

factory, in 1870 he was awarded state coat-of-arms, in 1887 at the All-Russian Agricultural Exhibition in Kharkov he was awarded a large Gold Medal. In 1897 in at the Art Industrial Exhibition the king of Sweden and Norway granted him the rank of Provider of his Royal Majesty.

In 1874 L. Koenig purchased a second factory in St. Petersburg and two beet sugar factories in Kharkov Province. By the beginning of the 20th century annual turnover of L. Koenig's factories was 40 million roubles. He was the owner of 6 private houses in Vyborgskaya Storona district, in Peterburgskaya District, and on Vasiliyevsky Island. Apart from the sugar factories L. Koenig had a parquetry factory producing massive parquet on asphalt, parquet of oak, ash, maple of different colour and pattern. Production was based on his own wood and sale was carried out in St. Petersburg and other regions of the country. In 1908 at the International Building Art Exhibition L. Koenig was awarded a Large Gold Medal.

In 1903 L. Koenig died and was buried at Smolenskoye Evangelical Cemetery. On 1 January 1905 successors of the sugar factory owner organized a company «L. Koenig and heirs». Since 1 January 1913 Julius (Julius-Adolph) Leopoldovich Koenig became sole heir. He was a honorary citizen and a member of the Board of the All-Russian Society of Sugar factory owners.

Key words: history, biography, Koenig family

GRASS SNAKES (*Natrix natrix*) IN URBAN AREAS (O)

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The Grass snake, *Natrix natrix*, is the only reptile in the Netherlands occupying habitats in the densely populated western part of the Netherlands also known as «Randstad Holland». In the vicinity of Amsterdam, Utrecht and Gouda several Grass snake populations survive in habitats that differ in many aspects from more natural habitats of the Grass snake. Although these populations live under severe pressure from the expanding cities, they managed to survive in this urban environment.

Conservation measurements such as the creation of artificial breeding sites and corridors, protection of hibernacula and typical landscape characteristics as dikes and ditches, together with the opportunistic lifestyle of the Grass snake itself safeguarded these populations.

Population studies like radio-telemetry, mark-recapture and genetic analyses in combination with monitoring provide a detailed insight in the ecology of the Grass snake in these urban areas.

Key words: *Natrix natrix*, Netherlands, conservation, urban areas

THE SPATIO - TEMPORAL GENETIC STRUCTURE OF NEWT POPULATIONS (*Triturus cristatus*, *T. marmoratus*) IN AN AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE (O)

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The consequences of metapopulation processes for the maintenance of within-species genetic diversity are incompletely understood, and theoretical predictions are rarely complemented with empirical data. We quantified the amount of genetic drift and dispersal in subdivided populations of pond-breeding newts (*Triturus cristatus*, *T. marmoratus*), using genetic data derived from microsatellite markers and analytical methods based on maximum likelihood and bayesian assignment procedures. The study site in western France encompasses 20 ponds spaced at geographical distances roughly matching maximum individual dispersal over one generation (~ 1 km).