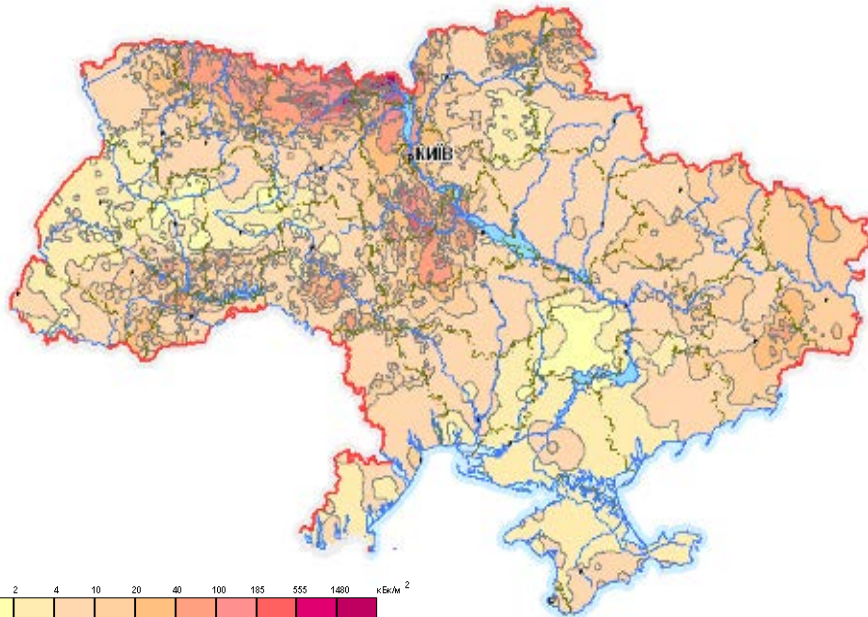




Development and research findings in agricultural radioecology

Kashparov, V.O., Levchuk S.Ye., Holiaka D.M.



**Ukrainian Institute of Agricultural
Radiology (UIAR)
of NUBiP of Ukraine**

E-mail: kashparov@nubip.edu.ua

**1.8 million hectares of agricultural land:
> 0.85 mR/h (May 15, 1986)**



Chornobyl agricultural accident

- **Early phase of the accident**

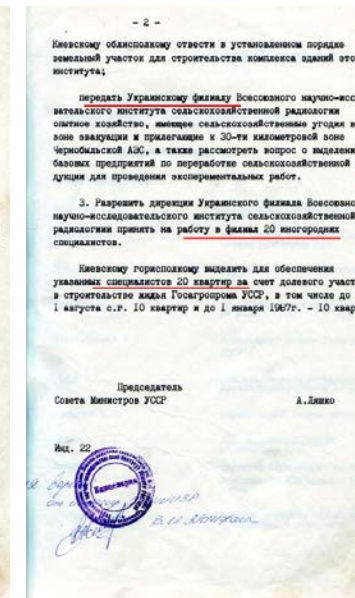
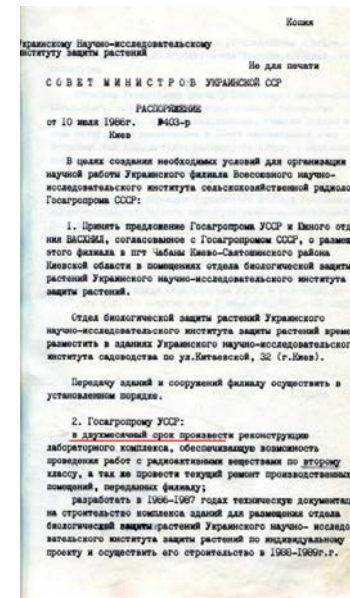
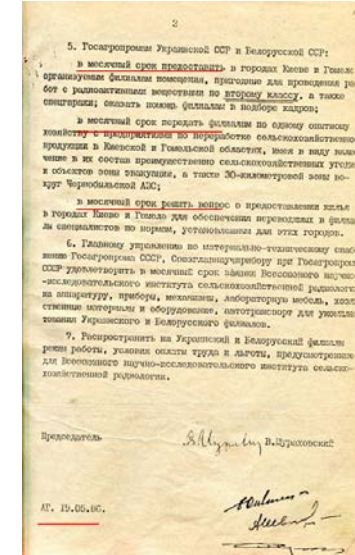
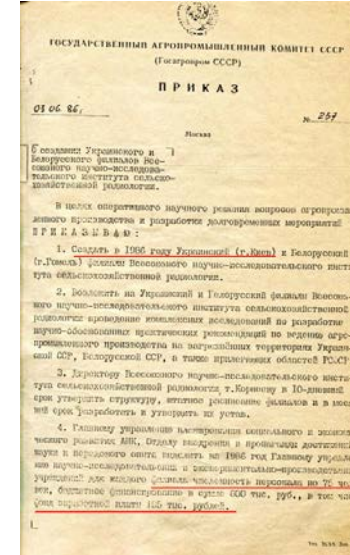
- ^{131}I in milk
- Evacuation of animals from ChEZ
- Decontamination and resuspension
- Inhalation
- Mapping

- **Middle phase of the accident**

- Rehabilitation and countermeasures
- Radiation protection

- **Late phase of the accident**

- Lack of any remediation actions
- Radioactive contamination zones 35 years without changes



The first is short and false information about the accident was only after 5 days - April 30, 1986



Орган Центрального Комитета КПСС

Среда, 30 апреля 1986 года

От Совета Министров СССР

По предварительным данным, авария произошла в одном из помещений 4-го энергоблока и привела к разрушению части строительных конструкций здания реактора, его повреждению и некоторой утечке радиоактивных веществ.

...авария произошла в одном из помещений 4-го энергоблока и привела к разрушению части строительных конструкций здания реактора, его повреждению и некоторой утечке радиоактивных веществ...

Четверг, 1 мая 1986 года

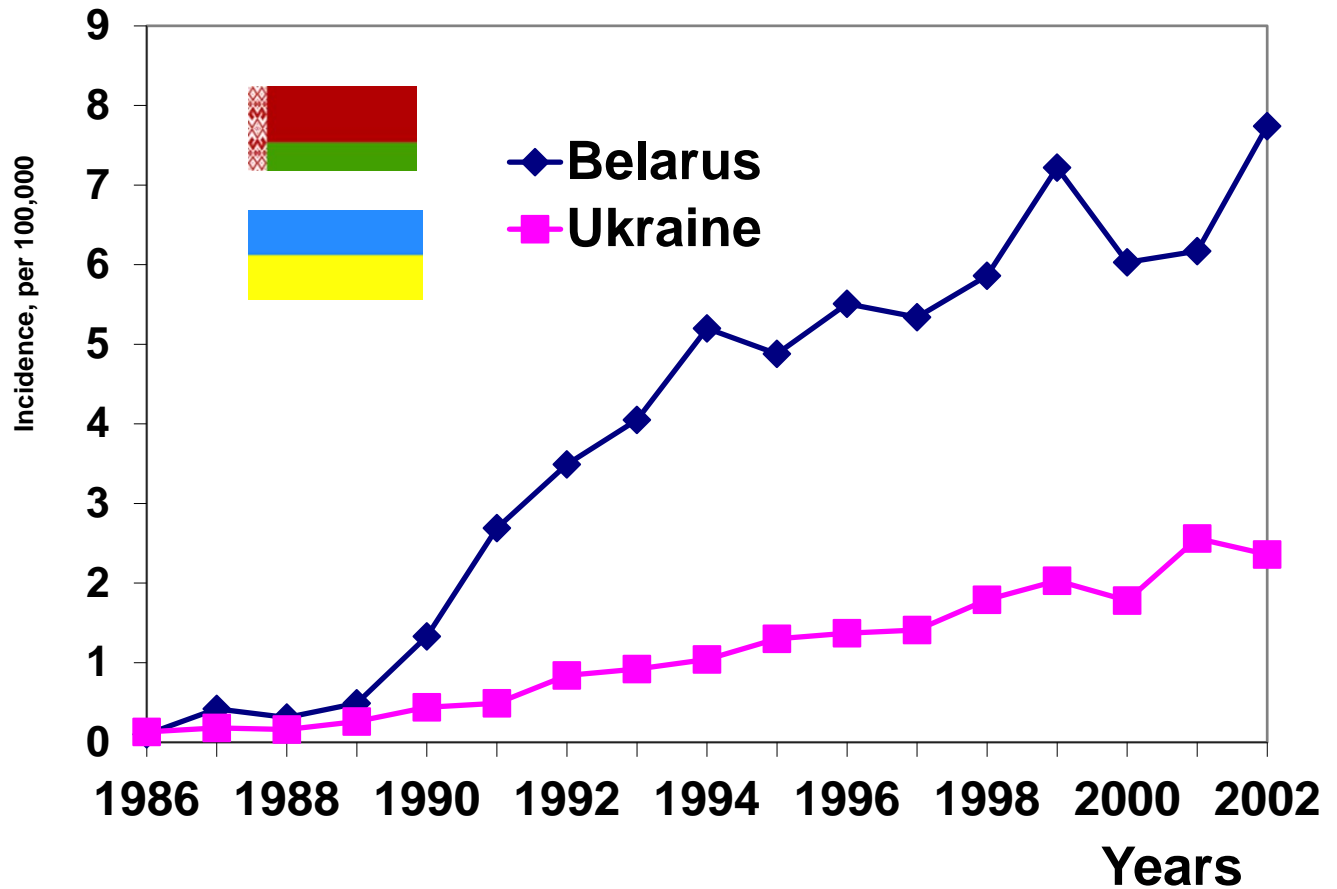
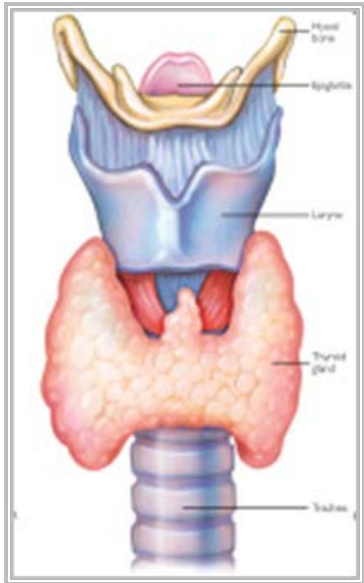
От Совета Министров СССР

Проводимые измерения свидетельствуют о том, что цепной реакции деления ядерного топлива не происходит, реактор находится в заглушенном состоянии.

...цепной реакции деления ядерного топлива не происходит, реактор находится в заглушенном состоянии...



Cancer of the thyroid gland (children, J. Konigsberg, 2009)



Temporary permissible levels (action levels, Bq/kg) for radionuclides in foodstuff after the Chernobyl accident in the USSR, Ukraine and Japan

FOODSTUFF	Date						
	06.05.86 ¹	30.05.86 ²	15.12.87 ³	06.10.88 ³	22.01.91 ³	Ukraine PL-97	Japan 2012
Drinking water	3700	370	20	20	20	2	10
Bread and bakery products, cereals		370	370	370	370	20	100
Milk	3700	370	370	370	370	100	50
Condensed milk		18500	1110	1110	1110	300	100
Sour cream	18500	3700	370	370	370	100	100
Cheese	74000	7400	370	370	370	200	100
Butter	74000	7400	1110	1110	370	200	100
Meat and meat products		3700	1850	1850	740	200	100
Fish	37000	3700	1850		740	150	100
Vegetables		3700	740	740	600	40-60	100
Leaf vegetables	37000	3700	740	740	600	40	100
Fresh fruit and berries		3700	740	740	600	70	100
Dried fruits and berries		3700	11100	1110	2900	280	100
Fresh mushrooms and wild berries		18500	1850		1480	500	100
Dried mushrooms			11100		7400	2500	100
Baby food			370	370	185	40	50

1 – for ¹³¹I, 2- for total beta activity, 3- for ¹³⁴⁺¹³⁷Cs





Pergamon

J. Aerosol Sci., Vol. 25, No. 5, pp. 755-759, 1994
Elsevier Science Ltd
Printed in Great Britain
0021-8502/94 \$7.00 + 0.00

0021-8502(94)E0019-T

RESUSPENSION OF RADIONUCLIDES AND THE CONTAMINATION OF VILLAGE AREAS AROUND CHERNOBYL

V. A. KASHPAROV,* V. P. PROTSAK,* Y. A. IVANOV* and K. W. NICHOLSON†‡

A number of measurements of dry deposition have been carried out in order to evaluate the spread of contamination resulting via resuspension. The results suggest that the spread of contamination into decontaminated areas is likely to be slow, even including the effects of agricultural activities.



Pergamon

J. Aerosol Sci., Vol. 25, No. 5, pp. 761-766, 1994
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0021-8502(94)E0046-Z

INHALATION OF RADIONUCLIDES DURING AGRICULTURAL WORK IN AREAS CONTAMINATED AS A RESULT OF THE CHERNOBYL REACTOR ACCIDENT

V. A. KASHPAROV,* V. P. PROTSAK,* V. I. YOSCHENKO* and J. D. WATTERSON†



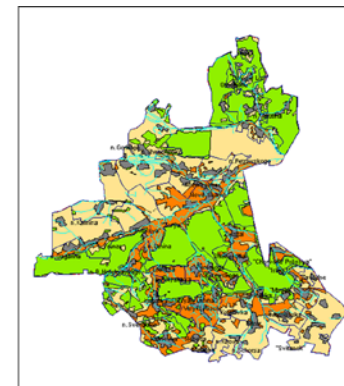
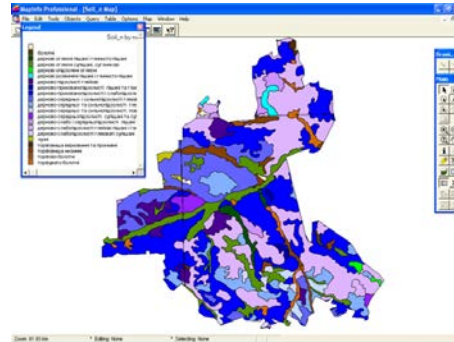
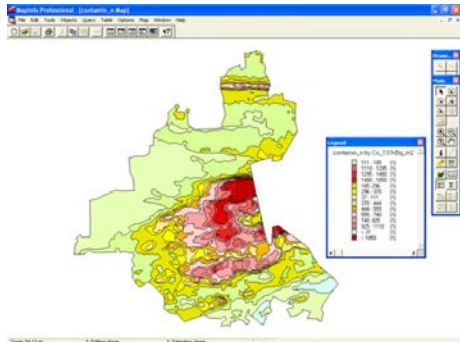
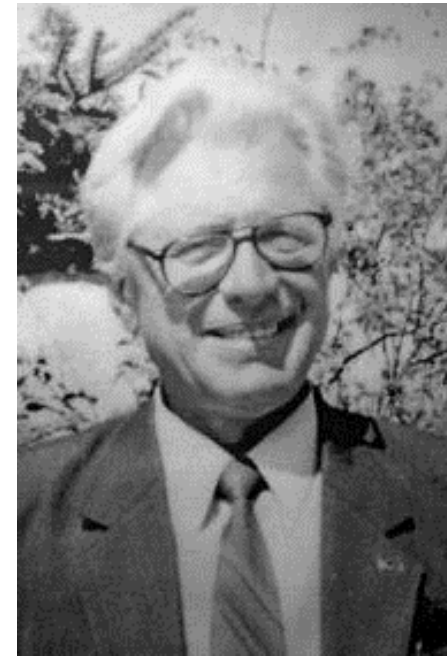
Effective dose for machine operators from inhalation of radionuclides by 1-3 orders of magnitude lower than dose rates due to external irradiation from ¹³⁷Cs in the year



Farmland mapping

It was possible to carry out a complete survey of the contamination of agricultural lands of Ukraine only after the development by **Dr. Bondar** at UIAR of the express method of remote determination of the density of soil $^{134,137}\text{Cs}$ contamination based on measurements of the power of exposure dose SRP-68.




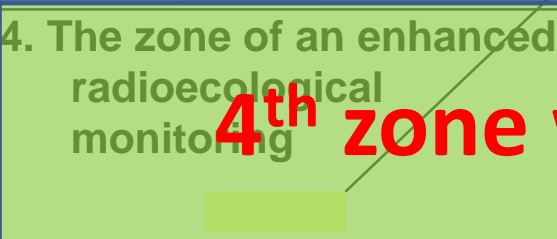
Thanks to this method, a comprehensive survey of agricultural lands in the most polluted districts of Kyiv, Zhytomyr, Chernihiv, Rivne and Cherkasy regions was carried out in three months.



- Agricultural land - Abandoned land - Forest



Criteria to establish the zones of radioactive contamination in Ukraine (*Laws of Ukraine, 1991*)

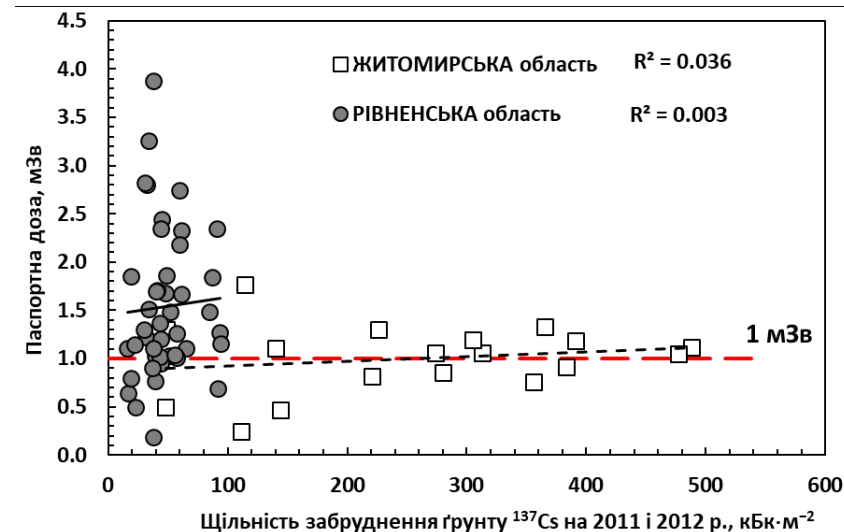
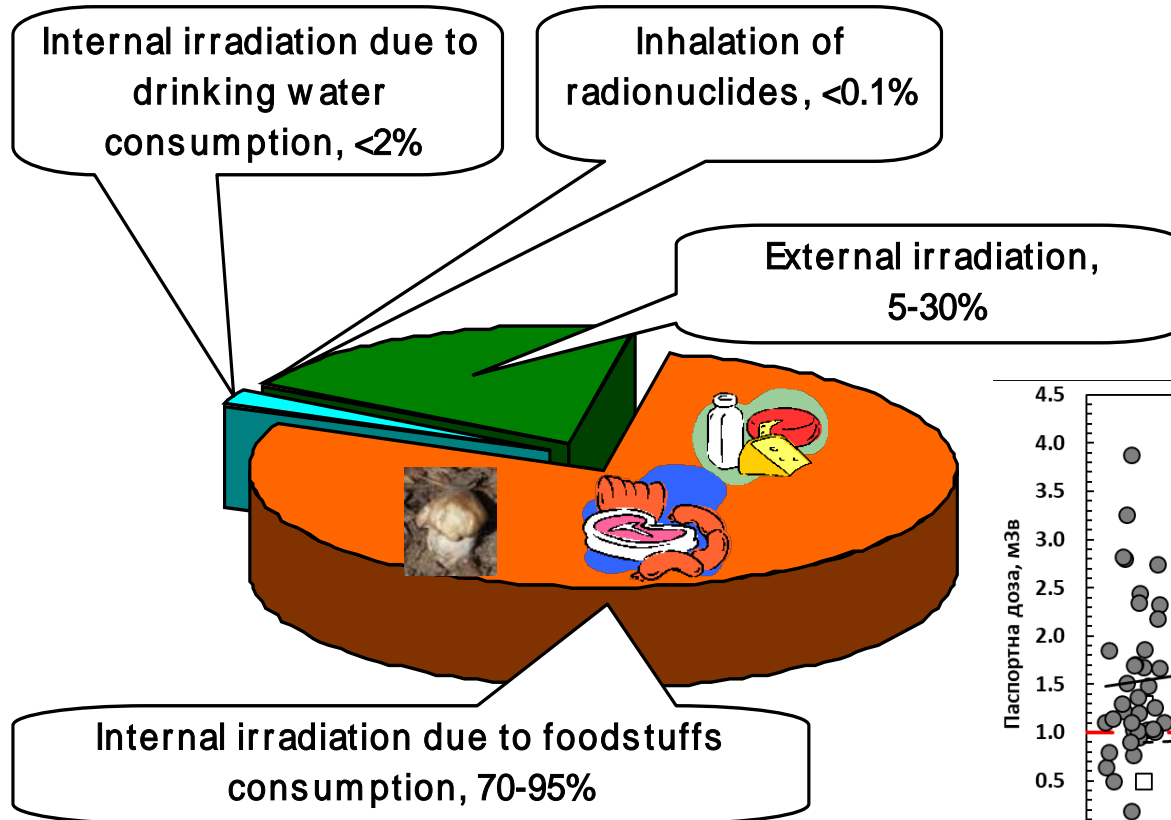
Zones	Criteria to establish the zones
1. Exclusion zone 	Area where the population was evacuated in 1986 (includes 30 km zone around ChNPP)
2. Zone of an unconditional (obligatory) resettlement 	Where $D_{\text{eff}} > 5 \text{ mSv/yr}$ $^{137}\text{Cs} > 555 \text{ kBq/m}^2$ or $^{90}\text{Sr} > 111 \text{ kBq/m}^2$ or $\text{Pu} > 3.7 \text{ kBq/m}^2$
3. The zone of a guaranteed voluntary resettlement 	Where $D_{\text{eff}} > 1 \text{ mSv/yr}$ $185 < ^{137}\text{Cs} < 555 \text{ kBq/m}^2$, $5.5 < ^{90}\text{Sr} < 111 \text{ kBq/m}^2$, $0.37 < \text{Pu} < 3.7 \text{ kBq/m}^2$
4. The zone of an enhanced radioecological monitoring 	Where $D_{\text{eff}} > 0.5 \text{ mSv/yr}$ $37 < ^{137}\text{Cs} < 185 \text{ kBq/m}^2$, $0.7 < ^{90}\text{Sr} < 5.5 \text{ kBq/m}^2$, $0.185 < \text{Pu} < 0.37 \text{ kBq/m}^2$

4th zone was liquidated in 2014

Characteristics for 01.01.2007	1 zone	2 zone	3 zone	4 zone	Total
Number of settlements	76	86	841	1290	2293
Area, km ²	2122	2003	22619	26710	53454
Population	120	9040	637230	1645540	2291930
including children under 14 years	0	1870	150160	336660	488690



Effective doses to Ukrainian population in the present period after Chernobyl accident



70-95% of the effective population dose in the most suffered regions of Ukraine is formed due to consumption of the foodstuffs containing Chernobyl radionuclides

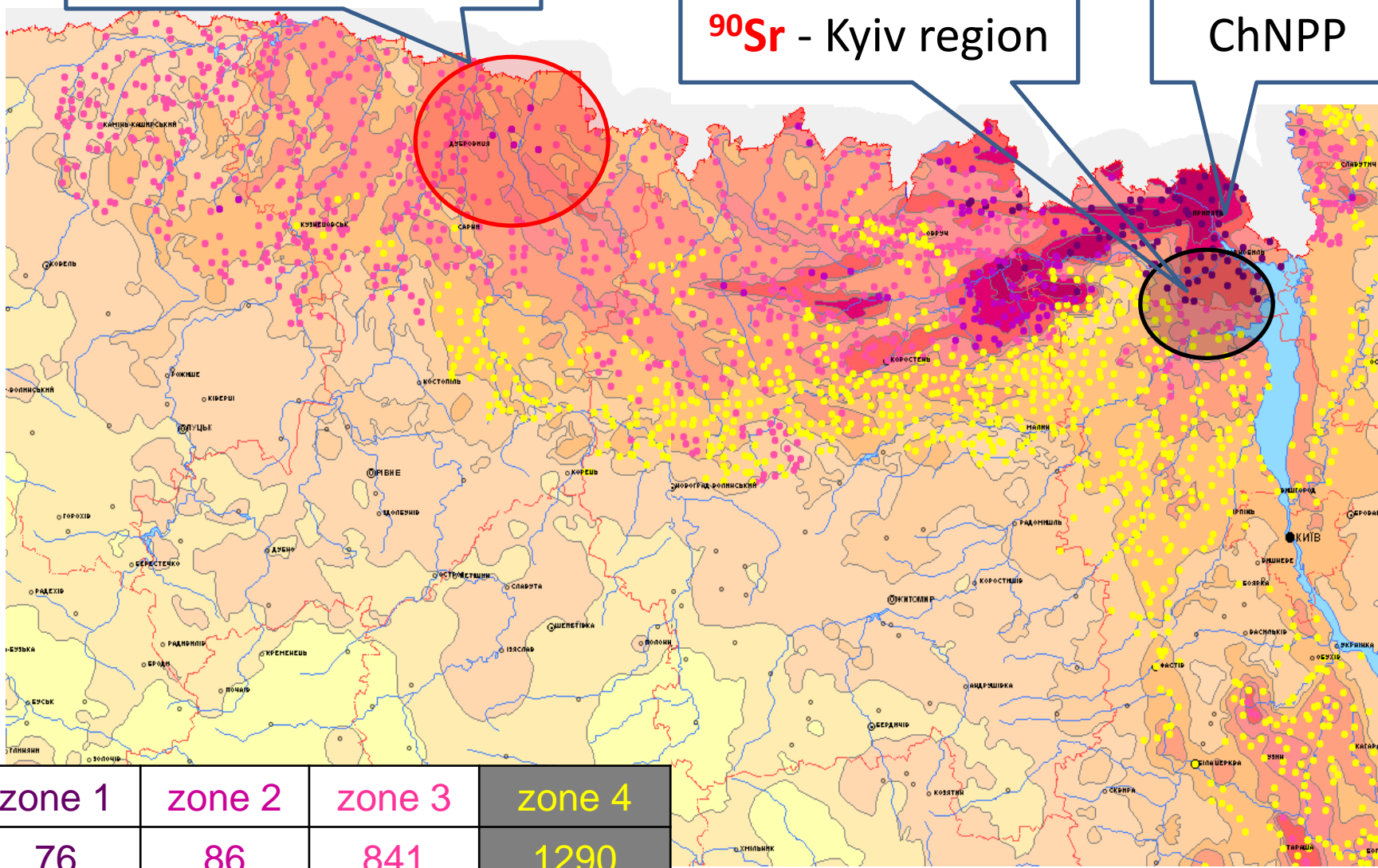


The critical settlements of Zhytomyr and Rivne region

^{137}Cs - Rivne region

^{90}Sr - Kyiv region

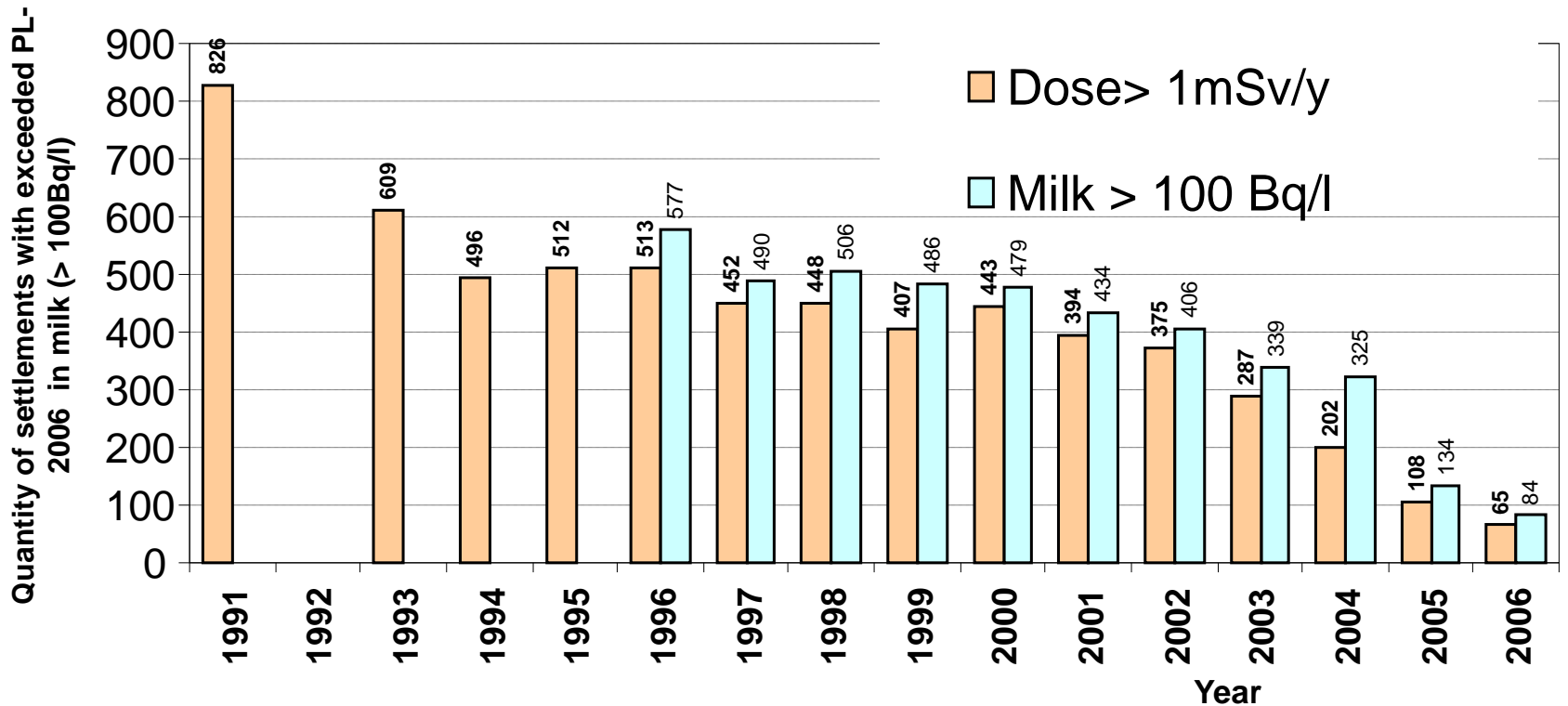
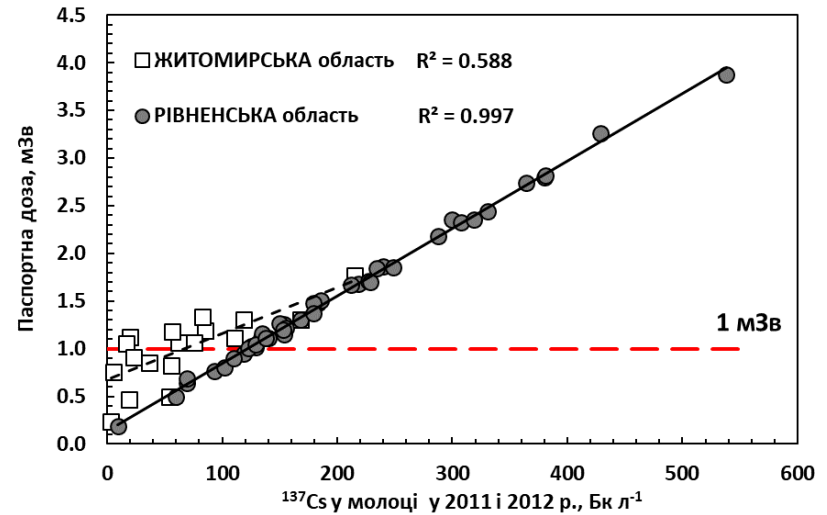
ChNPP



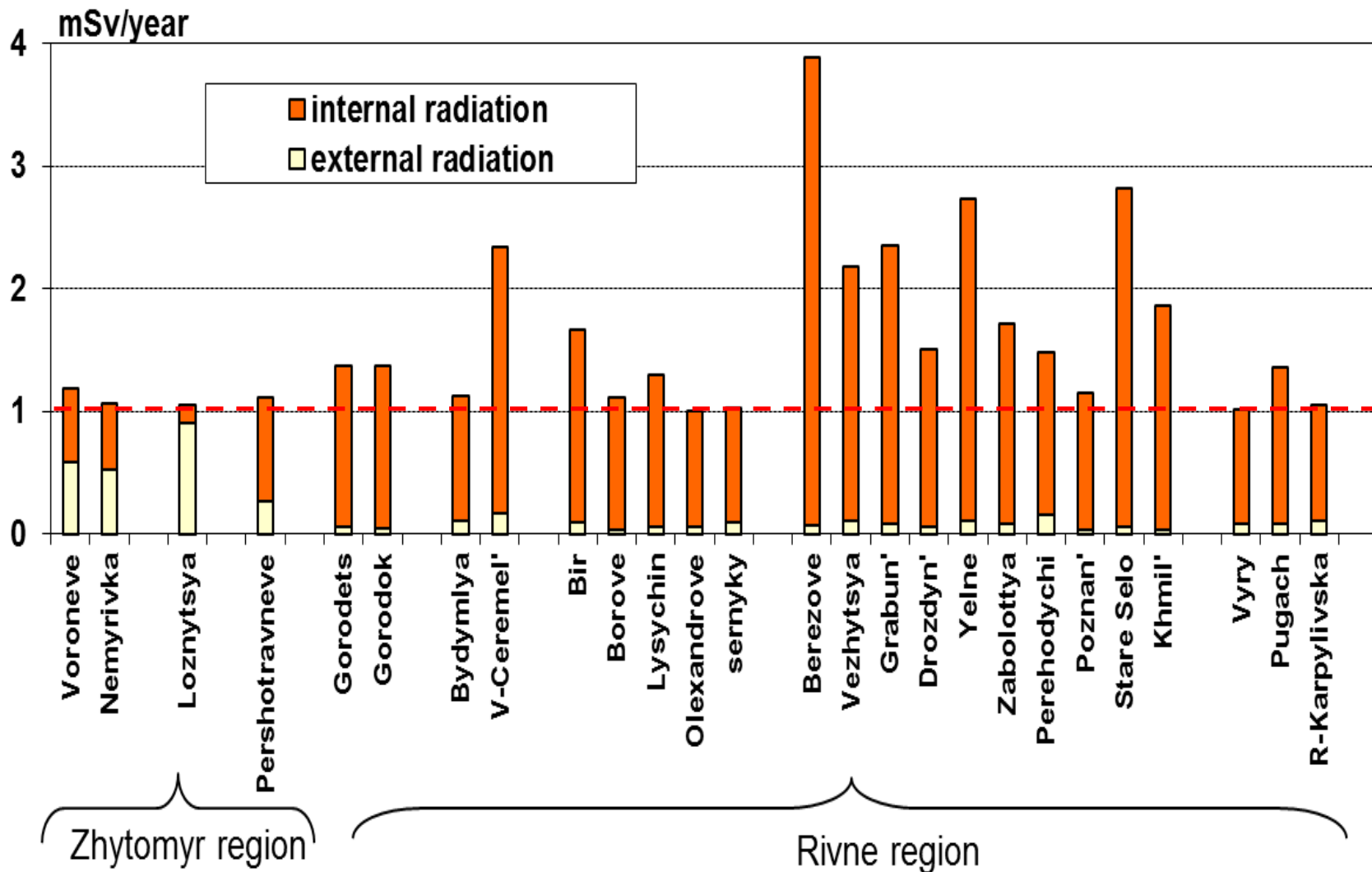
zone 1	zone 2	zone 3	zone 4
76	86	841	1290



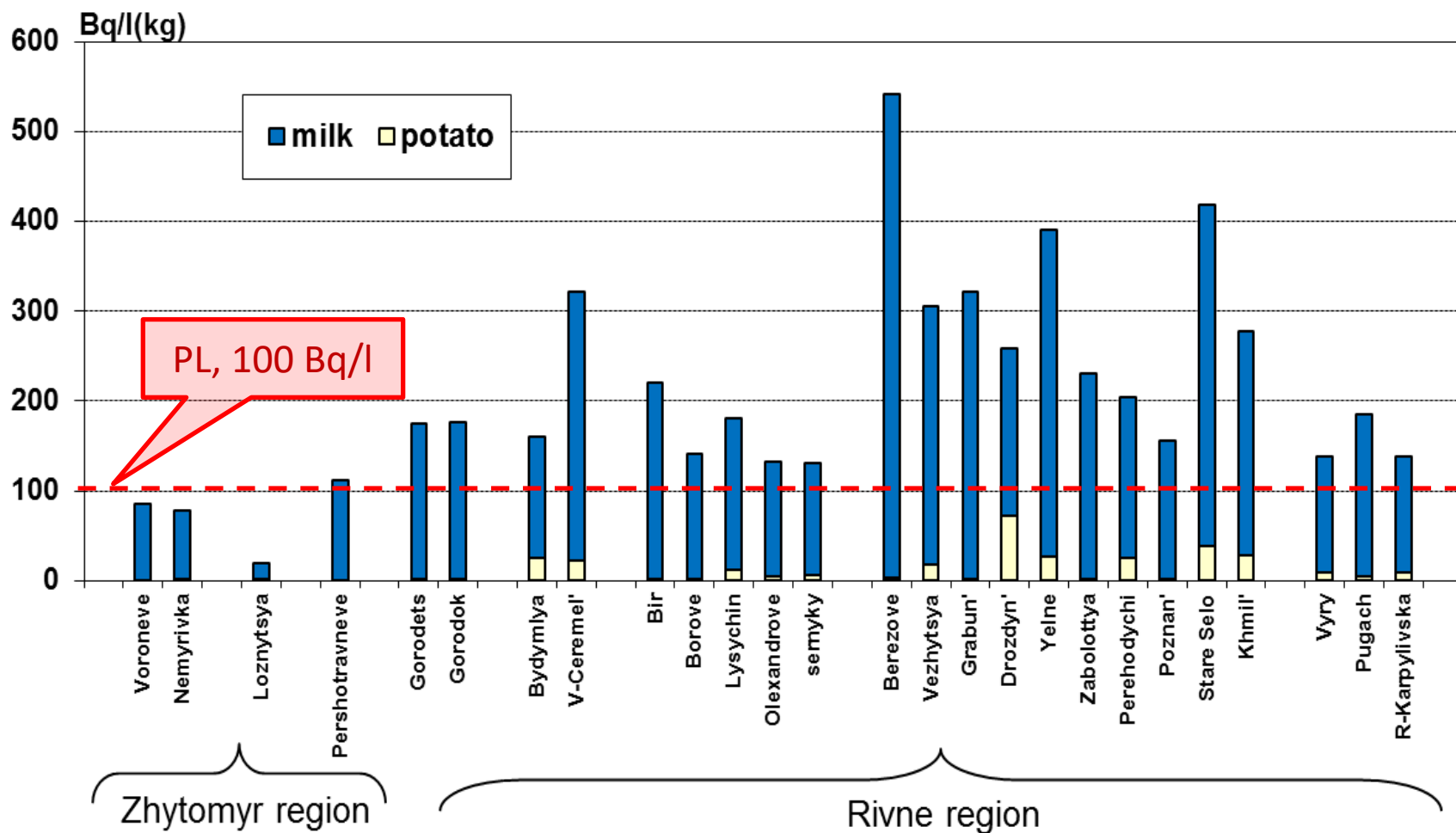
Distribution of settlements where ^{137}Cs activity in milk exceeds PL – 100 Bq/l



Values of the average annual effective dose to population (mSv) in the critical settlements of Zhytomyr and Rivne region (2012)

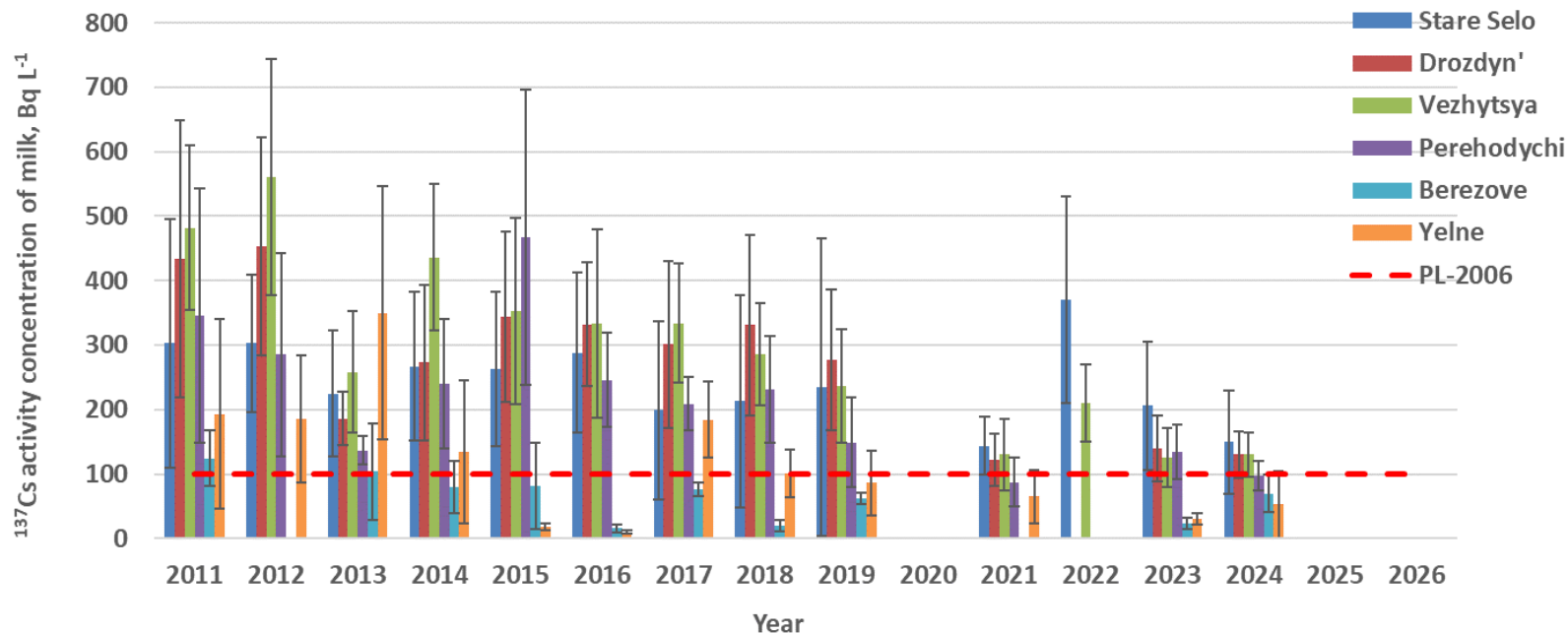


Average specific activities of ^{137}Cs in milk and potato (Bq L⁻¹ and Bq kg⁻¹), in the critical settlements of Zhytomyr and Rivne region (2012)



The dynamics of the milk contamination by ^{137}Cs which is produced in the private farms of the most critical settlements during the grazing period (arithmetic mean, standard deviation, $n > 10$) (UIAR, <http://www.uiar.org.ua/Eng/nine.htm>)

Stare Selo,
Oct 2024,
 ^{137}Cs , Bq/l



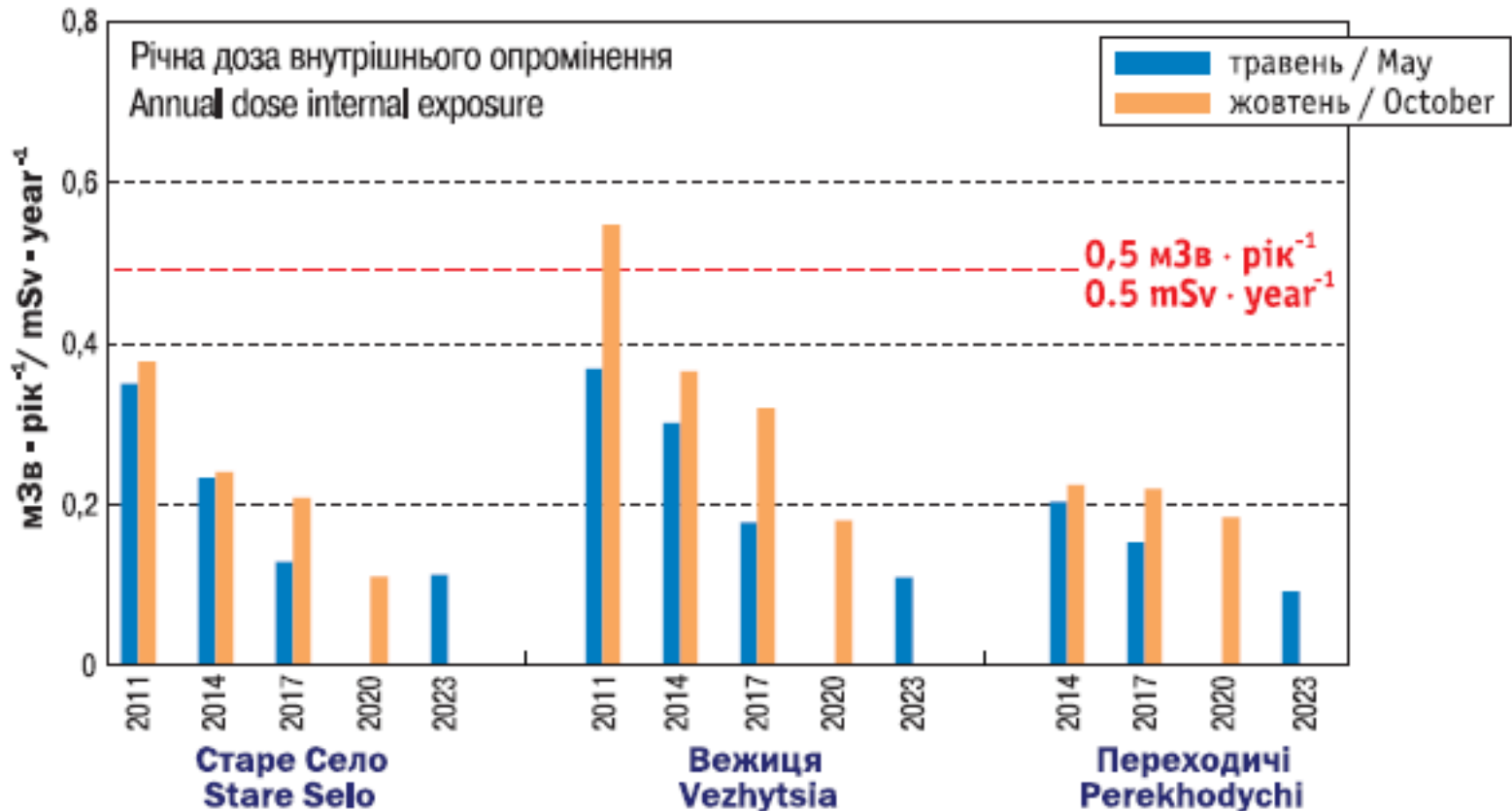
96
100
102
104
106
106
109
110
110
119
125
138
143
150
150
153
169
300
366

Settlement	Population	Children (% of population)	The number of cows in the village
Vezhitsa	1131	460 (41%)	330
Drozdyn'	2419	1077 (44%)	565
Stare Silo	3847	1627 (42%)	800



Vasylenko et al., 2025. Status and results of radiation-hygienic monitoring of settlements in radioactively contaminated areas of Ukraine at the current stage of the Chernobyl accident. *Problems of Radiation Medicine and Radiobiology*. 2025. 30, 143-159

<https://doi.org/10.33145/2304-8336-2025-30-143-159>



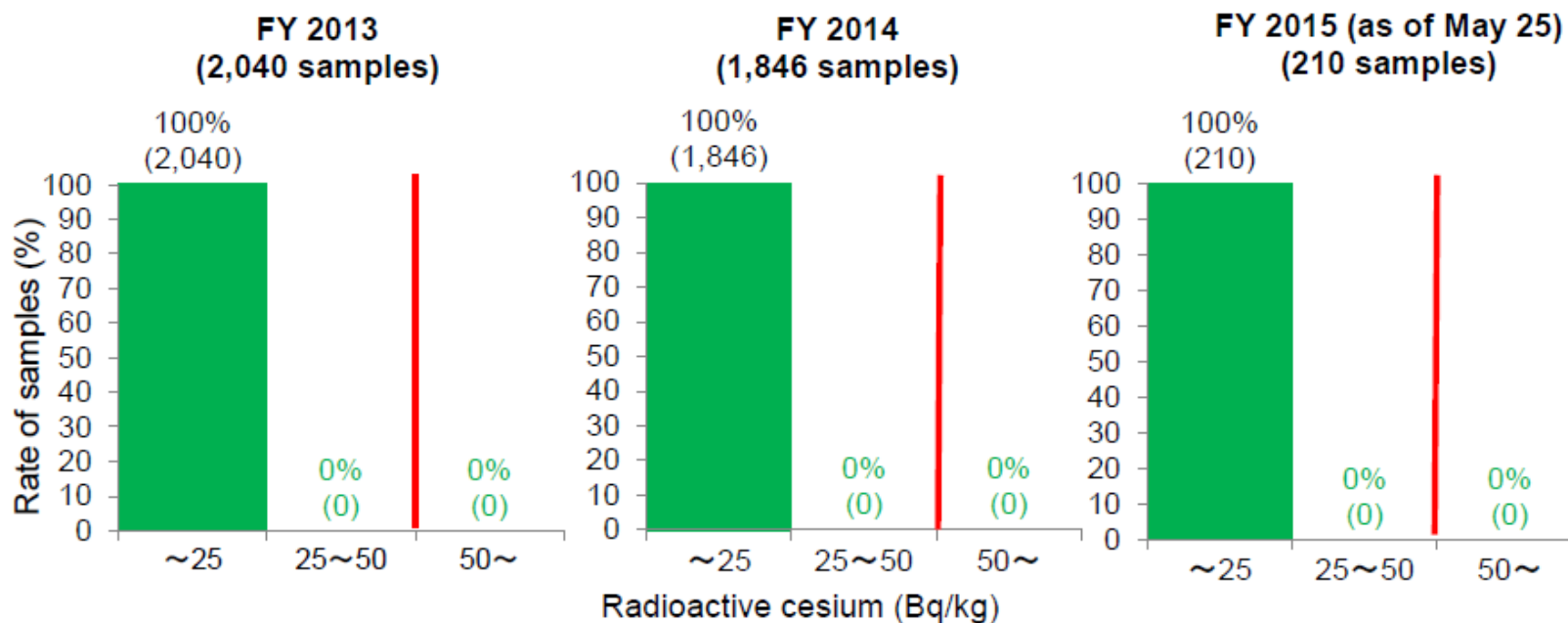
Average levels dynamics internal exposure residents of the selected settlements in the Rivne region during 2011–2023



Agricultural Measures for Reducing Radionuclide Contamination of Agricultural Products in Japan

Summary of measurements for radiocesium in raw milk

Although samples with radiocesium exceeding 50 Bq/kg were found in the aftermath of the accident, no samples have exceeded the limit since April 2011.



Notes:

- Numbers in parentheses are total numbers of samples tested in each fiscal year.
- Samples with values below limits of detection fall into the category of "~ 25 Bq/kg."



Monitoring of radioactive contamination of agricultural products

Ukrainian Institute of Agricultural Radiology

NUBiP of Ukraine <http://www.uiar.org.ua/>

Google x Ukrainian Institute of Agriculture X +

Не захищено www.uiar.org.ua/Eng/index.htm 90% ☆

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Ukrainian Research Institute for Agricultural Radiology (UIAR)

Radioactive contamination of foodstuff ^{137}Cs

Radioactive contamination of milk ^{137}Cs

Radioactive contamination of potato ^{137}Cs

Radioactive contamination of mushrooms ^{137}Cs

Radioactive contamination of berries ^{137}Cs

Radioactive contamination of corn ^{90}Sr

Dynamics of milk production in Ukraine, million tons

*(according to the Union of Dairy Enterprises of
Ukraine)*

Показник	2014 year	2024 year	2025 year	2026 year (prediction)
Total production	11,3	7,25	7,0	6,82
Including enterprises (%)	2,65 (23,8 %)	3,00 (41,4 %)	3,20 (45,7 %)	3,42 (50,2 %)
Households of the population (%)	8,49 (76,2 %)	4,25 (58,6 %)	3,80 (54,3 %)	3,40 (49,8 %)

Milk sales are the daily cash income of the population!

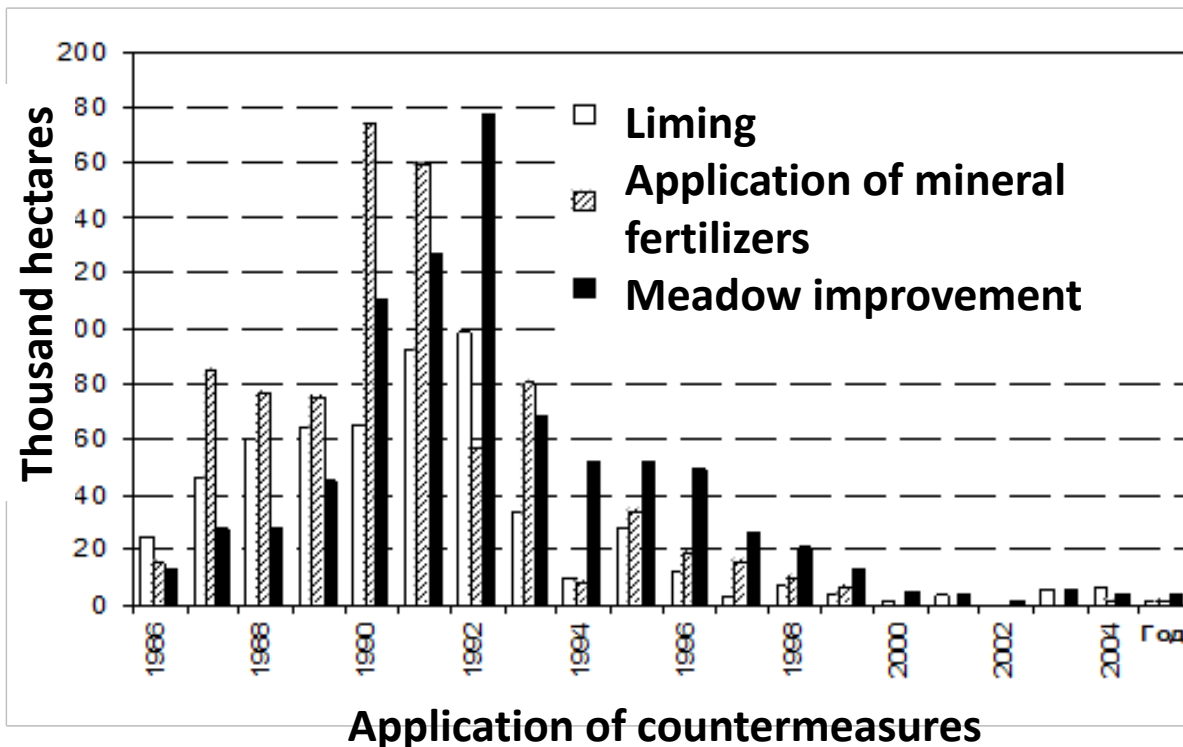
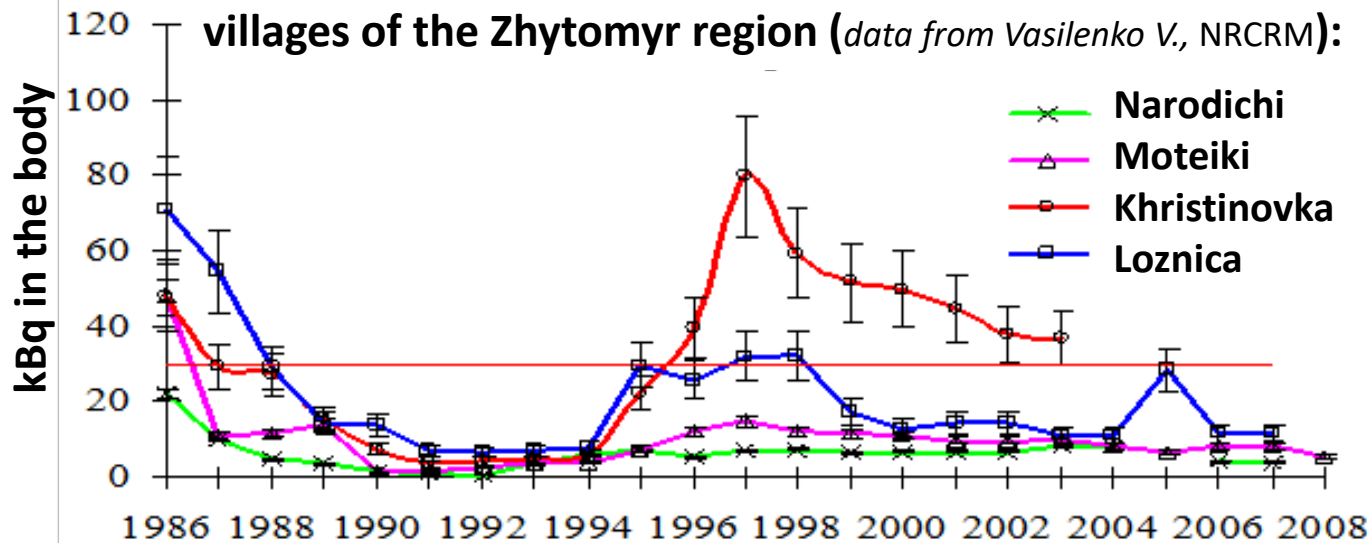


Summary of the reduction factors of different countermeasures used after Chernobyl

Countermeasure	^{137}Cs	^{90}Sr
Normal ploughing (first year)	2.5–4.0	
Skim and burial ploughing	8–16	
Liming	1.5–3.0	1.5–2.6
Application of mineral fertilisers	1.5–3.0	0.8–2.0
Application of organic fertilisers	1.5–2.0	1.2–1.5
Radical improvement:	1.5–9.0*	1.5–3.5
– First application	2.0–3.0	1.5–2.0
– Further applications		
Surface improvement:	2.0–3.0*	2.0–2.5
– First application	1.5–2.0	1.5–2.0
– Further applications		
Change in fodder crops	3–9	
Clean feeding	2–5 (time dependent)	2–5
Administration of Cs binders	3–5	-
Prussian Blue		
Clay mineral	2–3	-
Processing milk to butter	4–6	5–10
Processing rapeseed to oil	250	600



The average content of ^{137}Cs in the body of the population of the villages of the Zhytomyr region (*data from Vasilenko V., NRCRM*):



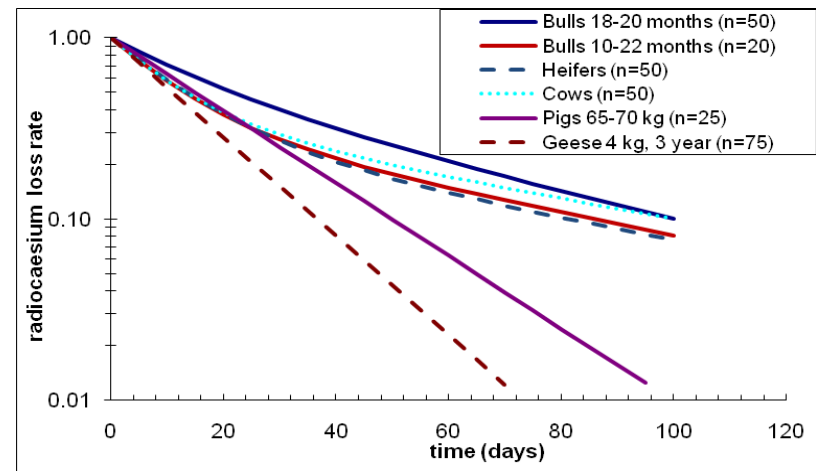
Animal-based countermeasures

Clean feeding (Astasheva et al., UIAR 1991)

The effective half-lives of ^{137}Cs in the muscle tissue $A(t)$, Bq/kg of animals (UIAR data):

$$A(t)/A(0) = a_1 \cdot \exp(-0.69 \cdot t / T_{1/2}) + a_2 \cdot \exp(-0.69 \cdot t / T_{2/2})$$

Animals	a1	T _{1/2} , day	a2	T _{2/2} , day
Bulls 18-20 months (n=50)	0.48±0.05	11±1	0.52±0.05	38±5
Bulls 10-12 months (n=20)	0.65	7.3	0.35	43
Heifers (n=50)	0.7±0.1	8.3±0.7	0.3±0.1	46±10
Cows (n=50)	0.63±0.05	7±2	0.37±0.05	48±5
Pigs 65-70 kg (n=25)			1	15±3
Geese 4 kg, 3 year (n=75)			1	11±2
Fish T=17-26 C Fish T=7-12 C				100±20 >300



Addition of hexacyanoferrate (also known as Prussian blue or ferrocyn: AFCF - $\text{NH}_4\text{Fe}[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$, KFCF - $\text{KFe}[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$, FCF- $\text{Fe}_4[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]_3$) to feedstuffs for animals

The average radiological efficiency of ferrocyn application during several years (Ukraine)

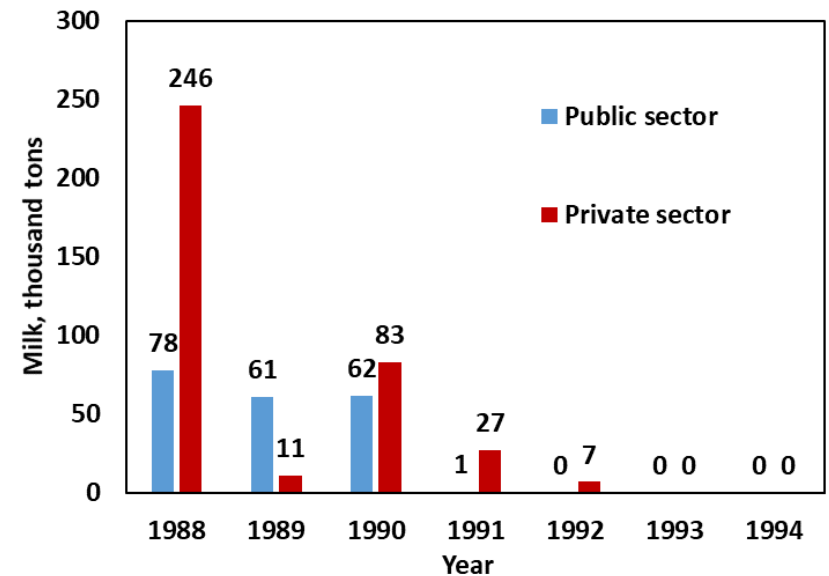
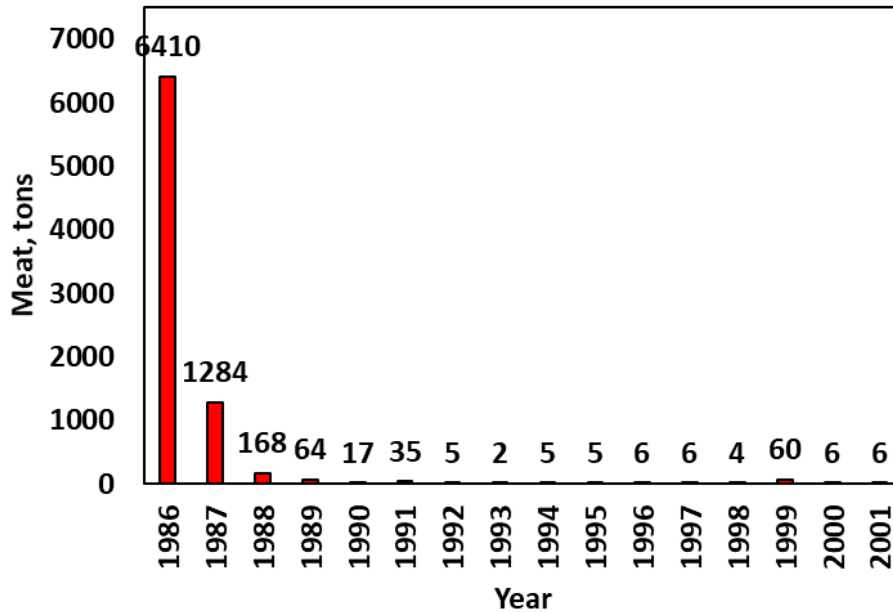
Year	Name of product	Efficiency (rate of milk contamination reduction)
1990-91	Prussian blue boli (Norway)	5-10
1992-94	Prussian blue boli (Ukraine)	2-4
1994	Prussian blue powder	2-5
1995-97	Prussian blue, salt briquettes	3-6
2004-2006	Prussian blue with mixed feed	3.4 ± 2.0

Processing factors (ratio of activity concentrations in the product after and before processing) for various foodstuffs

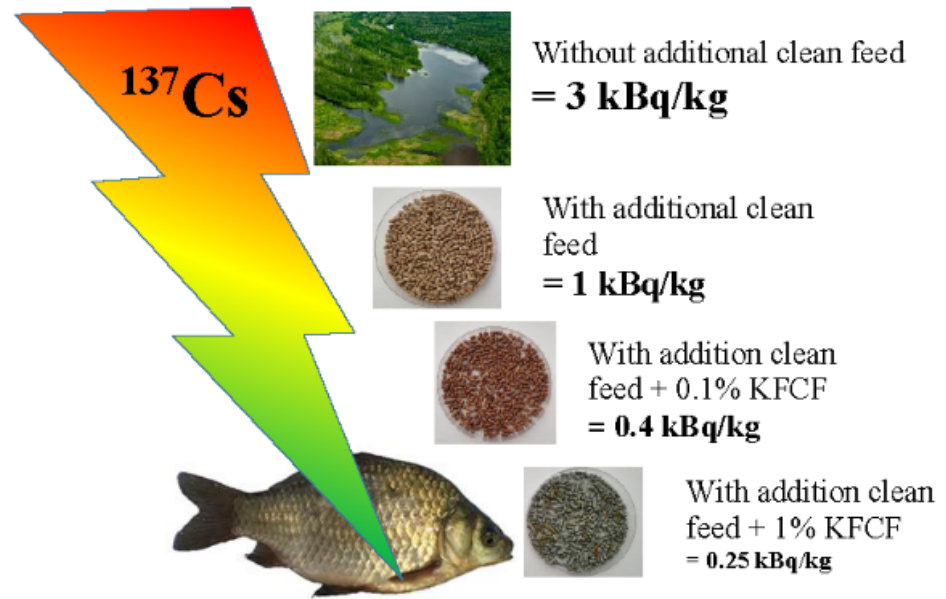
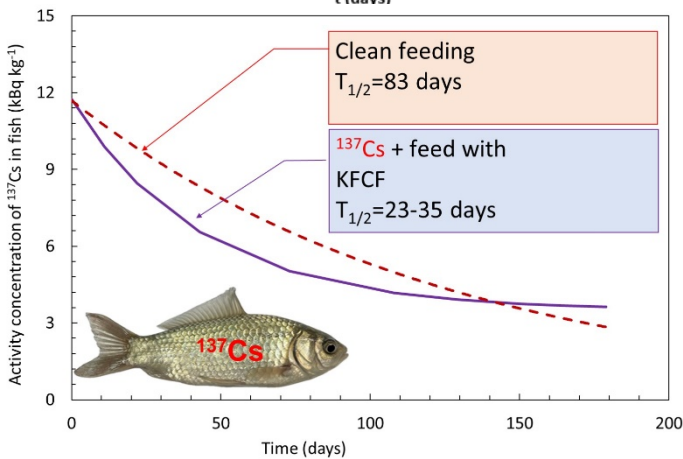
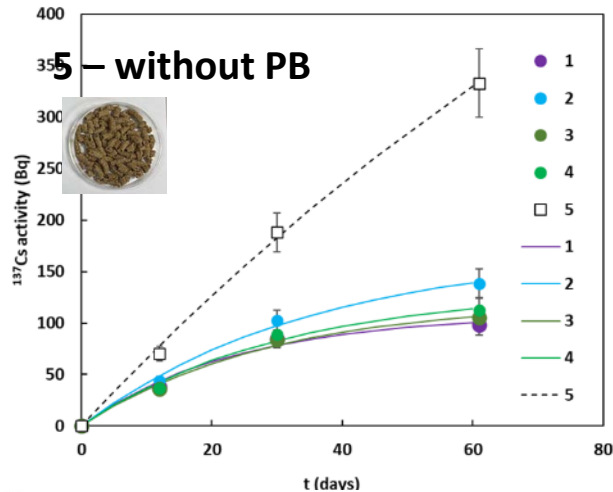
Countermeasure	^{137}Cs	^{90}Sr
Processing grain to flour	0.3-0.9	0.2-0.4
Processing grain to bran	3	3
Processing vegetables, berry and fruits to juice	0.4-1	0.01-0.5
Processing of beet to sugar	0.01-0.08	-
Processing of a potatoes to of starch	0.12-0.17	-
Boiling, soaking and pickling of mushrooms	0.1-0.3	-
Processing milk to butter	0.2-0.3	0.1-0.5
Processing rapeseed to oil	0.004	0.002



The supply of meat and milk to meat processing plants and dairies with radionuclide content exceeding permissible levels



Addition of hexacyanoferrate (also known as Prussian blue or ferrocyan: : AFCF - $\text{NH}_4\text{Fe}[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$, KFCF - $\text{KFe}[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$, FCF- $\text{Fe}_4[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]_3$) to feedstuffs for fish



^{137}Cs levels in all the caged fish except for the control group were below the European permissible level (600 Bq kg^{-1}) for consumption.

Unlike in mammals, the use of PB compounds in feed does not significantly reduce the resorption of radiocesium in the gut (by 1.4–1.8 times), but substantially reduces the effective half-life of ^{137}Cs activity in fish (from 100 to 16–28 days).



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Current radiological situation in areas of Ukraine contaminated by the Chernobyl accident: Part 1. Human dietary exposure to Caesium-137 and possible mitigation measures

I. Labunskaa^{a,*}, V. Kashparov^{b,c}, S. Levchuk^b, D. Santillo^a, P. Johnston^a, S. Polishchuk^b, N. Lazarev^b, Y. Khomutinin^b

Dubrovysya district

*Bydymlya
V-Ceremel'*

Sarny district

*Vyry
Pugach*

R-Karpylivska

Rokytne district

Stare Selo

Drozdyn'

Vezhytsya

Perehodychi

Berezove

Yelne

Grabun'

Zabolottya

Khmil'



The total costs of such measures are estimated to be about **71,000 Euro per year** for the combined population (8336 inhabitants) of the six villages investigated



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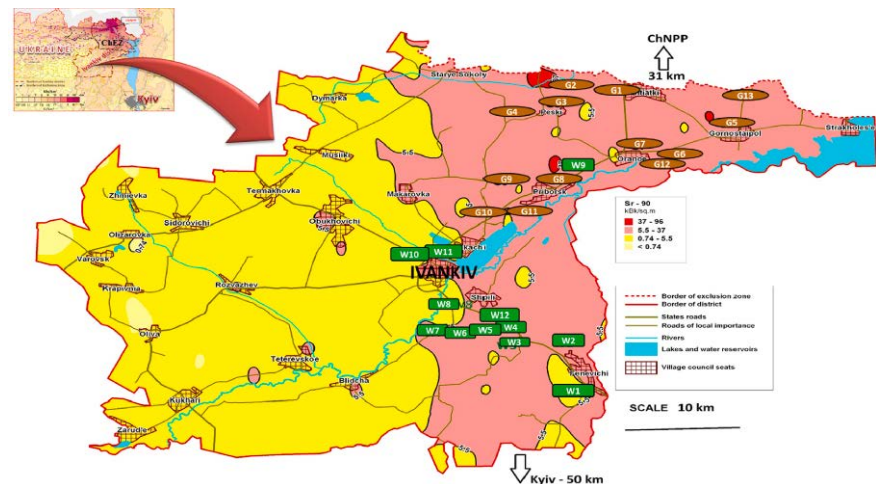
Environment International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Current radiological situation in areas of Ukraine contaminated by the Chernobyl accident: Part 2. Strontium-90 transfer to culinary grains and forest woods from soils of Ivankiv district

I. Labunskaa^{a,*}, S. Levchuk^b, V. Kashparov^{b,c}, D. Holiaka^b, L. Yoschenko^b, D. Santillo^a, P. Johnston^a



Reaction in the world and Ukraine

- <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/milk-radioactive-cow-ukraine-healthy-dairy-safe-chernobyl-a8388576.html>
- <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/08/world/europe/chernobyl-nuclear-disaster-radiation-milk.html>
- <https://www.itv.com/news/2018-06-08/villages-in-ukraine-still-suffering-chernobyl-fallout-after-30-years-study>



The New York Times

Decades Later and Far Away, Chernobyl Disaster Still Contaminates Milk

Share full article



Villages in Ukraine still suffering Chernobyl fallout after 30 years – study

Friday 8 June 2018 at 10:00am



In the first years after the accident, a significant part of UIAR efforts was devoted to the practical works, which were directly related to the elimination of the accident consequences and fulfilling of the on-line tasks of the Government. In that period, we elaborated :

- *the express-method for estimation of the radioactive contamination of the agricultural areas that enabled to survey in the short terms the whole territory of Ukraine, to map the contamination of the agricultural lands and to abandon agriculture in the most contaminated places;*
- *program of the farms re-profiling in the contaminated territory;*
- *method of deactivation of the homestead lands;*
- *radiological passport of the agricultural enterprise.*

Also we carried out the radiation expertise of forage and exported agricultural production. Due to the valuable input of our scientists, **radiological situation in agriculture in Ukraine in 1990 was stabilized.**

The scientists of UIAR have published since the accident more than 1000 scientific works including about 100 methods, recommendations, and proposals for organization of agriculture in the radioactive contaminated territories. These proposals have been implemented in the practical work of the divisions of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine and of the radiological services at the levels of regions, districts and farms. The concept of the agricultural production in the contaminated territory of Ukraine has been developed for the period till 2010, as well as the programs of rehabilitation of the abandoned territories etc. For the most critical settlements, the technical projects were proposed, which would guarantee the manufacture of the production satisfying the acting standards.



Radiological examination of agricultural lands taken out of economic use in the Zhytomyr region

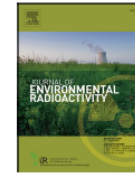
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A protocol for the radiological assessment for agricultural use of land in Ukraine abandoned after the Chernobyl accident

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Conclusions, Problems, Recommendations

- Currently there are no problems with radioactive contamination of agricultural products;
- About 20 thousand hectares of land require legislative return to economic use;
- There is a real threat of loss of knowledge and expertise in agricultural radiology;
- There is no state support for scientific research and training of young specialists.



УКРАИНСКИЙ ФИЛИАЛ ВОСХОДНОГО НАУЧНО-ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬНОГО
ИНСТИТУТА СЕЛЬСКОХОЗЯЙСТВЕННОЙ РАДИОЛОГИИ

П Р И К А З

_____ июня 1986года _____ М Т ДС

вступления в должность директора
Украинского филиала ВНИИСУР.

Во исполнение приказа Государственного агропромышленного
института СССР от 3 июня 1986года № 254 создан Украинский филиал
восточного научно-исследовательского института сельскохозяйственной
радиологии, который размещен в пос. Чапаев Каменно-Сыктывинского у-на
везской области.

На основании приказа Госагропрома СССР от 19 июня 1986года
065 ДС и приказа ВНИИСУР от 25 июня 1986года вступая в должность
директора Украинского филиала восточного научно-исследовательского
института сельскохозяйственной радиологии - заместителя директора
ВНИИСУР с заработной платой 650 /шестьсот пятьдесят/ рублей в месяц
в порядке перевода из ВНИИСУР.

Директор Украинского
филиала ВНИИСУР : *Левченко* Н.А. ЛЕВЧЕНКО

Исполнитель: Куравель И.И.



Дякую за увагу
Thank you very much for your attention

