



Statement

Concerning the competition for "Associate professor" in the scientific specialty „Agro chemistry” announced in the State Gazette No. 98 of 17.11.2020 with candidate Chief Assistant Nikolai Momchilov Minev, PhD

From Assoc. Prof. Georgi Yordanov Georgiev, PhD Member of the Scientific Jury appointed pursuant to order № RD 16-51 / 22.01.2021 of the Rector of the Agricultural University – Plovdiv

1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

Nikolay Momchilov Minev was born on August 13, 1976 in Veliko Tarnovo town. From 1996 to 1999 he studied and graduated in Veliko Tarnovo „Medical College” at the Medical Institute in Pleven and received a qualification "Medical assistant" in the field of "Internal medicine and emergency pre-hospital care." From 1999 to 2005 he worked at the Emergency Medical Center in Veliko Tarnovo, a branch in Pavlikeni and at the same time studied and graduated with excellent marks higher education in 2005 at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv, specialty Agronomy - Field Crop Production. He completed a Master's course in "Agro technical Technologies and Biotechnologies" in 2006 with excellent marks, too. In 2013 he received the educational and scientific degree "Philosophy Doctor" in the scientific specialty "Forage production and meadow". Since 2009 he has held the position of "Assistant", and since 16.09.2013 he has been appointed "Chief assistant" at the Department of „Agro chemistry and Soil Science” of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv.

2. General description of the scientific production.

In the competition for "Associate Professor" Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD participates with a total production of 22 works, grouped as follows:

- Scientific publications on the nomenclature specialty - 22 issues, including:
- Publications related to the PhD thesis - 2 issues that are not subject to review;
- Habilitation work (monograph) - 1 number;
- Publications submitted in referenced and indexed issues in the world-famous scientific information databases - 13 publications;
- Publications submitted in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or in edited collective volumes - 6 issues;

Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD presents the results of the scientific production on the European and world international conferences and symposiums - a total number of 13 reports, including 5 oral and 8 poster were presented.

The personal participation of Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD in these 20 works is illustrated by the fact that 6 are independent (including the monograph), in 5 is the first, in 5 is the second, and the remaining 4 is third and next author.

For the preparation of this statement 20 publications are subject to analysis.

3. Pedagogical activity.

From the certificates and references provided by the management of AU - Plovdiv it can be seen that as of 01.12.2020 the length of service of Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD as a "teacher" is 11 years and 03 months. During the period from 2015 to 2020 he had direct classroom

employment from lectures, practices and extracurricular activities (including hours conducted in a foreign language and under the ERASMUS program) - a total of 2064.8 hours. The average annual workload is 413 hours, which makes a large educational employment working with students in "Agro chemistry and Soil Science" specialty.

The pedagogical activity is complemented with the leadership of 7 successfully defended graduate and another three persons, at which are forthcoming defense.

The monograph "Lavender" developed independently by Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD is a valuable textbook for specialists in the field of agriculture, for students studying at the faculties of agronomy, as well as for farmers interested in essential-oil crops.

To help the students are published 2 textbooks in which Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD is a co-author: "Wheat and Barley - insect-pests, diseases and weeds, fertilization" (2016) and "Corn - weeds, diseases and insect -pests, fertilization" (2018).

4. Research activity.

Areas of publication.

The publications of Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD are related to research work mainly in the soil fertilization and foliar fertilization, and specifically its impact on growth, development, some physiological and biochemical parameters, the and quality of the production of many crops.

The percentage of the fertilizers, leaf and soil bio stimulators tested are as follows by crops: peas, vetch and other legumes - 6 pcs. (30%); corn - 4 issues (20%); lavender - 3 issues (15%); alfalfa - 2 issues. (10%) and works related to analysis and inspection of agrochemical and soil conditions in areas for growing vineyards, fruit and essential oil crops - 4 issues (13%).

The results of his research definitely contain valuable scientific information concerning the fertilizer rates, schemes and technologies for both, soil and foliar fertilization of different crops.

I accept the author's reference for the contributions. 3 scientific-theoretical and 6 scientific-applied contributions have been formulated, which can easily find their practical application at the crops studied.

Citation and referencing of scientific production.

The scientific production and its results are cited in a total of 9 publications, 5 of which are in Bulgarian journals and foreign publications with an impact factor.

Participation in research projects.

The candidate has participated in a national research project on the topic "Support for the development of young scientists and post-doctoral students" in the scientific field of "Agricultural Sciences and related scientific specialties" in the 2009-2011 period.

In the period 2017-2020 the candidate successfully managed the implementation of a total of 12 implementation projects on a contractual basis between AU-Plovdiv and leading agricultural companies in the field of soil and foliar fertilization, in order to testing and developing schemes and technologies for fertilization of field crops in the conditions of Bulgaria.

The publications, the pedagogical activity and the projects participations of Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD, shows that over the time he was able to build its own specific and clearly recognizable style of a "scientist-researcher" in the field of scientific specialty "Agro chemistry".

5. Remarks and recommendations.

I have no significant remarks. I have the following recommendation: to make efforts for the popularization and implementation of the results of his research, through popular scientific-popular articles, brochures, technologies, manuals, bilateral contract projects, etc.

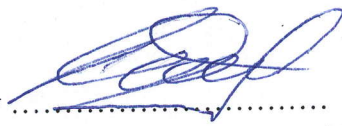
6. Conclusion.

Based on the analysis of the pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activity of the candidate, I consider that Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD, meets the requirements of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Regulations for Application of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for its application. He covers and exceeds the national minimum scientific metric requirements for acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor" (with the required total number of 400 points, 486 are scored).

All this gives me reason to evaluate **POSITIVELY** the overall activity of Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD.

I allow myself to suggest to the esteemed Scientific Jury also to vote positively, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect Chief Assistant Nikolay Minev, PhD, for "**Associate Professor**" in the scientific specialty "Agro chemistry".

Date: February 18, 2021
Plovdiv city

Statement prepared by 
/Assoc. Prof. Georgi Georgiev, PhD/