

Natural Sturgeon Hybrids along Bulgarian Black Sea Coast and in Danube River

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Abstract: During October 2005 and June 2006 eleven individuals of sturgeon hybrids were caught in Bulgarian waters of Black Sea and Danube River. Electrophoresis (isoelectric focusing, IEF) ascertained the observed morphological differences of these hybrids on the genetic level. Three different hybrids of various offspring generations were identified: *Acipenser gueldenstaedti* x *Acipenser ruthenus*; *Acipenser ruthenus* x *Acipenser stellatus*; *Huso huso* x *Acipenser ruthenus*.

Key words: Acipenseridae, sturgeons, hybrids, isoelectric focusing, Black Sea, Danube River