



Opinion

Concerning the competition for "associate professor" in the scientific specialty Agrochemistry, announced in SG no. 98 / 17. 11. 2020 with candidate Assistant PhD. Nikolay Momchilov Minev, Agricultural University - Plovdiv from Prof. Dr. Hriska Manusheva Boteva, appointed according to Order № RD-16-51 / 22.01.2021 of the Rector of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv as a member of the Scientific Jury.

1. Brief introduction of the candidate

Assistant Professor Dr Nikolay Momchilov Minev is only candidate in the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor", announced for the needs of the Department of Agrochemistry and Soil Science at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. The documents for the competition have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Law on the Application of the Law and the Regulations for the Application of the Law in the AU - Plovdiv.

The candidate Nikolay Momchilov Minev in 1999 graduated from the Medical College at the Higher Medical Institute - Pleven with a degree in "medical assistant" in the field of "internal medicine and pre-hospital medical care". In the period 1999 - 2005 he worked as a medical assistant in the Center for Emergency Medical Care, Veliko Tarnovo, the branch in Pavlikeni. He completed his higher education with a master's degree in "Agricultural Technology and Biotechnology" in 2007 at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. Since 2007 he has been a full-time doctoral student in the scientific specialty "Forage Production, Meadow Farming" at the Department of Plant Breeding at the University of Plovdiv, and in 2013 he successfully defended his dissertation and acquired the scientific degree "Doctor".

Nikolay Minev started his professional development in 2009 after winning a competition as an assistant in the Department of Agrochemistry and Soil Science, where he still works as a lecturer and researcher, and since 2013 he has been Ch. assistant in the same department. He speaks English and Russian very well.

All this gives me reason to assume that the candidate has good teaching and professional experience in connection with the announced competition.

2. General description of the scientific production

In the competition for "Associate Professor". Assistant Professor Dr. Nikolay Minev participates with a total production of 22 scientific papers, grouped as follows:

- Scientific publications in the nomenclature specialty - 22 issues, including:
- Publications related to the doctoral dissertation - 2 issues that are not subject to review;
- Monograph - 1 issue;
- Articles and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 13 issues;
- Articles and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - 6 issues

The prepare the opinion, 20 scientific papers are subject to analysis

The monograph presented by the candidate summarizes the results of scientific research related to the agricultural techniques of the lavender crop and mainly the fertilizer factor. The development is intended for use by researchers, manufacturers and as a textbook for students.

The personal participation of Assistant Professor Dr. Minev in the above 20 scientific papers is as follows: 6 issues are independent (including the monograph), in 5 is the first, in 5 is the second, and in the remaining 4 - is the third and next author. An important point in the candidate's research activity is the interdisciplinary approach. He works in a team with specialists in various scientific fields, which makes the contributions even more significant. It is impressive that 85% of the publications of Assistant Professor Dr. Minev are in English.

Dr. Nikolay Minev has participated in three national and five international scientific forums, which have contributed to the promotion of the results of his research, presented with 5 oral and 8 poster reports.

3. Teaching activity

Assistant Professor Dr. Nikolay Minev is already an established lecturer at the Department of Agrochemistry and Soil Science at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv, has more than 11 years of active teaching. The presented report on the workload of the candidate for the last five years (2015-2020) shows that he was engaged with 2064.8 teaching hours, of which 48 hours of lectures with an average of 413 hours for each academic year. He conducts practical classes in the disciplines of Agrochemistry and Soil Fertility, and under the Erasmus program exercises with foreign students are in English.

The teaching activity of the candidate is supplemented with the training of seven successfully defended graduates and three current ones in the specialty of Agronomy-Field Breeding. Published teaching materials

The candidate is the author of the monograph "Lavender", and co-author of two books "Wheat and barley - insect-pest, diseases and weeds, fertilization", which students can use as a textbook.

4. Research activity

Areas of publication

The presented publications reflect the results of the long-term research work on current issues related to fertilization. The research is related to establishing the effect of soil and foliar fertilization on growth, development, some physiological and biochemical parameters, the size of yields and the quality of production in main legumes and field crops. The percentage of tested foliar and soil biostimulators and fertilizers by crops is as follows: peas, vetch and other cereals - 6 pieces (30%); corn - 4 pieces (20%); lavender - 3 pieces (15%); alfalfa - 2 pieces (10%) and 4 publications (13%), which are related to analysis and survey of agrochemical and soil conditions in areas for growing vines, fruit and essential oilseeds. An important aspect of his research is its practical orientation, the results obtained are the basis for determining fertilizer rates, optimizing fertilization schemes for these crops.

I accept the author's reference for the contributions. 3 scientific-theoretical and 6 scientific-prologue contributions have been formulated.

Citing and abstracting scientific research

For the current competition Assistant Professor Dr. Minev has presented nine citations to four of his scientific publications, five of which are in the Journal of Balkan Ecology, Journal of Mountain Agriculture on the Balkans, Trakia Journal of Sciences, Banat's Journal of Biotechnology, Scientific Papers Series A Agronomy.

Participation in research projects

Assistant Professor Dr. Minev has participated in a total of 13 competitively funded projects, of which: in a national project "Support for the development of young

scientists and post-doctoral students in science" Agricultural Sciences "and head of 12 implementation projects.

5. Remarks and recommendations

The remarks and recommendations to the candidate are to concentrate his publishing activity in scientific journals with impact factor; to popularize the results of his scientific developments in popular science articles, fertilization technologies, brochures to reach farmers. I have no serious remarks about the presented scientific production.

6. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activity of the candidate, I consider that Assistant Professor Dr. Nikolay Momchilov Minev meets the requirements of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Regulations for Application of the Law of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv for its application.

The presented scientific scientific production meets the national scientometric requirements for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor". All this gives me reason to evaluate **POSITIVELY** his overall activity. 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 Assistant Dr. Nikolay Momchilov Minev for the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the scientific specialty Agrochemistry.

Date: 22. 02. 2021.
Plovdiv

PREPARED THE OPINION:.....
(Prof.Dr. Hriska Boteva)