5 Sika Deer Manchurian – *Cervus nippon*

*Cervus nippon* Temminck, 1838.
Artiodactyla, Cervidae, Cervinae

5.1 Status and Distribution (Fig. 5.1)

5.1.1 Taxonomic Remarks

Only *C. n. hortulorum* Swinhoe, 1864 (Far East) was found (Heptner 1989). It inhabits a natural range and has been introduced into the European part of the former USSR.

5.1.2 Status

In Russia, in its natural range, sika deer is decreasing in number and its hunting is banned. In the European part of the former USSR, it is bred for game and used for sport hunting (Bannikov and Pivovarova 1983; Makovkin 1999; Rozhnov 2001).

5.1.3 Distribution (Figs. 5.2 and 5.3)

**Distribution Area.** Ca. 102,000 km² (original range).

**Occurrence in Ecoregions.** Warm Continental Regime Mountains (M212) (natural); Warm Continental (212), Prairie (252), Prairie Regime Mountains (M252) (acclimatized).
Fig. 5.1. Sika deer

Fig. 5.2. *Cervus nippon*. Distribution map in the Far East (Makovkin 1999). A local populations; B cities; 1 Askold Island; 2 Lazovsky Nature Reserve; 3 Sikhote-Alinsky Nature Reserve