

Tatjana Iezhova (Ježova)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC DEGREE

geneti
1994 **Ph.D.**, Biology (zoology), “Comparative morphology of hemoproteids (Haemosporidia, Haemoproteidae) of Palearctic birds”, Institute of Ecology, Vilnius University, Lithuania.

1970 – 1975 **M. Sc.**, Biology (genetics and selection), Vilnius University, Lithuania.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2003– unitl now **Senior Research Fellow**, Laboratory of Parasitology, Institute of Ecology, Nature Research Centre, Lithuania.

1996 – 2003 **Senior Research Fellow**, Laboratory of Protozoology, Institute of Ecology, Vilnius University, Lithuania.

1994-1996 **Researcher**, Laboratory of Protozoology, Institute of Ecology, Vilnius University, Lithuania

1989 – 1994 **Junior Researcher**, Laboratory of Protozoology, Institute of Ecology, Vilnius University, Lithuania.

1977 - 1989 **Junior Researcher**, Laboratory of Protozoology, Institute of Zoology and Parasitology, Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Vilnius, Lithuania.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Field of research: Avian haemosporidian (Haemosporida) systematics and biodiversity. I am an expert of wild animal malarial and other haemosporidian parasite taxonomy, morphology and ecology. My main research is dedicated to blood stages (which are important for the description and investigation) of species belonging to *Plasmodium*, *Haemoproteus* and *Trypanosoma* genera. I have published more than 100 scientific articles in journals belonging to the *Web of Science* database. 2018-2022 I published 19 scientific articles. I am the author and co-author of 56 descriptions of new protist species, including 52 avian haemosporidian species belonging to the genera *Plasmodium*, *Haemoproteus* and *Leucocytozoon*. WoS H index, $h = 34$.

PUBLICATIONS

Scientific articles published in journals (books), indexed in „Clarivate Analytics Web of Science“ database (with citation index):

1. Valkiūnas G, **Iezhova TA**. 2022. Keys to the avian *Haemoproteus* parasites (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae). *Malaria journal*. 21: 269. doi.org/10.1186/s12936-022-04235-1
2. Valkiūnas, G., Duc, M. Y. L., & **Iezhova, T. A.** 2022. Increase of avian *Plasmodium circumflexum* prevalence, but not of other malaria parasites and related haemosporidians in northern Europe during the past 40 years. *Malaria journal*. 21(1), 1-11. doi:10.1186/s12936-022-04116-7

3. Valkiūnas G, Ilgūnas M, Bukauskaitė D, Duc M, **Iezhova TA**. 2021. Description of *Haemoproteus asymmetricus* n. sp. (Haemoproteidae), with remarks on predictability of the DNA haplotype networks in haemosporidian parasite taxonomy research. *Acta tropica*. 218:105905. doi: 10.1016/j.actatropica.2021.105905. Epub 2021 Mar 26. PMID: 33775628
4. Bernotienė, R, **Iezhova, TA**, Bukauskaite, D, Chagas, CRF, Kazak, M, Valkiūnas, G. 2020. Development of *Trypanosoma everetti* in *Culicoides* biting midges. *Acta tropica*. 210. doi.org/10.1016/j.actatropica.2020.105555
5. Chagas C.R.F., Binkienė R., Ilgūnas M., **Iezhova T.**, Valkiūnas G. 2020. The buffy coat method: a tool for detection of blood parasites without staining procedures. *Parasites and Vectors*. 13: 104. doi: 10.1186/s13071-020-3984-8
6. Valkiūnas, G., Ilgūnas, M., Romeiro Fernandes Chagas, C., Bernotienė, R., **Iezhova, T. A.** 2020. Molecular characterization of swallow haemoproteids, with description of one new *Haemoproteus* species. *Acta tropica*. 207, 1-10. doi:10.1016/j.actatropica.2020.105486
7. Weinberg J., Toscani-Field J., Ilgūnas M., Bukauskaitė D., **Iezhova T.**, Valkiūnas, G., Sehgal N.M.R. 2019. De novo transcriptome assembly and preliminary analyses of two avian malaria parasites, *Plasmodium delichoni* and *Plasmodium homocircumflexum*. *Genomics*. 111 (6): 1815-1823. doi: 10.1016/j.ygeno.2018.12.004
8. Valkiūnas G, Ilgūnas M, Bukauskaitė D, Chagas CRF, Bernotienė R, Himmel T, Harl J, Weissenböck H, **Iezhova TA**. 2019. Molecular characterization of six widespread avian haemoproteids, with description of three new *Haemoproteus* species. *Acta Tropica*. 197:105051. doi: 10.1016/j.actatropica.2019.105051. Epub 2019 Jun 8. PMID: 31181190
9. Valkiūnas G, **Iezhova TA**. 2018. Keys to the avian malaria parasites. *Malaria journal*. 17(1):212. doi: 10.1186/s12936-018-2359-5. PMID: 29843718.
10. Valkiūnas G, **Iezhova TA**. 2017. Exo-erythrocytic development of avian malaria and related haemosporidian parasites. *Malaria journal*. 16(1):101. doi: 10.1186/s12936-017-1746-7. PMID: 28253926
11. **Iezhova, T.A.**, Dodge, M., Sehgal, R.N., Smith, T.B. and Valkiūnas, G. 2011. New avian *Haemoproteus* species (Haemosporida: Haemoproteidae) from African birds, with a critique of the use of host taxonomic information in hemoproteid classification. *Journal of Parasitology*. 97(4): 682-694. doi: 10.1645/GE-2709.1
12. **Iezhova, T. A.**, Valkiūnas, G., Loiseau, C., Smith, T.B., Sehgal, R.N.M. 2010. *Haemoproteus cyanomitrae* sp.nov. (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae) from a widespread african songbird, the olive sunbird, *Cyanomitrae olivacea*. *Journal of Parasitology*. 96 (1): 137-143. doi: 10.1645/GE-2198.1
13. Loiseau, C., **Iezhova, T.A.**, Valkiūnas, G., Chasar, A., Hutchinson, A., Buermann, W., Smith, T.B., Sehgal, R.N.M. 2010. Spatial variation of haemosporidian parasite infection in African rainforest bird species. *Journal of Parasitology*. 96 (1): 21-29. doi: 10.1645/GE-2123
14. **Iezhova, T.A.**, Valkiūnas, G. and Bairlein, F. 2005. Vertebrate host specificity of two avian malaria parasites of the subgenus *Novyella*: *Plasmodium nucleophilum* and *Plasmodium vaughani*. *Journal of Parasitology*. 91: 472-474. doi: 10.1645/GE-3377RN

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

2023-2026 MIP- P-MIP-23-71. *New insights into biology of haemosporidian parasites.*
 Research Council of Lithuania. **Primary research implementer.**

- 2022 – 2025 S-MIP-22-50. *Molecular diagnostics and epidemiology of neglected avian blood parasites*. Research Council of Lithuania. **Primary research implementer.**
- 2021 - 2022 Institute of Pathology, Vetmeduni Vienna. Subcontract (project no. P33480-B) Further insights into the pathogenesis of avian malaria. Project leader: Prof. Dr. Herbert Weissenböck. Subcontract no. 2021-01-29. **Implementer.**
- 2018 – 2022 European Research Council, Advanced Grant (HORIZON). Grant no. 742646. *Immunity in ecology and evolution: Hidden' costs of disease, immune function and their consequences for Darwinian fitness*. Project principal investigator Prof. Dennis Lennart Hasselquist. Subcontract with Lund University (2018-05-08). **Implementer.**
- 2017 – 2021 European Social Fund. No.09.3.3-LMT-K-712-01-0016. *Virulence of avian malaria: untangling genetic players for infection severity*. Research Council of Lithuania. **Implementer.**
- 2017 - 2020 S-MIP-17-27. *Determination of natural blood parasite vectors*. Research Council of Lithuania. **Primary project implementer.**
- 2015 - 2018 MIP-045/2015. *Mechanisms of virulence in protozoan parasites*. Research Council of Lithuania. **Primary project implementer.**
- 2011 – 2015 Global Grant. *Mechanisms of Speciation in Malaria Parasites and Related Haemosporidians*. Grant No. VPI-3.1.-ŠMM-07-K-01-047. **Implementer.**

INTERNSHIPS AND TRAINING

- 2015 San Francisco State University, Department of Biology, USA.
- 2004 The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Rehovote, Israel.
- 2002 Institute of Avian Research, Wilhelmshaven, Germany.

PARTICIPATION IN SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

International scientific conferences:

1. 2022 09 05 – 2022 09 08 - 5th International conference on Malaria and Related Haemosporidian Parasites of Wildlife, Bielefeld, Germany. Iezhova, T., Ilgūnas, M., Palinauskas, V., Platonova, E., Valkiūnas, G. *Investigation of the susceptibility of common European songbirds to Plasmodium elongatum (lineage pGRW6)*.
2. 2021 04 21 – 2021 04 23 - 9th Conference of the Scandinavian - Baltic Society for Parasitology, Vilnius, Lietuva. T. A. Iezhova, R. Bernotienė, D. Bukauskaitė, C. R. F. Chagas, M. Kazak, R. Žiegytė, G. Valkiūnas. *Development of two avian Trypanosoma species in experimentally infected bloodsucking insects*.
3. 2018 11 01 – 2018 11 05 - 4th International conference on Malaria and Related Haemosporidian Parasites of Wildlife konferencijoje, Pekinas, Kinija. T. Iezhova, M. Ilgūnas, D. Bukauskaitė, V. Palinauskas, R. Bernotienė, G. Valkiūnas. *Widespread malaria parasites Plasmodium relictum and Plasmodium matutum: how to distinguish them in blood films?*

PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY PROCESS

Supervision of bachelor and master students:

Inga Venskutė	Bachelor; „Baltosios Vokės žvirblinių (Passeriformes) paukščių kraujo parazitai“
Inga Venskutė	Master; “Kuršių nerijos ir Baltosios Vokės devynbalsių (Sylviidae) šeimos paukščių kraujo protistai”
Augustė Matvijenkaitė	Course work; „ <i>Haemoproteus</i> sp. (mit cyt b geno „NEW5“ linija) (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae) iš <i>Emberiza sporodocephala</i> morfologija“

OTHERS

Another activity:

Largest collection of blood parasites in Eastern Europe, established, curated, and continually expanded in P.B. Šivickis Laboratory of Parasitology. I am the **collection curator**.

Pop-science publications:

1. Arnastauskienė, T., Griekienienė, J., **Ježova, T.**, Valkiūnas, G. 2014. Žaiginio Pranciškaus Šivickio mokykla ir jos ryšiai su Ekologijos instituto mokslininkais. *Zoology and Ecology*. 24 (1): 75-80.
2. Palinauskas, V., **Ježova, T.**, Križanauskienė, A., Kazlauskienė, R., Valkiūnas, G. 2013. Mūsų žemiečio, iškilaus mokslininko Pranciškaus Baltraus Šivickio 130-ųjų gimimo metinių paminėjimas (1882-1968). *Naujas Rytas*, Nr. 1 (8854).
3. Križanauskienė, A., Palinauskas, V., **Ježova, T.**, Kazlauskienė, R., Bernotienė, R., Valkiūnas, G. 2013. Maliarijos tyrimai Lietuvoje. *Mokslo Lietuva*. ISSN 1392-7191., Nr. 4 (21).
4. Arnastauskienė, T., Griekienienė, J., **Ježova T.**, Valkiūnas, G. 2013. Mokslininkų bendradarbiavimas su mokiniais. *Mokslo Lietuva*. 21 (509): 9, 12.
5. Palinauskas, V., **Ježova, T.**, Križanauskienė, A., Kazlauskienė, R., Valkiūnas, G. 2012. Pranciškus Baltrus Šivickis gyvas mūsų darbuose: 130 metų paminėjimas. *Mokslo Lietuva*, Nr. 22 (488).
6. R. Bernotiene, V. Palinauskas, R. Kazlauskiene, A. Krizanauskiene, **T. Jezova, G. Valkiunas**. 2012. Ne vien apie paukščius. *Mūsų Vytis*, 1 / 2 (247/248): 64-68. ISSN 1822-3664.