Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 9, 04089, 2007 SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU2007-A-04089 © European Geosciences Union 2007



Once more mistery of the Tunguska event?

E.A. Kasatkina (1), O.I. Shumilov (1), P.E. Aspholm (2) and N.V. Lukina (3) (1) Institute of North Industrial Ecology Problems, Kola Science Center RAS, 184209 Apatity, Russia (oleg@aprec.ru), (2) Soil and Environment Department, Bioforsk, Svanhovd, Norway, (3) Centre for Forest Ecology and Productivity RAS, 117997 Moscow, Russia

Among some mysteries of the Tunguska event an important role plays the cause of the accelerated tree growth after 1908 in the catastrophe area (about 2000-2500 km²). The main explanation was that an accelerated growth of old trees was a result of decrease of the level of competition due to falling of considerable part of neubour trees. We analyzed all available tree ring records (more than 100) including our own ones collected in the Taymir region of Northern Siberia (72N; 105E) at a distance of about 1500 km to the North from the Tunguska catastrophe epicenter (61N; 102E). It was found that there a considerable increase of tree ring growth in 1908 over a vast area of Siberia (60N-75N; 80E-110E) that at much more vast area (10³ times more) than had been earlier considered. The similar effect was detected after the Chulym bolide explosion in 1984 (57.7N; 85.1E). Of course, the Chulym forest response area was some smaller taking into account incomparable powers of Tunguska and Chulym events). It is obvious that the above mentioned interpretation of tree growth observed too far from epicenter could hardly be accepted. More likely the tree growth was stimulated by the cometary matter spreaded over a large territory of Eurasia and introduced into soil. It is generally believed that meteorites and comets delivered large amounts of organic to the early Earth. Another hypothesis is connected to NO produced during the event analyzed. We discuss as well the role of 'small signals' in simulation of biological object response.

The work was supported by a grant from the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (grant N 05-04-97528), by the Program 'Biodiversity and dynamics of gene pool' of the Russian Academy and by the Regional Scientific Program of the Murmansk region.