**Scientific Research in the Republic of Belarus**

Belarussian science was actually started in 1922 as the Institute of Belarusin Culture was set up. At present the National Academy of Science of Belarus (NASB) is in charge oforganizing, conducting and coordinating the fundamental and applied scientific researchand development.

The Academy of Science was founded in 1929 and incorporated the Institute of Philosophy, Economics, History, Constitution and Law, Linguistics, Literature and Art, Chemistry, Biological Science, Agricultural, Physico-Engineering Institutes and others.

In 2002, the Academy of Science comprised the Department of Biological Science. Achievements of scientific schools in the sphere of mathematics, theoretical physics,spectroscopy and luminescence, electronics, automation, thermophysics, machine building,geology, bioorganic chemistry, physiology, genetics, selection, soil science, cardiology,surgery, linguistics, etc. are known worldwide and have been highly appraised in Belarusan enjoyed the international recognition.

Findings of some researchers have the highest rank of significance and are registered as scientific discoveries.

THE INSTITUTE FOR PROBLEMS OF NATURAL RESOURCES USE AND ECOLOGY. Field of scientific activities: Development of ecologically safe and resource saving technologies of mining and processing of caustobioliths. Estimation and forecasting of anthropogenic impact on the environment. Ecology of agricultural production

Research subdivisions: laboratories of agricultural ecology; biogeochemistry of landscapes; chemistry and chemical technology of soil fuel; climatology; colloidal–chemical bases of ecologically safe technologies; geoecosystems modelling; geoecosystems optimization; information provision of natural resources use; matter and energy transformation in geoecosystems; peat deposits use and protection; physicochemical mechanics of natural dispersed systems; physicochemical methods of investigations; sapropels; experimental base "Dukora"

THE INSTITUTE OF FOREST. Field of scientific activities: Scientific foundation of rational multi–purpose forest exploitation and productivity increasing of forests with allowance for their ecological importance and anthropogenic influence on forest biocenoses. Development of theoretical foundations of creation of forest regeneration and cultivation systems and methods on the basis of genetic–selection principles and complex study of structural–functional characteristic properties of forest biocenoses. Investigation of radioactive pollution influence on the forest ecosystems and development of methods for its consequences minimization

Research subdivisions: laboratories of forest conservation and protection; forest regeneration; forest ecology and soil science; forestry problems and forest resources control; forest genetics; forest selection and seed farming; radiative forestry; reproduction of forest food resource.

THE INSTITUTE OF GENETICS AND CYTOLOGY. Field of scientific activities: Genetic principles of plant breeding and productivity. Genetic and cellular engineering of plants and microorganisms

Research subdivisions: laboratories of antimutagenesis; extrachromosomal heredity; general cytogenetics; genetics of phytoimmunity; grain–crops genetics; heterosis and genetics of qualitative characters; molecular genetics; plant cytogenetics; radiative genetics; subject research groups of experimental mutagenesis; genetics and biotechnology of potato; microorganism genetics; morphogenesis genetics; plasmid genetics; division of scientific information and informatics

THE NATIONAL CO–ORDINATION BIOSAFETY CENTRE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS. Field of activities: collecting, analysis and systematisation of information concerning biosafety legislation and scientific research, field trials, import/export and commercial use of genetically engineered organisms (GEOs) and products consisting or containing living GEOs in Belarus; establishment the National Biosafety Data Base; providing relevant ministries and other republican authorities, mass communication media with biosafety information; exchange of information with biosafety focal points of other countries, international organisations; organising the scientific expertise of safety (risk assessment) of GEOs or products consisting or containing living GEOs, which trials or commercial use are intended in Belarus; advisory service on development of biosafety legislation and guidelines, good laboratory practice for genetic engineering laboratories; advisory service in bilateral, regional and international agreements concerning biosafety.

THE INSTITUTE OF MICROBIOLOGY

Field of scientific activities: Scientific foundations of microbial synthesis of biologically active compounds. Applications of microorganisms in agriculture, industry and environmental protection

Research subdivisions: laboratories of components of nucleic acids; ecology of microorganisms; enzymes; micology; microbial biochemistry; microbial lipids; soil microbiology; subject research groups of biocontrol of plant protection; collection of non–pathogenic strains; fermentation

THE INSTITUTE OF BIOPHYSICS AND CELL ENGINEERING

Field of scientific activities: Molecular and membrane biochemistry and biophysics of photobiological and regulatory processes in animal and plant systems

Research subdivisions: laboratories of biophysics and biochemistry of photosynthetic apparatus; biophysics and photobiology of membranes; photoregulation of cellular processes; physiology of photosynthetic apparatus; protein photonics

THE INSTITUTE OF ZOOLOGY

Field of scientific activities: Biological foundations of rational use and preservation of animal world of Belarus. Study of mechanisms and natural laws of formation of biological diversification in animals under the conditions of intensive anthropogenic press over the natural complexes. Development of principles and methods of ecological monitoring. Scientific substantiation of the development and extension of protected areas network. Development of methodological principles of protection of rare and endangered species included in Red book

Research subdivisions: laboratories of aquatic invertebrates; entomology; ornithology; ichthyology; hydroecology; parasitology; terrestrial vertebrates ecology

THE V.F. KUPREVICH INSTITUTE OF EXPERIMENTAL BOTANY

Field of scientific activities: Biological foundations of forming, reproducing, rational use and preserving of vegetation coatings of Belarus. Physiological–biochemical problems of plant productivity. Radioecological monitoring of vegetation

Research subdivisions: laboratories of agrophytocenoses productivity optimization; biochemistry and biotechnology; flora and taxonomy of plants; forest ecosystems productivity and stability; geobotany; mycology; soil enzymology; photosynthesis; physiology of sick plants; plant growth and reproduction; plant radioecology; aquatic regime of phytocenoses; research groups of metabolism and plant proteins functions; chemical regulation of plant growth and cultivation

THE CENTRAL BOTANIC GARDEN

Field of scientific activities: Introduction and acclimatization of plants. Scientific foundations of green construction. Preservation of environment

Research subdivisions: laboratories of arboreous plants introduction; chemistry and technology of medicinal raw materials; fruit–and–berry plants introduction; introduction and breeding of ornamental plants; phytopathogenic organisms; plants ecological physiology; vegetable resources mobilization; research group of biotechnology, scientific–manufacturing division