

PhD. Professor IOANIN IONESCU at 80 years old

He was born in Craiova, in September 1942, on the 14th of September. His father, Ionescu Stefan, worked at the Faculty of Agronomy in Craiova, as a teacher until his retirement, his mother, Constanța, being a housewife. In 1971 he married Stroe (Ionescu) Antusa, a horticultural engineer, who worked first as a farm manager, then as a state representative at I.C.A.P.A Dolj, later at the Faculty of Agronomy in Craiova, from where she retired. They have a daughter - Ionescu (Nanu) Cristina, a graduate of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of the University of Craiova.

Between 1949 and 1960, he attended the primary school, the gymnasium and the theoretical high school N. Bălcescu (today the Carol I National College) in Craiova. In 1960, after passing the baccalaureate exam, he succeeded in the competition for admission to the Faculty of Agronomy belonging to the Agronomic Institute "Tudor Vladimirescu" from Craiova, which he graduated in 1965. After graduation he was assigned by ministerial order directly in higher education at the same institution. In 1970 he was admitted as a doctoral student of the Agronomic Institute N. Bălcescu Bucharest (today U.S.A.M.V. Bucharest). Under the leadership of the renowned Prof. Dr. Costică Bărbulescu, he completed and presented his doctoral thesis entitled: "Contributions to the culture of *Lotus corniculatus* in northern Oltenia" in 1976, obtaining the scientific title of "Ph. D. in Agronomy".

During his professional activity he completed the following didactic degrees: from 1965 to 1967 he was II and I preparatory assistant; from 1967 to 2000, he held the position of teaching assistant; between 2000 and 2002 he was lecturer; from 2002 to 2006 he held the rank of assistant professor; from 2006 to 2012 he worked as a professor. During all these years he taught students practical works and course only in the discipline of Forage Production and Preservation, which, over time, changed its name and sometimes partially its structure, depending on some objective or subjective causes, becoming the Culture of Meadows and of Forage Plants, Meadow Culture and Exploitation or Meadow Culture. He also taught intermittently the Ecology course. Each year he guided students to do their dissertations, all of which highly appreciated.

He also did a lot of scientific research. He worked in all natural areas: in the south, on the sands, in Tâmburești, in the center of Oltenia, in Banu Măracine, Cârcea and SCA Șimnic, in the hill area, in Preajba, Gorj county and on the mountain meadows in the Parâng Mountains, in Rânca. From 1970 to 2011 he carried out his research activity only under contracts, first as a collaborator, then, from 1990 as director. Among the contracts won through competition and completed in the last period of the activity we mention: The study of the practical ecosystems in the sub-Carpathian area of Oltenia in order to increase the fodder production (financed by the World Bank and the Government of Romania, 1999 - 2002); Research on the development of modern

methods for improving hill and mountain meadows in order to increase productivity, conserve biodiversity and improve soil fertility (CNCSIS, 2005 - 2007); Research on the agronomic and food value of the main practical ecosystems in Romania, in the conditions of sustainable management and maintenance of the biodiversity of the vegetal carpet (subcontract to the CEEX contract no. 36, holder of USAMV Iași, 2005 - 2008); Study of the productive capacity and the persistence of the grasses in the conditions of fertilization and exploitation in differentiated regime (CNCSIS, 2009 - 2011).

He was in charge of the Experimental Center for Meadow Culture in Preajba and Râncea, which he equipped and developed making possible, in addition to amplifying the research topic, the practice of students from the Department of Agromontology. He has participated annually in various scientific meetings, in the country and abroad, where he presented his results in the fields of research.

He has published 98 scientific papers, as first author, main author or collaborator. The publishing activity also manifested itself on the didactic level, publishing 2 lithographed university courses, 2 university courses in publishing houses, 6 lithographed practical work guides, 6 books in publishing houses, alone or in collaboration. Other academic activities: in 2001 he was confirmed as an associate member of the Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences. In 2004 he was awarded the title of PhD supervisor in the field of Agronomy, specializing in Meadow Culture.

In parallel with the activity of guiding doctoral students, he also fulfilled the function of director of the Doctoral School Al. Buia, organized at the Faculty of Agriculture. Under his leadership, 7 doctoral theses were completed and presented.

He retired in 2007, but continued to work until 2012 when, at the age of 70, he retired from teaching and research activity.