



## Opinion

**Concernin::** the competition for "associate professor", Department of Higher Education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional direction 6.1. Crop science, scientific specialty "Biochemistry of plants", announced in the State Newspaper № 36/ 23. 04. 2024 with candidate Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Slavova Harizanova, PhD, Agricultural University - Plovdiv.

**From:** Prof. Hriska Manusheva Boteva PhD, Department of Higher Education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional direction 6.1. Crop science, scientific specialty "Vegetable production", appointed according to Order №. RD-16-807/18.06.2024 of the Rector of the Agricultural University as a member of the Scientific Jury

### 1. Brief introduction of the candidate

Ch. assistant professor. Adelina Slavova Harizanova PhD is the only candidate in the competition for the academic position of "associate professor", in the scientific specialty „Plant Biochemistry“. 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 at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv.

The candidate Adelina Slavova Harizanova graduated from Agricultural University - Plovdiv in 2006 and obtained a Master's degree in "Plant Protection". Since 2006, she has been the manager of an agricultural pharmacy, and in the period 2009 - 2010, she was a junior specialist in the Department of International Cooperation at the National Plant Protection Service.

Ch. assistant professor Adelina Harizanova PhD began her professional development in 2017 after winning a competition as an assistant in the department of "Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics". In the same year, she obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the scientific specialty "Plant Physiology", and since 2018 she has been head assistant professor of "Plant Biochemistry" in the same department, where she currently works as a teacher and researcher. She is fluent in English, German and Russian. Works with computer programs Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point), Adobe Photoshop, Paint, Acrobat 6.0 Professional and statistical analysis program SPSS.

She is a member of the editorial board of the journal "Journal of Central European Agriculture" and of the Advisory Council to the CAP at "SJS Bulgaria" EOOD. All this gives me reason to assume that the candidate has good teaching and professional experience in relation to the announced competition.

### 2. General description of the scientific production

In the competition for "associate professor" in the specialty "Biochemistry of plants" Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Harizanova PhD participates with scientific production, grouped as follows:

- *Dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor"*
- 1 issue, which is not subject to consideration;

- *Publications related to the doctoral dissertation* - 5 issues, which are not subject to consideration;
  - *Scientific publications in publications with an impact factor* – 5, of which with Q1 – 1 issue; with Q2 – 1; Q3 – 1 and with Q4 – 2 ;
  - *Scientific publications in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information* – 15;
  - *Published book based on a protected dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor"* - 1;
  - *Articles and reports published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information* – 2;
  - *Articles and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes* – 12.
- To prepare the opinion, 35 scientific works are subject to analysis.

According to the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position "docent" and the presented table of scientometric indicators Ch. assistant professor A. Harizanova PhD exceeds the required amount of 400 points, and the performance is 618,8 points.

The personal participation of Ch. Associate Professor. Harizanova PhD in the specified 35 scientific papers is as follows: first author in 13 (37.1%), second author in 17 (48.5%), and third and subsequent author in the remaining 5.

The scientific production presented, as well as the formulated conclusions, recommendations and contributions, are the personal work of Ch. Assistant Harizanova PhD. All presented scientific works: 57.1% in English and 42.6% in Bulgarian are on the subject of the competition.

### **3. Teaching activity**

Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Harizanova, PhD, is a teacher and researcher at the "Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics" department, has more than 7 years of active teaching activity. The applicant's study load report submitted for the last five years shows that her direct classroom and extracurricular employment is 2548.7 study hours, with an average of 500 hours for each study year, i.e. academic employment significantly exceeds the required. She conducts practical classes for students from the bachelor's and master's courses in the discipline "Biochemistry of plants", and under the Erasmus program the exercises with foreign students in the disciplines "Biochemistry of plants" and "Enzymology" are in English. The teaching activity of the candidate is complemented by the training of five successfully defended graduates.

### **4. Scientific research activity**

#### ***Areas of publication***

The presented publications from Ch. assistant professor A. Harizanova PhD reflect the results of her research work on current problems, focused mainly in the field of overcoming stress in plants and improving the quality of crop production. The research is related to establishing the effect of silicon in cucumbers and zucchini infected with common spider mite on physiological and biochemical parameters; study the effect of the application of biostimulants in conditions of stress caused by the action of low positive temperatures; the application of a microalgae suspension to

barley grown on oil-contaminated soil; the influence of biostimulants on the quantity and quality of yield in alfalfa.

I accept the author reference for the contributions. 13 scientific and applied contributions to the competition were formulated.

#### ***Citation and referencing of scientific production***

For the current competition Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova PhD presented eight citations to two of her scientific publications. All citations are in journals in Scopus (Q1), which is a good certificate for the relevance of the researched problems and the obtained results.

#### ***Participation in scientific projects***

Ch. Assistant Professor Harizanova PhD has participated in a total of 5 competitively funded projects, of which: in one international project; two national projects with external funding for Agricultural University and one internal research project at Agricultural University, Plovdiv.

#### **5. Notes and recommendations**

I have no serious objections to the scientific production presented. I recommend that research on organic farming and good agricultural practices be deepened.

#### **6. Conclusion**

Based on the analysis of the pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activity of the candidate, I consider that Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Slavova Harizanova PhD 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 **Ch. Assistant professor Adelina Slavova Harizanova PhD** for the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the scientific specialty "Biochemistry of plants".

Date: 26. 07. 2024.

Plovdiv

PREPARED THE OPINION:

  
(Prof. Hriska Boteva PhD)