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N. A. Filippova: Iksodovye kleshchi podsem. Ixodinae (Ixodid ticks of the subfamily Ixodinae). *Fauna SSSR, vol. IV, No. 4, Publ. House Nauka, Leningrad 1977, 396 pp., 221 Figs., 106 Tables. Price 4.32 R.*

Due to their medical importance, studies on ticks in the Soviet Union have a long tradition lasting several decades. Scores of papers dealing with this group of parasitic arthropods from most different aspects are published annually. A single species, *Ixodes persulcatus*, has been dealt with in over 2,000 papers because of its epidemiologic importance. A far less attention has been paid to the problems of tick taxonomy, although the correct identification of material is the first pre-requisite for its further investigation and evaluation. Likewise, it is impossible to characterize the tick fauna of a certain natural focus, if its representatives in all phases of development are not discerned. The classical monograph of Pomerantsev (1950) could not

fully satisfy the present needs of Soviet acarology any longer. The task of compiling anew and on an up-to-date level this group of parasitic arthropods for the series *Fauna of the USSR* was undertaken by N. A. Filippova, the outstanding specialist in the taxonomy of Ixodoidea, whose work of many years' standing in this scientific field is world known and appreciated. Due to large material the said volume covers only members of the subfamily Ixodinae, represented by the genus *Ixodes*.

The author first deals with the external structure of ticks. According to the uniform scheme she discusses the character of idiosoma, gnathosoma and legs separately for females, males, nymphs and larvae, paying attention not