



## **STATEMENT OF OPINION**

**Regarding the competition for "associate professor" in the scientific specialty  
"silkworm breeding", announced in State Gazette no. 30 of 04/04/2023  
with candidate Krasimira Lyubenova Avramova**

**By D.Sc. Evgeniya Neshova Ivanova**

**Professor in Genetics at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski"**

### **1. Brief introduction of the candidate**

Krasimira Ljubenova Avramova was born in 1983. During the period 2002 - 2006, she was a student in the bachelor's degree in agronomy (Agriculture). In 2007, she received a Master's degree from the Agricultural University - Plovdiv, majoring in "Sustainable Land Management". From 2008 to 2011, she was a full-time PhD student in Special Branches (Silkworm breeding) at the Department of Animal Husbandry Sciences, Faculty of Agronomy, Agricultural University - Plovdiv, where he successfully defended her dissertation and obtained the PhD degree. She has completed several specializations in Bulgaria and abroad, which enrich her professional experience: specialization in gardening (Padua, 2009); course in organic farming (Agricultural University - Plovdiv, 2012); specialization in hunting (Forestry University, 2013-2014). She successfully uses English in her work and has excellent communication and teamwork skills. She has accumulated experience as a teacher and researcher, which is guaranteed by the submitted documents. She participated in numerous research projects and scientific forums, authored and co-authored a large number of scientific publications in the field of silkworm breeding. She is currently the main assistant in the Department of Animal Husbandry Sciences, Faculty of Agronomy, Agricultural University - Plovdiv.

### **2. General description of the scientific production**

Krasimira Avramova participated in the competition for "associate professor" with a total output of 33 papers (including a scientific monograph based on a defended dissertation), grouped as follows:

- ☐ Scientific publications on the nomenclature specialty - 32 issues, of which:
  - Publications related to the doctoral dissertation – 3 issues, which are not subject to consideration;
  - Publications with impact factor and impact rank – 3 items
  - Publications in global databases without impact factor and impact rank - 1 issue (web of science)
  - Publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals – 13 issues;
  - Publications in conference proceedings – 10 issues;
  - Scientific and popular articles - 2 issues.

The list should be also included a scientific monograph based on a defended dissertation - 1 issue.

The personal participation of the candidate in the present competition in the mentioned works is illustrated by the fact that in the scientific monograph and in 4 publications she is an independent author, in 6 of the publications she is the first author, in 9 she is the second author, and in the rest she is the third and next author.

- Study guides – 1 item.

- Participation in international and national scientific forums – 15

When preparing the opinion, 28 volumes (including a scientific monograph and a study guide) are subject to analysis.

### **3. Teaching activity.**

#### Academic employment of the candidate

In the certificate presented by the Agricultural University - Plovdiv, it is noted that the candidate has 11 years and 9 months of teaching experience. For the academic years in the period 2018 - 2023, according to a reference from the Academic Department, the academic hours derived from K. Avramova is 3182 hours. This is a very large study load, from over 530 to over 800 hours per year, requiring competence, responsibility and dedication to teaching work - qualities that the candidate in this competition undoubtedly possesses.

The teaching activity is complemented by Dr. Avramova's scientific supervision of a large number of successfully defended diplomas - 3 in the "Bachelor degree" and 20 - in the "Master degree". This enormous teaching activity is extremely valuable due to the fact that by combining teaching and leading a real scientific experiment, the scientific supervisor exchanges experience with the graduates and prepares them for practical activity in their realization as specialists.

#### Published study materials

Dr. Avramova is the co-author of the Guide for exercises in silkworm breeding, which is used by students studying this discipline.

#### Developed curricula

In the course of her professional growth and in connection with her teaching activity at the "Bachelor" and "Master" degrees, Dr. K. Avramova has developed 11 curricula related to the basics of silkworm breeding, breeding programs, management of genetic resources, biotechnology and reproduction in silkworm breeding, as well as programs in the field of rabbit breeding, game breeding and hunting tourism.

### **4. Scientific research activity**

#### Areas of publication

The main area of professional appearances and publications in the work of Dr. K. Avramova fully corresponds to the scientific specialty for which the current competition has been announced - Animal Husbandry (special branches, silkworm breeding).

#### Citation and referencing of scientific production

The list of noticed citations includes 11 citations of 6 scientific publications. The candidate has not indicated how the 75 points were formed for the presented citations - which of them were assigned to which scoring group. According to my calculations, two of the citations are 15 points each and 9 are 5 points, which equals 75.

#### Participation in scientific projects

Dr. Krasimira Avramova, assistant professor, is an active participant in a large number of projects. In her professional biography, she noted 11 projects, including international, national, operational and research projects. This commitment of hers is an



indicator of her creative potential and accumulated professional experience in the field of scientific research.

### **5. Notes and recommendations**

The lists of publications (more than one) are not prepared according to bibliographic rules: there is a discrepancy in the number of publications - in one list there are 27, in the other - 26...; there is confusing numbering, the names of authors and years of publication are cited differently for different publications; in the list of publications, the first one listed in the group of publications with an impact factor/rank does not have one, but it is indexed in Web of science; the impact factor/rank publication list lists 2 citations, but it is not clear which article is cited in the mentioned sources; apart from that, the list of citations presents 11 citations of 6 publications, but again there are gaps in the bibliography - broken chronology, missing years, etc.; in the table for compliance with the national minimum requirements, one article is allowed to be duplicated and another is omitted; in the same table, in a large part of the mentioned articles, their year of publication is not presented; there are some inaccuracies in the calculation of points according to the number of co-authors; there is no correspondence between the numbering of the submitted files and the numbers in the submitted lists.

I trust that in the future, when preparing documents on other occasions, the candidate will bear in mind the critical remarks I have made.

### **6. Conclusion**

***Based on the analysis of the candidate's pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activities, I believe that Krasimira Lyubenova Avramova meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and the Regulations for its implementation at the Agricultural University, as well as the national minimum requirements for academic development. The candidate Krasimira Avramova possesses the necessary seniority and experience of a university teacher, has a sufficiently significant research activity, expressed in participation in numerous international and national projects, in scientific forums and publication activity. In her work, she shows the characteristics of a responsible and serious researcher, a respected colleague and teacher.***

***All this gives me reason to give a POSITIVE assessment of her overall activity.***

***In view of the above, I have sufficient grounds to propose to the honorable Scientific Jury to also vote positively, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect ch. assistant professor Dr. Krasimira Lyubenova Avramova for "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Silkworm breeding".***

14. 07. 2023 г.  
Plovdiv

Signature: .....  
(Prof. D.Sc. Evgeniya N. Ivanova)