



OPINION

on the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in Higher Education Field 6. Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Professional Field 6.3. Animal Husbandry, Scientific Specialty "Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry", announced in the State Gazette No. 41 of 05.05.2026, with candidate Chief Assistant Professor Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov, PhD

by Prof. Lyudmila Nikolaevna Nikolova, PhD, Agricultural University – Plovdiv, appointed as a member of the scientific jury by Order No. RD 16-813/29.06.2026 of the Rector of the Agricultural University – Plovdiv.

Brief introduction of the candidate.

Chief Assistant Professor Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov, PhD, was born on 31.05.1986. In 2004 he graduated from the "Hristo Botev" Vocational High School of Engineering and Technology in the town of Smolyan.

He is a graduate of the Agricultural University – Plovdiv, and his entire path of education and professional development is connected with the professional field of the competition – Animal Husbandry. In 2009 he obtained a Bachelor's degree as an "Zooengineer," and in 2010 a Master's degree in the specialty "Selection and Reproduction of Animals." From 2011 to 2014 he was a full-time doctoral student in the Department of Animal Science at the Agricultural University – Plovdiv. He obtained his doctoral degree in "Breeding of Farm Animals, Biology and Biotechnology of Reproduction (Breeding of Farm Animals)" in 2015, after successfully defending a dissertation on the topic "Development of a Selection Index for the Montbéliarde Breed Raised in Bulgaria."

Dr. Svetoslav Karamfilov has considerable experience in the field of cattle and buffalo husbandry, both as an expert in state institutions and in non-governmental organizations. In the period 2011 to 2014 he was an expert at the "Association for the Breeding of Local Cattle Breeds." From 2014 to 2017 he was Chief Expert in "Cattle and Buffalo Breeding" at the Executive Agency for Selection and Reproduction in Animal Husbandry. During the period 2017–2025 he worked as an expert at the National Association for Beef Cattle Breeding in Bulgaria. He is the author of one and co-author of four breeding programs – for the Aberdeen Angus, Limousin, Galloway, Montbéliarde and Simmental breeds.

His teaching experience is connected with the Department of Animal Science at the Agricultural University – Plovdiv. In the period 2017–2018 he held the academic position of "Assistant," and from 2019 to the present – "Chief Assistant Professor" in the scientific specialty "Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry."

I have known Dr. Karamfilov since his student years. He is distinguished by responsibility and dedication to his work. As a member of the department's staff, he participates actively in all activities of the Department of Animal Science. He works very well with students. He successfully leads student research groups that he has created. He directs the training and participation of students from the Agricultural University – Plovdiv in international competitions in the field of animal husbandry. He

serves as an expert in professional competitions for high-school students specializing in the agricultural sector.

General description of the scientific output.

In the competition for "Associate Professor," Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Karamfilov has submitted a total of 27 scientific works in the specialty of the nomenclature, grouped as follows:

- Publications related to the doctoral dissertation – 3 /not subject to review/;
- Publications in journals with impact factor and impact rank – 9;
- Publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals – 15.

For the preparation of this opinion, 24 works are subject to analysis.

The personal contribution of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Karamfilov in the aforementioned 24 scientific works is illustrated by the fact that he is the sole author of 7, the first author of 8, the second author of 7, and the third or subsequent author of 2.

The candidate has participated in the development of breeding programs (5) for five cattle breeds. Information is provided on participation in international conferences with oral presentations (4) and posters (2).

Teaching activity.

Chief Assistant Professor Svetoslav Karamfilov, PhD, has 9 years of total teaching experience (2017 – to the present), during which he delivers a number of disciplines related to the scientific specialty of the competition: – at the Bachelor's level – Biological basis of Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry; Technology of Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry; Cattle Husbandry; Geographically and Breed-Protected Products; Technological Design in Animal Husbandry; – at the Master's level – Management of Genetic Resources in Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry.

Teaching activity of the candidate.

Over the past 5 years, Svetoslav Karamfilov has had 3,036.15 hours of direct classroom workload from lectures, seminars, practical classes and extracurricular work. He has supervised 14 successfully graduated Bachelor's degree students and 7 Master's degree students.

Developed curricula.

He has developed 6 curricula for training at the Bachelor's and Master's levels, in both full-time and part-time forms of study, in the disciplines he delivers: "Biological Basis of Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry," "Technology of Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry," "Cattle Husbandry," "Geographically and Breed-Protected Products," "Management of Genetic Resources in Cattle Husbandry," "Technological Design in Animal Husbandry."

Research activity.

Areas of publication.

The scientific research of Chief Assistant Professor Svetoslav Karamfilov, PhD, is in the field of the scientific specialty of the competition. The main part is connected with the possibilities for the sustainable development of beef cattle husbandry in Bulgaria. He has studied the behavior, exterior characteristics, growth capacity, slaughter indicators and meat quality of specialized beef cattle breeds raised in our country.

Particular emphasis is placed on organic production in beef cattle husbandry. Other important areas in his scientific research are the reproduction of cattle of various breeds, welfare and humane treatment in cattle husbandry. A number of publications are related to the study of milk productivity.

Citation and referencing of the scientific output.

The submitted report includes 6 citations of three scientific works, and all cited references are published in scientific journals refereed in world-renowned databases.

Participation in scientific projects.

Chief Assistant Professor Svetoslav Karamfilov, PhD, participates in a number of scientific projects. In 2019 and 2020, under the "Young Scientists and Postdoctoral Researchers" program, he successfully led two projects related to scientific developments in the Limousin and Aberdeen Angus breeds. He also leads a university research project on industrial crossbreeding in cattle (2024–2027). He participates in the National Scientific Programs "Reproductive Biotechnologies in Animal Husbandry in Bulgaria" (2018–2020) and "Intelligent Animal Husbandry" (2021–2024), and in a university project related to increasing the efficiency of production in beef cattle husbandry (2018–2021).

Conclusion.

Based on the analysis carried out of the candidate's pedagogical, scientific and applied-scientific activity, I consider that Chief Assistant Professor Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov, PhD, meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the LDASRB, and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for its application. Against a required 400 points, the candidate has accumulated a total of 739 points, distributed by groups of indicators as follows: A – 50 points; B – 374 points; G – 225 points; D – 90 points, which significantly exceeds the minimum national requirements for "Associate Professor" in the professional field of the competition. This gives me grounds to evaluate his overall activity POSITIVELY. I take the liberty of proposing to the esteemed Scientific Jury to likewise vote positively, and to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University – Plovdiv to elect Chief Assistant Professor Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov, PhD, as "Associate Professor" in Higher Education Field 6. Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Professional Field 6.3. Animal Husbandry, Scientific Specialty "Cattle and Buffalo Husbandry."

Date: 11.08.26r.
City of Plovdiv

PREPARED BY:
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(Prof. L. Nikolova, PhD)