

## PROMEMORIA



Academician SLAVKO BOROJEVIĆ (1999 – 2009)

Only brave, superior and intelligent person is able, after own experience in II World War, all his energy use to create future for his country through the education of young people to live better life. He enrolled the Agricultural-Forestry University of Zagreb, where he studied until 1941, and after brake due to the War he graduated during 1947. Prof. Alois Tavčar, well known scientist in the field of genetics at the international level, recognized his prominent interest in science and gave him chance to join Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb by giving him staff position as assistant in Genetics. His PhD thesis entitled "Heterosis in rye produced by crossing local populations and cultivars" was good background to become Rockefeller foundations fellowship holder in the field of wheat genetics and breeding. Knowledge he lunched in general and particularly wheat genetics he apply to establish scientific project in the field of plant genetics and breeding in his own country, mainly at the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad. As University professor, Slavko Borojević took part in the education of agronomists, teaching in the programme of master and PhD studies, including education of the students from many foreign countries. He is coauthor of book „Genetics“ (the 1968, 1971 and 1976 editions) used as textbook at the universities in the former Yugoslavia. He is the author of the book „Principles and methods of plant breeding“ (Novi Sad, 1981 and 1992 editions). That book used both as the textbook as well as the manual for selection, by many scientists and experts, has been translated into Russian - Kolos, Moscow during 1984 and edited in English by Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company, Amsterdam during 1990.

The results of his research were published in 140 scientific and professional papers, 30 of which in international journals. As invited speaker he gave 30 lectures at the scientific and professional meetings in the country and abroad. In the part of his breeding occupation, together with his associates he created a selection of 54 winter wheat cultivars insensitive to fotoperiodism and 120 varieties of winter wheat having yield capacity over 10 t / ha.

We will give only one but very illustrative case of the winter wheat variety „Sava“, because scientific team has been for a long period during the selection of this variety sceptic due to its very small grains. It came out that „Sava“ was recognized as the highest yielding wheat variety after international trials organized in 33 locations in the world by Dr. Virgil Johnson, USA, in the period between 1971-1973. Winter wheat varieties created at the Novi Sad University are recognized and cultivated in many countries all around the world. Another not less important result of himself and his team of scientists is gene bank of winter wheat, which is still successfully used in the selection by Institutes around the world. During Fifth international wheat conference in Ankara in 1996, Warren Kronstad (USA), stated that Nazareno Strampelli was the first to apply Japanese cultivar Akakomughi for shortening the stem and increasing productivity per unit area, followed by Orville Vogel from Washington State (USA), and as the third person to contribute, Kronstad points out Slavko Borojevic and his wheat selection school. We are honored to dedicate to Profesor Slavko Borojević this issue of our Scientific Journal GENETIKA who used to be member of its Editorial Board. As Agrifaculty Dean and Rector of the Novi Sad University he left obligation to all forcoming students to work for the benefit of own country.

Belgrade, 2009.

Editorial Board