

TRIBUT TO DR. ING. TEODOR MARUȘCA, ON THE AGE OF 75 YEARS

In this year Dr. ing. Teodor MARUȘCA, one of the founder member of our society, reached the age of 75 years. He was born in August 17, 1941 in Pădurea Craiului Mountains, a place not far away from Crișul Repede Defile, in the older village called Zece Hotare which belong to Șuncuiuș commune, Bihor County, whose parents and grandparents were farmers and miners.

He spent his childhood in Banat, in Peciu Nou and Jebel commune, from Timiș County. After graduation of general school he followed the courses of Școala Medie no. 5, the ex-highschool "Victor Babeș" from Timișoara and The Faculty of Agriculture from the Agronomic Institute placed in the same city.

From the first year of college he was guided by the professors George BUJOREAN and Stere GRIGORE from the discipline of Botany and plant physiology where he wrote the diploma paper entitled "*Flora and vegetation of grassland from Jebel and Sânmihaiul Român and possibilities to improve them*". With this paper he won in the year 1964 the third place on a national contest called The festival of biology and agriculture scientific circles for students held on Babeș – Bolyai university from Cluj.

After his assignment in production in Banat region he occupied the positions of chief of brigade, farm chief and engineer on GAS Grădinarii (ex Cacova) from Oravița, the actual County Caraș Severin, until the year 1967.

In a context of favourable circumstances he occupied the position of geobotanist on the geological Committee from Bucharest. The minister of agriculture from that time Prof. Nicolae GIOSAN, which had to signed for its transfer proposed him a job in agricultural research. He started to work on Agricultural Research Station Măgurele – Brașov in the year 1967, on the Laboratory for grassland, hay meadows and forage plants under the guideless of Dr. ing. Klaus NIEDERMAIER – chief laboratory.

In the year 1969, the director of ICCPT Fundulea Prof. Tiberiu MUREȘAN proposed and send him for 8 months in a specialization trip to Switzerland on The federal and agricultural research from Lausanne, Changins – Nyon, with the topic "*Pastoral systems in mountain area, forage production and altitude agriculture*" under the guideless of Dr. ing. Jan CAPUTA, the founder and first president of FAO group for mountain grassland from Europe.

Short time after his return to our country in the year 1970 the Central station for grassland crop research Măgurele – Brașov raised up, institution where Teodor MARUȘCA held the position of scientific secretary and laboratory chief until the year 1977. In this period of time he followed Phd on IANB Bucharest, Faculty of Horticulture, under the guideless of Prof. Gheorghe ANGHEL, with the thesis entitled "*The geobotany and tipological study of nardus grassland from Brașov County*" and graduated in the year 1982.

In other complex of circumstances Teodor MARUȘCA left temporary the activity of research and works on IAS Prejmer, where he was in charge with the grassland base and chemical sector in the 1978 – 1987, after that he returned to research on SCCES Perieni – Vaslui and after the year 1990 to the Institute of Montanology Sibiu. From the year 1995 he was rehired to the Institute for research-development of grassland culture place where we find him today as general director from 7 years now.

From this long and vast activity developed on over 55 years he published almost 650 national and international from which 30 books and brochures, 225 scientific papers and 390 popularization papers, which covers a vast area of academic disciplines:

- *Botany, geobotany, grassland typology, ecological mountain gradient;*
- *Genetic resources amelioration, the study and test of grass and legumes seeds from grassland;*
- *Environmental protection thru biological and biotechnics means, soil erosion fight, ecological reconstruction of grassland and degraded soil;*
- *Improving grassland thru fight against weeds, organic and chemical fertilization, amendment, over seeding, sowing;*
- *Using grasslands, conveyors for grazing, animal behaviour, animal production yield, milk cows to pasture and live weight gain, economic efficiency etc.*

In addition to actual research and production, he taught for almost 20 years (1996 – 2015) as associated professor courses of "General agriculture" and "Animal nutrition" on the Faculty of Silviculture from Transilvania University from Brașov.

As gratitude for his work, Teodor MARUSCA received the Medal "Agriculture merit" in 1974 and was honoured with the following prizes: *Ion Ionescu de la Brad* (2010) of The Romanian Academy, Bucharest; *Teodor Bălănică* (2010) - AOȘ-R Bucharest; *Iuliu Prodan* (2008 and 2010) and *Constantin Sandu Aldea* (2014) - ASAS Bucharest.

He is titular member of The academy for agricultural and silviculture sciences/ Academiei de Științe Agricole și Silvicultură from the year 2014, vice-president of Brașov subsidiary, correspondent member of The academia science people from Romania from the year 2012 and from this year on the vice-president of *Agriculture, horticulture and veterinary medicine station*, and to several organizations and societies from our country and above.

With this anniversary occasion The Romanian Society for Grassland wishes a warm happy birthday and health to our general secretary, Dr. ing. Teodor MARUȘCA, and strength to work to the wellbeing of national grassland patrimony.

Prof. univ. dr. Neculai DRAGOMIR