

## Ch 14.1 Notes

### ■ Physical Geography of Eurasia

#### ■ The Land

# Plains Area

- *The North European Plain*
  - center of economic life for  $\frac{3}{4}$  people
  - Chernozem – rich black topsoil
    - Europe's best farmland - Ukraine



# Major cities in N. European Plain

## ■ 3 large cities

■ Moscow

■ St. Petersburg

■ Kiev



# Major rivers in N. European Plain

- Volga
- Dniester
- Dnieper
- Don



# *West Siberian Plain*

- E. of Ural Mts.
- 1 million sq. mi.
- Swamps, marshes and frozen land
  - Not good for ag
- Evergreen and swamps cover N. 2/3rds



# *Turan Lowland*

- Between Caspian Sea & Tian Shan Mt. range
  - Kums – desert areas covered in sand dunes



# Kara kum - Turkmenistan

## ■ Black Sand desert



# Kyzylkum – Uzbekistan

■ Red sand desert





# Mountains and Plateaus

- *Alpine system of Europe*
  - Carpathian
  - Caucasus
  - covered with trees



# Caucasus Mts.

- Borders Azerbaijan and Georgia
- Mt. Elbrus



# *Pamirs*

- Borders Eastern Tajikistan
- Communism Peak  
24, 590 ft.



# *Tian Shan- “heavenly mts.” in Chinese*

- Kyrgyzstan
- Some of the world's largest glaciers



# *Ural Mts.*

- 1,500 miles
- Divides European and Siberian Russia/Asia
- Shortened due to streams and wind erosion



# *Eastern Siberian Uplands*

- Largest region of Siberia
- forests, mts., plateaus
- Extends to Pacific Ocean



# Central Siberian Plateau

- Between Yenisey and Lena River





# Seas and Lakes

## ■ *Northern Russia*

### ■ Barents & E. Siberian Sea

■ Ice covered most of year

### ■ Bearing & Okhotsk





# Seas and Lakes

## ■ Bearing & Okhotsk



# *S. Russia*

## ■ Black Sea

- Warm water
- Flows into the Mediterranean Sea through the Dardanelles



# *Middle Russia*

## ■ Caspian Sea

- Largest inland body of water
- salt water lake
- Shrinking due to less incoming water

## ■ Aral Sea

- Shrinking due to irrigation and poor government laws preventing it



# Siberia

- Lake Baikal
  - Oldest and deepest in world
  - 1/5 earth's total freshwater



# Rivers

## ■ *Long and navigable*

### ■ East flowing

■ Amur

### ■ South flowing

■ Ural & Volga

### ■ North flowing

■ Lena, Ob, Yenisey

■ Frozen much of year



# Volga River

## ■ Longest in European Russia

- 2,193 mi. long
- empties into Caspian Sea
- Frozen 4-6 months

## ■ Resource

- Hydroelectric power
- municipal water supply
- industries & irrigation
- trade & communication





# *Siberian Rivers*

## ■ Amur

- only one that doesn't flow North
- only major food producing area in E. Siberia

## ■ 4 Siberian rivers among 12 longest in World

- Lena, Ob, Yenisey, & Irtysh



# Natural Resources

## ■ *Rich in natural resources*

- Largest producer of manganese & chromium
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest producer of gold
- Coal & Lignite – Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine together have 20% of world's supply
- Tyumen oil field produces more oil in a day other than the U.S. or Saudi Arabia



# *Minerals & Energy*

- Leads in coal, copper, silver
- 2<sup>nd</sup> in gold, lead, salt, tin, tungsten and zinc
- Other minerals – iron ore, nickel, asbestos, chromium, bauxite, antimony, manganese, precious stones
- Turkmenistan has world's largest deposit of sulfur and sodium sulfate
- Gas & oil in nearly all republics
- Hydroelectric power – lead the world in production

# Minerals & Energy



- |             |            |             |          |
|-------------|------------|-------------|----------|
| al          | I Iron ore | ⊗ Manganese | ● Copper |
| ite         | ● Nickel   | ◻ Tungsten  | ▲ Lead   |
| roleum      | ▲ Chromium | ◆ Platinum  | ◻ Zinc   |
| natural gas | + Bauxite  | ◻ Gold      | ▼ Tin    |

# ***Soils, Forests, Wildlife, & Fish***

## ■ **Black Earth Belt**

- Ukraine to SW Siberia
- Chernozem – in Ukraine made it the bread basket of the USSR
- leading producer of wheat, rye, oats, barley, and sugar beets

## ■ **Forestland**

- Belarus –  $\frac{1}{4}$  covered in hardwood forest
  - *$\frac{1}{5}$  world's lumber supply*

# E. Siberia

- Siberian Tiger – endangered



■ Other wildlife – bear, fox, reindeer, elk, lynx, deer, wolf, wildcat, sable, boar

## ■ Fish

■ Salmon

■ Barents Sea – herring, cod, halibut

■ Caspian Sea – carp, sturgeon