

## ON PELVIS MORPHOMETRY OF THE ROOT VOLE *MICROTUS OECONOMUS* (PALLAS, 1776)

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**Summary.** The aim of this study was to assess pelvis morphometry in the root vole (*Microtus oeconomus*) and to test if pelvis measurements or indices differ depending on vole sex, age and, particularly in females, breeding history. After measuring the length of the ischium (P1), the greatest length of the pubis (P2) and the width of the pubis (P3) in 445 vole individuals trapped in 2004–2008 in Lithuania, it was found that the most significant differences in the pelvis between males and females of *M. oeconomus* were in adult animals. The main sex-related difference in the pelvis of these voles was the width of the pubis. In all age groups of males, index P1/P2 was higher compared to females, while P1/P3 and P2/P3 were statistically significantly lower ( $P < 0.05$ ). After puberty, the width of the pubis gained almost 3-fold increase in males, while in females it remained the same. According to parousity, the length of the ischium and the greatest pelvis length were growing in the following order: nulliparous < primigravid < primiparous < multiparous females (differences not significant). The width of the pubis and index P1/P2 did not change. Differences in indices P1/P3 and P2/P3 were statistically significant between nulliparous and primiparous females.

**Key words:** root vole, *Microtus oeconomus*, pelvis morphometry.