## Life in the deep

In summer 2010, a Spanish-Russian expedition got into the deepest cave in the world to study its fauna. They discovered four new species of springtails. Two have become in the deepest known terrestrial arthropods.



KRUBERA-VORONYA CAVE Previous record Species discovered in Entrance (1986)Krubera-Voronja (2010) Two species were 0 found at less depth: 15 m Deuteraphorura kruberaensis 70 m Anurida stereoodorata Arthropod in a Picos de Europa' cave (Asturias, Spain) in metres 500 550 m Along the path set traps to catch small **Ongulonychiurus** animals colpus 1.000 2,9 mm Actual size Places where springtails were found 1.500 Yellowish Without eyes, 1.600 m or only one Schaefferia profundissima (-) Actual size 1 mm 2.000 1.980 m Plutomurus ortobalaganensis Adaptations to darkness: 2.140 metros: New depth record Long antennae, beginning of the No 2.191 m flood zone, end powerful chemical eves Breathe through their skin of the expedition detectors Dark pigmentation: exceptional in cave animals Feed on fungi growing on organic debris Six legs Furca: appendage with which jump Ventral tube: produces a sticky fluid Actual size

with digestive and cleaning functions

4 mm