



OPINION

on the competition for "associate professor" in the scientific major "Cattle and Buffalo Breeding", professional field 6.3. Animal Husbandry, announced in the State Gazette No. 41 of 05.05.2026 with candidate Chief Assist. Prof. Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov, PhD by Prof. Teodora Lyudmilova Popova, PhD, Engr., Institute of Animal Science-Kostinbrod, appointed as a member of the Scientific jury according to Order No. RD 16-813/29.06.2026 of the Rector of the Agricultural University – Plovdiv

1. Brief introduction of the candidate

Chief Assist. Prof. Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov, PhD was born on 31.05.1986 in Smolyan. In 2004 he graduated from the Vocational High School of Engineering and Technology "Hristo Botev" in Smolyan. In the same year he enrolled as a student at the Agricultural University-Plovdiv, where he successively acquired the educational and qualification degrees "Bachelor" in "Animal Science" (2004-2009), and "Master" in "Animal Selection and Reproduction" (2009-2010). In the period 2011-2014, the candidate studied in the doctoral program "Animal Breeding, Biology and Biotechnology of Reproduction" and in 2015 he acquired the educational and scientific degree "doctor" for a thesis entitled "Development of a Selection Index for the Montbeliard Breed Reared in Bulgaria". Dr. Svetoslav Karamfilov commenced his academic career in 2017 as an assistant professor in the Department of Animal Sciences, AU-Plovdiv, and from 2019 to date he has been a chief assistant professor in the Department. He has significant professional experience as a breeder in the Association for Breeding Beef Cattle Breeds in Bulgaria (2011-2014) and the National Association for Beef Cattle Breeding in Bulgaria (2017-2025), and also as a chief expert in cattle and buffalo breeding at the Executive Agency of Selection and Reproduction in Animal Husbandry (2014-2017).

2. General description of the scientific production

In the competition for "associate professor" the candidate, Chief Assist. Prof. Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov participated with a total of 32 works, divided as follows:

Scientific publications according to the nomenclature major - 27 pcs, of which:

- Publications related to the doctoral dissertation - 3 pcs (not subject to review)
- Publications with impact factor - 9 pcs
- Publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals - 15 pieces;

Works outside the nomenclature major - 5 pcs (not subject to review).

A total of 8 works are not subject to review.

For the preparation of this opinion, 24 scientific publications were subject to analysis.

The personal participation of the candidate in the indicated 24 works is illustrated by the fact that in 7 works he is a single author, in 8 works - he is the first, in 7 works - he is the second, and in the remaining 2 works - he is the third and next author.

3. Teaching activities

Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Svetoslav Karamfilov gives lectures and practical exercises in the disciplines: "Biological Foundations of Cattle and Buffalo Breeding", "Technology of Cattle and Buffalo Breeding", "Cattle Breeding", "Geographical and Breed-protected Products", "Management of Genetic Resources in Cattle and Buffalo Breeding", "Technological Design in Animal Husbandry". Dr. Karamfilov's teaching activities are complemented by the supervision of graduates who have defended their theses (14 Bachelors and 7 Masters) in the period 2019-2025.

Published textbooks and manuals

Within the competition, the candidate did not submit any textbooks or manuals.

Developed curricula

The candidate has participated in the development of 6 curricula as follows:

For the Bachelors in Animal Science, part-time and full-time study: 1. "Biological Foundations of Cattle and Buffalo Breeding"; 2. "Technology of Cattle and Buffalo Breeding"; 3. "Cattle Breeding"; 4. "Geographical and Breed-protected Products".

For the Bachelors in Agricultural Science, part-time and full-time study: 1. "Technological Design in Animal Breeding".

For the Masters in Animal Breeding and Reproduction, part-time and full-time study: 1. "Management of Genetic Resources in Cattle Breeding".

4. Research activity

Areas of publication

The main areas in which the candidate publishes include breeding and reproduction in various breeds of cattle, performance indicators and quality characteristics of the carcass and meat in cattle.

Citation of the scientific production

Six citations of 3 scientific publications of the candidate were noted, all of which are in journals with impact factor, indexed in world databases with scientific information.

Participation in research projects

The reference for participation in scientific projects includes 6 projects. Four of them are funded by external sources (National Scientific Program "Intelligent Livestock Breeding", National Scientific Program "Reproductive Biotechnologies in Livestock Breeding in Bulgaria" - REPROBIOTECH", National Scientific Program "Young Scientists

and Postdoctoral Fellows" - 2019, 2020), and two are funded by the Agricultural university. The candidate is principal investigator of three projects – 1 funded by the Agricultural university, and two under the National Program for Young Scientists and Postdoctoral Fellows, 2019, 2020.

In addition to the candidate's overall scientific activity, it should be noted that he is an author and co-author of 5 breeding programs, has participated in prestigious national and international forums with oral reports and poster presentations, has conducted a significant number of short-term training, including teaching within the framework of teaching mobility under the Erasmus + program at universities and scientific organizations in France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, the Czech Republic and South Africa.

5. Comments and recommendations

I have no comments on the competition documentation.

6. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the candidate's teaching, scientific and research activities, I believe that Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov meets the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementations and the Rules of the Agricultural University for the implementation of LDASRB, as well as the minimum national requirements for holding an academic position of associate professor in the professional field 6.3. Animal Husbandry. The number of points formed is as follows:

By indicator A- 50 pts.

By indicator V-374 pts.

By indicator G-225 pts.

By indicator D-90 pts.

The total number of points formed by the candidate is 739 pts, with a required number of 400 pts, which shows that he significantly exceeds the minimum national requirements for holding an academic position of "associate professor" in the respective professional field. All this gives me reason to evaluate **POSITIVELY** his overall activity. I would like to propose to the esteemed Scientific Jury to also vote positively, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Svetoslav Biserov Karamfilov as an "associate professor" in the scientific major "Cattle and Buffalo Breeding".

Date: 03.08.2026

Sofia

Signature 

/Prof. Teodora L. Popova, PhD, Engr./