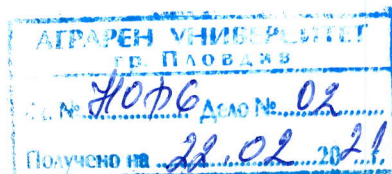


## OPINION



on competition for „associate professor”  
in the scientific specialty Plant protection (herbology),  
announced in a government newspaper issue 98 / 17.11.2020.  
with a only candidate Chief Assistant Professor Anyo Mitkov, PhD

from professor Radoslav Andreev Andreev,  
Head of department of Entomology at Agricultural University – Plovdiv,  
appointed by Order № RD 16-50/22.01.2021. by the Rector of the  
Agricultural University - Plovdiv as a member of the scientific jury

### 1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

Anyo Yordanov Mitkov was born on October 19, 1980 in the city of Plovdiv. In 2003 he graduated as Bachelor specialty "Plant Protection". In 2004 he received a master's degree in "Plant Protection" at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv. During the period 2005 – 2009 he was a PhD student at the Department of Agriculture and Herbology at AU-Plovdiv. In 2007 he was appointed as an assistant-professor in the same department. In 2010 he was promoted to Senior Assistant, and in 2011 to Chief Assistant. In 2012 he successfully defended a PhD thesis on the theme: „Biological efficacy and physiological evaluation of foliar herbicides in major cereals”.

### 2. Description of the scientific production of Chief Assistant Professor Anyo Mitkov, PhD, covering the minimum state requirements for awarding the scientific degree "Associate Professor".

Indicator "A" – PhD dissertation with the equivalent of 50 points;

Indicator „V”- 10 publications referenced in the scientific databases Scopus and Web of Science, which are equivalent to 136 points. Of these, publications №7 and 8 have IF. Thus meet the requirements of *Statute book for application of the law for the development of the academic staff at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv*;

By indicator "G" are presented: published book based on a PhD thesis (40 points); 12 publications referenced in the scientific databases Scopus and Web of Science (141,5 points); 7 publications referenced in the secondary databases (19,7 points) or a total of 201.2 points;

According to indicator "D" 6 citations are presented in Scopus and Web of Science (90 points), three of which are in IF journals; one participation in a scientific project (15 points) and co-authorship in two teaching aids (6,5 points) or a total of 111.5 points.

The candidate has also presented 6 publications related to the dissertation, which meet the requirements for "PhD." (30.56 points).

The personal participation of the candidate in the presented 35 scientific publications is illustrated by the fact that, in more than half (18) he is the first author and there is two individual publications.

### 3. Teaching activity.

The total teaching experience of Chief Assistant Anyo Mitkov, PhD is 13 years and 10 months. For the last 5 years his workload is a total of 2271.2 hours in Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

As a PhD student in the Department of Agriculture and Herbology, Ch. Assistant Professor A. Mitkov began teaching full-time and part-time students from the specialties "Plant Protection", "Agronomy-Farming", "Viticulture", "Agronomy of the tropics and subtropics", "Agricultural Economics" and others. specialties at the Agricultural University, Plovdiv.

As an assistant in the same department he teaches the disciplines "General Agriculture", "Herbology", "Environmentally friendly crop rotations," "Organic Farming" of almost all specialties at AU-Plovdiv.

He gave a lecture course for bachelors in the discipline "General Agriculture" with students of Plant Protection, part-time training.

He also takes part in the field practical exercises in the discipline "Phytosanitary monitoring and expertise", in the master's courses in "Plant Protection", "Plant Protection Management" and Plant medicine..

His teaching activity is complemented by the leadership of more than 20 successfully defended graduates.

Participates in writing a textbook on the subject "General Agriculture" in English. He is the co-author of the "Agricultural Guide" in English and the manual " Innovative plant protection products and fertilizers ".

### 4. Research activity.

The research activity of Chief Assistant Anyo Mitkov is mainly related to research in agricultural technology, application of modern methods in agriculture, exploring new possibilities for the use of herbicides (establishing their selectivity, efficiency, persistence and resistance) in agriculture.

Some of the conclusions in the author's publications have an original character and are reported for the first time in the specialized literature. Such are the conclusions about the limited and unsatisfactory efficiency of Secator OD in wheat against field poppy.

An original contribution is the finding that clearfield self-seeding rapeseed cannot be controlled effectively enough by some of the most popular and widely used wheat herbicides.

In another scientific paper, the author reports important merits of the herbicide Ergon VG, which successfully controls a large number of deciduous weeds.

The established unsatisfactory efficacy of the commonly used in wheat wheat herbicides on field oats (*Bromus arvensis*) can be considered as an original contribution.

In other scientific experiments, the candidate established the selectivity and biological efficacy of a wide range of wheat products against economically important weeds.

The second most important crop that the candidate works with is sunflower. The object of study are all three technologies that have become established in practice - Conventional, Clearfield (Clearfield Plus) and Express.



His research work with corn is also significant in terms of volume. The experimental work and the resulting conclusions and contributions in the control of weeds in maize are mainly scientifically applied and confirmatory.

A large share in the research activity of Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Anyo Mitkov occupy the research on the chemical control of weeds in oilseed rape. The main part is the experimental work on the study of technological features and behavior of Clearfield® rape hybrids, after the use of imazamox-containing products.

The candidate has conducted experiments with other cultures too.

From this research activity of Ch. Assistant Professor Anyo Mitkov derive important conclusions for the practice, which clearly refers them to the group of scientific and applied contributions to herbological science and agricultural practice.

Participates in the research project „Corn - the queen of the fields“, as well as in a national research project " Complex evaluation of herbicides for weed control in major field crops ", funded by the National Research Fund at the Ministry of Education and Science in the competition "Stimulation of research in public universities" in the period from 2010 to 2014.

He has participated in conducting of more than 250 field experiments on „Center for biological testing of plant protection products "- Dept. of Herbology at AU-Plovdiv.

He is a member of 2 international organizations: European Weed Research Society (EWRS) and Weed Science Society of America (WSSA).

#### **5. Remarks and recommendations.**

The candidate has few independent publications.

I recommend to Chief Assistant A. Mitkov to focus on publishing in foreign journals, as well as in Bulgarian with IF, as the publications there will be necessary for his further professional growth.

#### **6. Conclusion.**

Based on the assessment of the pedagogical and research activity of the candidate, as well as his scientometric indicators I think that Ch. Assistant-Professor Anyo Yordanov Mitkov, PhD, meets the requirements of The Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Statute book for its application and Statute books for its application at the Agricultural University, Plovdiv for the academic position of "Associate Professor".

I allow myself to suggest to the esteemed Scientific Jury to vote in favor, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to approve Ch. Assistant-Professor Anyo Yordanov Mitkov, PhD, for "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Plant Protection" (herbology).

Date: 22.02.2021.

Plovdiv

**PREPARED THE OPINION:**

(professor Radoslav Andreev Andreev)