

Discover the Fauna of Our Campus

Aphid

Order: Hemiptera

Sub-order: Homoptera

Genus: Aphidoidea



Family: Aphididae

"Manana" (or sometimes known locally as the "Manana Steppe") is an interesting and unique natural area located in the northwestern region of Azerbaijan, specifically within the Gazakh and Aghstafa districts. The Manana Plain is situated on the right bank of the Kura River, in a zone close to the Georgian border. It primarily possesses a dry-steppe climate. Summer months are quite hot and arid, while the winter is mild. This climate type has directly influenced the formation of the area's

vegetation.

Although the nature of Manana may seem simple at first glance, it is actually rich in terms of biodiversity. Wormwood and saline pastures predominate in the area. This makes it an indispensable wintering ground. Along with rodents, reptiles, and wild birds, predators such as wolves and foxes are also found on the plain. It is considered one of the historical habitats of gazelles. The Manana Steppe holds strategic importance for Azerbaijan's agriculture, especially livestock breeding. Shepherds from the lowlands and mountainous regions (such as Gadabay and Dashkasan) bring their herds to this plain during the winter months. Because snow cover is minimal here, conditions remain for the animals to graze. As a result of land reclamation work carried out in recent years, a portion of the area has also been made suitable for farming. In the local dialect, the word "Manana" is also a symbol of vastness and boundlessness. In the folklore of Gazakh-Aghstafa, there are various legends, shepherd songs, and folk poems related to this plain. It is also viewed as a symbol of endurance and simplicity.