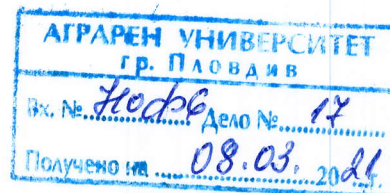


STATEMENT



concerning a competition for "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Plant Protection" /Herbology/, announced in the State Gazette, issue 98 of 17.11.2020 with candidate Chief Assistant Professor Dr. ANYO YORDANOV MITKOV, Agricultural University - Plovdiv
by Prof. MARIYANA YORDANOVA IVANOVA, PhD - appointed as a member of the scientific jury according to Order № RD-16-50 of 22.01.2021 signed by the Rector of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv

1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

Ch. Assistant Dr. Anyo Yordanov Mitkov is the only candidate in the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor", announced for the needs of the Agricultural University in the field of higher education: 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional field: 6.2 Plant protection, scientific specialty "Plant protection (Herbology)". The documents for the competition have been prepared in accordance with the national requirements and the regulations in Agricultural University - Plovdiv.

Ch. Assistant Dr. Anyo Yordanov Mitkov was born on October 19th, 1980 in the town of Pazardzhik. In 2003 he completed his higher education at the Agricultural University, and in 2004 he obtained a Master's degree in Agricultural Pharmacy with a professional qualification in Agronomy. In the period 2005 - 2009 he was a PhD student at the Agricultural University, and in 2012 he obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" (PhD) in the scientific specialty "Plant Protection" (Herbology) based on a PhD thesis titled: "Biological efficiency and physiological evaluation of foliar herbicides in major winter cereals". Since 2007 he has held the positions of assistant (2002-2010), senior assistant (2010 - 2011), chief assistant (2011 - present).

2. General description of the scientific production.

In the competition for "Associate Professor", Dr. Anyo Mitkov participates with a total production of 39 works, grouped as follows:

- ❖ *Scientific publications in the nomenclature specialty - 39 issues, of which:*
 - *Publications related to the doctoral dissertation - 6 issues that are not subject to review;*
 - *Publications with impact factor - 2 issues*
 - *Publications in peer-reviewed and peer-reviewed scientific journals - 22 issues;*
 - *Scientific publications in unreviewed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes - 7 issues*
 - *Published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of educational and scientific degree "Doctor" - 1 issue*
- ❖ *Teaching materials - 3 pieces*

29 scientific papers are subject to analysis for the preparation of the current statement. The main part of the presented scientific works is related to studies on the biological efficiency of herbicides against economically important weeds in different crops, opportunities to control weeds in winter wheat, corn, sunflower, rapeseed, etc. by applying an integrated approach and innovative weed control technologies. The publications are written in a good scientific style and treat current issues.

The personal participation of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. A. Mitkov in the presented 29 works is illustrated by the fact that in 2 – he is an independent author, in 14 - is the first, in 5 - is the second, and in the remaining 8 - is the third and next author.

3. Teaching activity.

Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Mitkov started working at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv as an assistant in 2007. In his professional development he held the positions of senior assistant - in 2010 and chief assistant - in 2011 in the Department of Agriculture and Herbology of Faculty of Agronomy, where he currently works and teaches the subjects Agriculture and Herbology. The total teaching experience of the candidate for the academic position "Associate Professor" as of 01.12.2020 is 13 years and 10 months.

Academic load of the candidate. For the academic load the candidate has provided a certificate issued by the director of the Training and Information Center (TIC) - for 2271.2 hours of direct academic load from lectures, exercises and extracurricular load for the period 2015 - 2020. The total number of hours of his academic load over the years is on average about 454 hours per year.

Published teaching materials. Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. A. Mitkov is a co-author of 3 textbooks, including: 1 textbook - General agriculture (2018) and 2 learning guides - Guidebook for exercises on general agriculture and herbology (2018) and Innovative plant products protection and fertilization (2018).

Developed curricula. There is no evidence of curricula developed or updated.

4. Research activity.

Areas of publication. The scientific research of Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Mitkov is focused mainly on:

- Biological efficacy of some foliar herbicides against economically important weeds in field experiments with wheat, corn, sunflower, etc .;
- Possibilities for chemical control of weeds in chickpeas, oilseed rape, etc .;
- Efficacy and selectivity of herbicides for control of broadleaf weeds in winter wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) and possibilities for independent and combined use of herbicides in winter wheat;
- Integrated weed control during the vegetation of corn, sunflower, etc .;
- Selectivity of soil herbicides in pumpkins;
- Chemical control of: 1 / fescue (*Festuca myuros*) in rapeseed crops; 2 / of field oats (*Bromus avensis* L.) in wheat; 3 / of wild hemp (*Cannabis sativa* L.) in sunflower, etc.
- Possibilities of SU-technology for efficient weed control in sunflower, etc .;
- Determining the physiological reaction of barley and oats to provocatively increased doses of some herbicides, etc.

The research work of Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Mitkov is diverse in terms of topics and treats current issues in agricultural science. Most of the publications (22, or 76%) are in English, and some of them are published in renowned foreign editions: Romanian Agricultural Research, Emirates Journal of Food and Agriculture, Scientific papers, Series A. Agronomy Bucharest), International Journal of Innovative Approaches in Agricultural Research, as well as from participation in conferences and symposia (VII International Scientific Agriculture Symposium "Agrosym", Jahorina; 52nd and 12th International Symposium on Agriculture, Dubrovnik, Croatia; 53rd and 13th International Symposium on Agriculture, Vodice, Croatia).

An important aspect of the candidates' research activity is the practical orientation of the obtained results.

The applicant is presented a statement of contribution, which I fully accept without remarks.

Citation and referencing of scientific production. The total number of citations of the scientific works of Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Mitkov is 6, of which 1 in the Bulgarian edition and 5 in foreign editions, 3 of which with impact factor.

Participation in research projects. In the period 2010 - 2014, Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Mitkov has participated in a national research project on "Comprehensive evaluation of new herbicides for weed control in major field crops", funded by the Bulgarian National Scientific Fund at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science in the competition "Stimulation of research in state universities".

Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. A. Mitkov has participated in the following projects:

- "Corn - queen of the fields". (2010-2020).
- "Herbitur" - The candidate for associate professor was the leader of an implementation (consulting) project at the Scientific Research Center of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv with the company Syngenta Bulgaria on the topic: "*Derivation of plot experiments with new herbicides of the company Syngenta*" under the project Herbitur. Contract № 7/2016

5. Remarks and recommendations.

I have the following recommendations to Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. A. Mitkov:

- In the future work, to focus on developing more independent works. Co-authored research is indicative of successful teamwork, but in the case of collective development, it is difficult to identify the candidate's personal contribution.
- To continue his research, to summarize and publish in the form of studies or monographs, which will enrich his scientific production.

6. Conclusion.

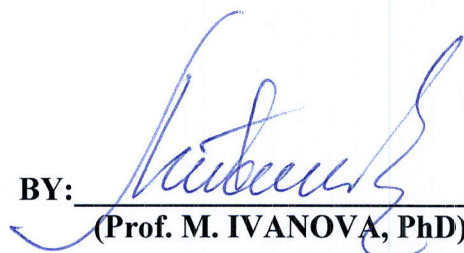
Based on the analysis of the teaching, research and scientific-applied activity of the candidate, I believe that Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Yordanov Mitkov meets the requirements of Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for its application. At the announced competition for "associate professor" he presented sufficient scientific production both in volume and quality, covering the minimum national scientometric requirements according to the Bulgarian Law and regulations. All these gives me reason to evaluate **POSITIVELY** the overall activity of the candidate.

I allow myself to suggest to the esteemed Scientific Jury also to vote positively, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Plant Protection and Agroecology of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect **Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Yordanov Mitkov** to the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the professional field **6.2. Plant protection**, in the scientific specialty **Plant protection / Herbology /**.

Date: 05.03.2021

Plovdiv

PREPARED BY:



(Prof. M. IVANOVA, PhD)