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Distribution and population characteristics of Baikalian invader *Gmelinoides fasciatus* (Crustacea: Amphipoda) in lake Onego

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There are pressing needs to investigate biological invaders in aquatic ecosystems in the face of long-term changes and anthropogenic influences on these systems. *Gmelinoides fasciatus* (Stebbing), an amphipod native to the Baikal region, was discovered in south-west part of Lake Onego in 2001 (Berezina, Panov, 2003). As a part of the present study spatial distribution of this recent exotic amphipod in littoral zone of the east part of the lake was revealed. Population characteristics and reproduction of this alien species in the Petrozavodsk and Povenets bays was investigated. According to the study results, the average density of *G. fasciatus* ranged from 786 to 3454 ind. m⁻², biomass from 1.1 to 7.7 g m⁻². The seasonal dynamics of *G. fasciatus* abundance was characterized by two peaks (in July and August). The sexual structure of the population is stable, the sex ratio registered in *G. fasciatus* rarely deviate from a 1:1 ratio during the vegetative season. Female fecundity varied from 4 to 26 eggs per female, the average variation of fertility was 9-10 eggs per female. It can be concluded that the Baikalian amphipod *G. fasciatus* successfully

established in the new conditions on the northern border area of the European part of Russia and has a one-year life cycle with the generations of the previous and current years. The study has been financially supported by the Russian Science Foundation (No 14-17-00766)