Archives of the Zoological Museum of MSU. V. 51. P. 3–676.

The history of development of principal theoretical concepts of biological systematics are considered from Antiquity till present time. The following periods are characterized: folk taxonomy, scholasticism, herbal epoch, scientific “classical” systematics (XVIII to middle of XX centuries), “nonclassical” systematics (second half of XX century). Premises of origin of the systematics in the context of emergence of the science during XV–XVII centuries are considered in some details. Formation and theoretical contents of the following principal trends and schools in systematics are considered: scholastic, empirical (phenetic and numerical systematics, phenomenology), typological (classical typologies of Cuvier and Goethe, neotypology, empirical and evolutionary typology), evolutionary (classical phylogenetics and cladistics, evolutionary taxonomy, population systematics and biosystematics), ecomorphological (biomorphics), rational (including biological structuralism, periodical systems, epistemological rationality). Basical concepts and notions of biological systematics are considered briefly (cognitive situation, classification, taxon, species, homology, character, similarity, relationship, weighting). Subject and authors indices. Ill. 16. Bibl. 1668.

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