern biological sciences, especially entomology in Mongolia, through his academic activities, which has spanned more than three decades. He has spent much of his career studying insect fauna of Mongolia, but he was also one of the most talented teachers to educate generations of biologists-entomologists in the country.

A. Tsendsuren was born in 1930 in Bulgan district of Arkhangai province in central Mongolia in the family of a nomadic herder. Soon after that, his family moved to Ulaanbaatar, capital city of the country, where he spent his whole life. Having completed the school course in 1946, A. Tsendsuren entered the Pedagogical College, and after two years of

study he graduated from the college as a school teacher of nature and environment. Thus, his teaching career was started so early, even when he was young boy with age of 18 years. A. Tsendsuren worked as a teacher at the schools in Zamt district of Central province, as well as in the capital city, and then in 1951, he became a student at the Mongolian State University (currently National University of Mongolia).

In 1955 A. Tsendsuren graduated from the university majoring in biology and chemistry, and continued working at the Department of Biology (currently Department of Zoology) of the same university, where he solely worked until end of his life. Thus, his enthusiasm for scientific research on unique insect fauna of Mongolia, and an excellent academic performance are made him to get a permanent position at the university.

Under the supervision of Prof. B. V. Dobrovolsky, he started to study the plant pest species belonging to darkling and click beetle families in central Mongolia, and since 1959 he studied at the Department of Entomology, Moscow State University as a post-graduate student. In 1963 A. Tsendsuren defended his doctoral (PhD) thesis, entitled "*Plant pest species of darkling and click beetles in central Mongolia*". He revealed 38 species of beetles that feed on and harm the agricultural cultivations, of which 7 are being serious pest of crop and vegetables. In addition, he elaborated a practical recommendation for controlling of those pests. Thus A. Tsendsuren became a first entomologist of Mongolia, and further he made major contribution to the development of entomological science in Mongolia as a founder. The foreign entomologists, who worked in Mongolia, A. S. Rozhkov, I. M. Kerzhner, Z. Kaszab, G. S. Medvedev etc were evaluated and highly appreciated his contributions.

After completion of his post-graduate study, A. Tsendsuren continued to work at the former university to teach different subjects, including Entomology, Invertebrate zoology etc., and performed his research on various groups of