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### Meteorite News

**The Chelyabinsk meteorite.** Information about new findings of this meteorite is still received. Open season starts with spring. Every spring defrosted land of the South Urals is undergone to purposeful or accidental fire that is favorable to the prospect. We have found seven fragments of the meteorite of 6 to 40 g in weight from the dumps of the Baturino coal mine close to the Emanzhelinsk town. It should be noted the rather fresh appearance of the meteorite fragments two years after the meteorite strike. The substantial oxidation of sulfides (troilite) and iron is absent. They were not submerged into the soil or forest floor and therefore are well seen over a distance up to dozen meters. In these places, locals using mobile tool as plough up to three meters in width equipped with mounted magnets visit already known localities and frequently collect up to 100 g of fine fragments (1–23 g) per day. Sure, it is business, but collectors share their observations providing important information about expansion of meteorite rain and its intensity in various parts of the strike area.

Larger fragments of the Chelyabinsk meteorite were found in the vicinity of the Pervomaisky settlement and south-west of the Arkhangelsky settlement. In the vicinity of Arkhangelsky, the traces of meteor rain were found only one year after strike and therefore, in this locality, meteorites up to 200 g in weight are frequently found. For the year, about 15 kg of fragments of 20 to 200 g in weight were collected in these localities. Small samples became much rarer.

Meteorite amateurs were more successful south of the Arkhangelsky settlement. Two large well preserved items (467 and

433 g) have been found on the skirts of birch forests. Larger sample was broken into three fragments. Structure of massive chondrite with abundant inclusions of native iron and troilite is seen on the fracture face.

The length of territory where meteorite rain was fallen could be corrected owing to the new findings east of the Aleksandrovka settlement close to the Kartaban Lake. It is more than 100 km (80 km was previously published). In this locality, meteorite fragments up to 40 g in weight were found.

At present, the estimated number of meteorite fragments slightly higher than half of million and their total weight of one metric ton in not changed without considering the largest fragment of 654 kg risen from the bottom of the Chebarkul Lake. The weight of the four largest fragments found since the meteor strike is 24, 7, 5.5. and 3.4 kg.

**Kunashak meteorite.** In 2014, enthusiasts of Chelyabinsk found separate fragment of meteorite of 2.5 kg in weight. It was found on the pasture field one kilometer east of the Kainkul Lake in the Kunashak district, Chelyabinsk oblast. Summer 2015, these enthusiasts investigated the northern locality of meteorite track reported by E.L. Krinov. July 5, one more meteorite fragment of 1 kg in weight was found at the depth of 5–7 cm using metal detector on the pasture field 2 km north of the Druzhny settlement. It is rounded slightly elongated with size of 12 x 8.5 x 7 cm. The structure of this chondrite is seen on the natural fracture face. The meteorite is exhibited in the Chelyabinsk State Local History Museum.

**Chinge meteorite.** August 2015, the Meteorite expedition of the Central Siberian Geological Museum, Siberian Branch,



1. **Chelyabinsk meteorite.**  
Weight 433 g.  
Arkhangelsky settlement,  
Chelyabinsk Oblast, Russia.  
Found in 2015.

**Photo:**  
**S.V. Kolisnichenko.**

2. **Kunashak meteorite.**  
Weight 1000 g,  
12 x 8.5 x 7 cm.  
Found by Marina V.  
Il'icheva. July 5, 2015  
2 km north of the Druzhniy  
settlement, Chelyabinsk  
Oblast, Russia.