АГРАРБЫ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

Гр. ПЛОВАМЯ

Вх. № НОРБ Дело № 28

Получене на 10.05 20 22

REVIEW

on the "Professor" competition in the field of higher education: 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine; professional field 6.1. Plant growing; scientific specialty "Selection and seed production of cultivated plants (Plant biotechnology), in connection with a competition announced in SG no. 7 of 25.01.2022 with candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla YANCHEVA svetla 20 @ hotmail.com; yancheva s@au-plovdiv.bg

<u>Reviewer:</u> Prof. Slavka Prodanova <u>Lukipudis <u>lukipudis.slava@gmail.com</u></u>, Field of higher education: 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, Professional field 6.1. Crop production, Scientific specialty: Selection and seed production of cultivated plants. determined according to Order № RD 16-368 / 28.03.2022 of the Rector of the Agricultural University, Plovdiv

The documents and materials (according to application № HOP8/8/01.03.2022) provided to me ex officio, for evaluation of the scientific value and achievements of the candidate, in connection with her participation in the announced competition, meet the requirements of art. 4 (3) Art. 5 (3) of LDASRB, Regulations for its application AU-Plovdiv Regulations. The materials (copies and references) of the competition correspond to the truth, and the results and scientific contributions in teaching and research are the personal work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Dimitrova Yancheva.

1. General data on the career and thematic development of the candidate; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Dimitrova Yancheva was born on June 15, 1962, in Sofia. During the period 1984-89 she graduated from the University of Plovdiv with a degree in agronomy and a master's degree in Plant Biotechnology. Full-time doctoral studies (1991-1994) completed at IGI, Kostinbrod, Sofia, on the topic "In vitro regeneration and genetic transformation in the breeding of plum (Prunus domestica L.). She began her career as a laboratory assistant-agronomist at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv (1995-1998) in the Plant Biotechnology Laboratory (PBL) at the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding at the AU-Plovdiv, where she continued to work after obtaining scientific degrees: Research assoc. II degree (up to 2000), Resear assoc. I degree (2006), and Chief Assistant (2008). During the period 2006-2016 she was the head of the Plant Biotechnology Laboratory, acquiring the title of "Associate Professor" (2008), and since 2020 she has been working as an associate professor at the AU - Plovdiv, Department of Viticulture and Fruit Growing. Since 2016 (until now) she has been working at the AU-Plovdiv as Deputy Rector of International and Public Relations, and Business, and for a short period of time (2017), worked at the Ministry of Agriculture, as a Deputy Minister for European Integration and International Relations. During the period 2012-2016 she was Chairman of the General Assembly of the AU - Plovdiv. All academic positions are legally justified and proven by issued Orders, signed by the Rector of the University, as the total length of service of the candidate amounts to 27 years, incl. Her teaching activity is from 31.03.1998 - 23 years and 9 months (Certificate № ЛС 11-01.02.2022), without interruption, with proven constantly increasing rate of scientific

2. General description of the submitted materials.

In the competition for **"professor"** Assoc. Prof. Yancheva participates with a total output of 81 scientific papers (95.1% in Latin). During the period 1993 to 2008, 42 scientific works were published, scientific developments = 51.8%, ie 2.8 per year, which speaks of a high initial rate of publication activity

In connection with the competition for "professor" (in the period 2007-2021) 39 scientific works were edited and published (46.2% of the total scientific output), which are mainly in Latin

91.7% (33 publications). It is impressive to maintain the high intensity of the candidate's publishing activity over time.

The scientific production could be grouped as follows:

Scientific publications in the nomenclature specialty - 39 copies, of which: - publications in connection with the competition 92.3% (36 papers). Publications with IF - 25.6% (10 papers); -publications with RF - 33.3% (13 papers)

-publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals -25 (69.4%)

- Publications in conference proceedings - unreferred - 10 pcs. (27.8%)

Assoc. Prof. Yancheva's personal participation in the 39 scientific papers is proved by the fact that in 53.8% she is the First and Second author in the team, third and next author in the remaining 44.2%, which speaks of excellent ability of the candidate to work in a team.

- Training manuals - 2 (2013 and 2016); additionally published 1 studio; and participation in

a collective monograph with 2 sections (chapters) developed;

- Published 1 book (in connection with doctoral studies) on "In vitro regeneration and genetic transformation in the selection of plum (*Prunus domestika* L.) (2019)

3. Main directions in the research work of the candidate. Demonstrated skills or talents for research management (project management, attracted external funding, etc.). The application of biotechnological methods in plant breeding: tissue and cell culture in vitro; development and optimization of regeneration systems (embryo, callus, cell and protoplast cultures); genetic transformation; GMOs and biosafety; The use of molecular markers in selection, plant genetic resources, has led to visible advances in science.

The main directions of research work - the use of *in vitro* technology for propagation of plant species are: - micropropagation systems; - systems for regeneration and genetic transformation; - screening tests for selectivity of herbicides and stressors; - application of biochemical methods and molecular markers in plant selection.

Plant species which the experimental studies were conducted with: Fabiana (Fabiana imbricata Ruiz et Pav.) - a valuable medicinal plant found in the Andes-Chile, Argentina and Patagonia, but little known in Europe.), raspberries, wild berry crops, strawberry (Fragaria vesca L., Rosaceae), raspberry (Rubus idaeus L., Rosaceae), bilberry (Vaccinium myrtillus L., Ericaceae) and cranberry (Vaccinium vitis-idaea L. Ericaceae) - evaluated for their regenerative capacity in in vitro reproduction. Varieties of vine, paulownia, winter fodder peas, new hybrids of corn, pepper, tomatoes,

The research was conducted mainly in PBL, AU, Plovdiv and in Lab. of the environment in Almaty, Kazakhstan (with 9 species of microalgae).

Micropropagation systems (clonal propagation using different explants of vegetative or generative origin, callus mass, etc.) with study of the influence of key factors on the effectiveness of the developed method (genotype features; type, size, age and physiological state of the explant, manner of injury and position of explants on the nutrient medium; nutrient medium; carbohydrate source - mono-, di-, polysaccharides and their concentration; growth regulators and cultivation conditions - temperature, light regime and photoperiod, intensity and spectrum of light).

It has been established that there is no universal effective system for regeneration, which requires the creation of a specific methodology for the genotype or the development of a method that is appropriate and effective for a larger number of representatives of one species or genus.

Effective micropropagation systems for different plant species have been developed and optimized - a major focus of research. Part of the scientific work was carried out jointly with colleagues from RIMSA - Troyan.

The systems of regeneration and genetic transformation are associated with a high degree of genetic plasticity in the development of certain plant species, which show the ability to regenerate from various tissues or organs, to the total recovery of the whole individual. The main ways to

achieve plant regeneration are organogenesis and somatic embryogenesis, which can be realized as a direct or indirect process (during the callus phase)

Genetic transformation of red raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) was achieved using the vector system *Agrobacterum tumefaciens*. Applying the experimental protocol, regeneration of transgenic plants was achieved only in the Elit variety.

The integration of the *npt* and *Hygromycin marker genes* into putative transgenic plants was confirmed by PCR analysis using primers whose nucleotide sequence is complementary to these genes. The results are a prerequisite for genetic improvement of the culture through the introduction of genes encoding valuable economic qualities such as resistance to disease, pests and stressors.

Screening tests for selectivity of herbicides and stress factors - for conducting controlled experiments to determine the effect of stress factors, through the developed tests to study the germination and growth characteristics of seeds in winter fodder peas to the soil herbicide Gesagard 500 SC (Prometryn 500 g / l) and herbicide PELICAN 50 SC, according to a certain methodology (protocol). A test was performed also with the herbicide isoxaflutol, Merlin Flex ® 480 SC, in five new maize hybrids (chlorophyll and anthocyanin pigments were studied as markers of sensitivity to herbicides), and five newly selected pepper genotypes with different origin and fruit color to soil herbicide napromamide.

In the LB of the environment in Almaty, Kazakhstan, the study aims to determine the tolerance to salt stress of millet genotypes, in the early stages of development and in the course of ontogenesis, to establish indicators for predicting the response of genotypes to salinity.

Application of biochemical methods and molecular markers in the selection of plants In colaboration with RIMSA-Troyan and ABI-Sofia, Biochemical studies related to the determination of the biological value and content of secondary metabolites in wild berries (strawberry, raspberry, black and cranberry) were performed by spectrophotometric analyzes to assess the total phenolic content and antioxidant properties of methanol fruit extracts obtained from ex in vitro and in vivo species. Higher values for antioxidant activity and total phenol were found in bilberry and strawberry

In recent years, molecular markers (*specific DNA segment*) have been used successfully to study plant genotypes, to identify varieties, and to products derived from them.

A study was conducted together with IVC "Maritsa", Plovdiv in nine mutant tomato lines (3 lines with ah + ogc, 2 lines with B + Aft, 2 lines with Aft + ogc, 2 lines with er + Aft, obtained by hybridization), for anthocyanin content.

Thirteen advanced sweet pepper mutant lines (*obtained by X -ray irradiation*) are created by backcrossing and self-pollination. The chemical content of the fruits was studied and other economically important characteristics, where found: high content of β -carotene (7 lines), high dry matter (11-14%), early maturity (6 lines), without anthocyanins (6 lines), nuclear male sterility (2 lines), good taste, aroma (13 lines), good fruit morphology (2 lines; 40-60 g fruit weight), fruit color (4 red; 9 orange).

A special study established the molecular characteristics of 7 tomato breeding lines (6 mutant and one parent line), maintained in the collection of IVC, "Maritsa". Mutant lines (M3) were obtained by induced mutagenesis.

By combining classical selection methods such as induced mutagenesis and the application of marker assisted selection, a new pepper variety "**Desislava**" with orange color (distinctive mark) of the fruit and twice increased content of β -carotene was created.

An adapted protocol for the quantification of basic carotenoids (*lycopene and* β -carotene) in local samples and mutant forms of tomatoes of different colors was developed by high performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC method with Vis detection at 450 nm).

4. Assessment of the pedagogical preparation and activity of the candidate. Role in training young scientists. The candidate is distinguished by very intensive teaching activity (Certificate N HO P5-01 / 02.02.2022 Γ). A total of 2119.5 academic hours were conducted in

the period 2016-2021. The highest teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Yancheva is in the field of lecture engagement - 45.7% of the total five-year schedule (968 academic hours), 198.6 hours on average per year. The performed practical exercises cover 823.5 hours = 38.9%, an average of 149.7 hours per year. The workload is particularly high in the last three years of the reporting period.

A Certificate. № MS-08 / 11.02.2022 issued by the Center for International Affairs and Public Relations of AU- Plovdiv proves the training in English of incoming Erasmus students (from Poland, Moldova, Jordan, Italy, Spain) for the period 2011-2021 (for 5 academic years), the candidate has conducted training for 300 lectures and 315 hours of exercises, mainly in the field of RB. The same center (Certificate № MC-07 / 11.02.2022г), documented Erasmus-mobility (training and teaching), in the period 2011 to 2021 in a total of 11 Universities in Spain, Greece-Thessaloniki, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Poland and Slovenia, etc.

Center for Distance Learning, confirmed (*Official Note No No R5 -02 / 04.04.2018*) for published textbook on the subject "Plant Biotechnology" in the distance learning system of AU, Plovdiv.

The participation of the candidate in the development and implementation of research projects is impressive. During the period 2014-2023, Assoc. Prof. Yancheva, has participated in a total of 9 scientific / educational projects, most of which are ongoing (5). Six of these projects are under Erasmus program, of which with ongoing implementation (5 continuing until 2027 . Six of these projects are for individual learning mobilities of students and staff with program countries - all European Member States, Northern Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey; with partner countries (Russia and Moldova, Albania, Jordan, Egypt, Ukraine, Kosovo, South Africa, etc.). It should be noted that in 55.6% of them Assoc. Prof. Yancheva is the Institutional Coordinator and in one third of them she is the project manager.

In the same period (2014-2023) Assoc. Prof. Yancheva has participated in 12 other international scientific / educational projects in the thematic area "Plant selection" with already completed stage of implementation. The large number of participating countries in the implementation of these international research projects speaks of the desire for technical cooperation between Europe and Asia; Developed and implemented is a project for "Introduction of electronic forms of distance learning in AU". Three of the research projects are under the auspices of FAO/IAEA.

5. Significance of the obtained results, proved by citations, publications in prestigious journals, awards, membership in international and national scientific bodies, etc.;

Total number of citations (200 and over 165 on Scopus and Web of Science), in connection with the competition, as of February 2022 - documented 167 copies (without auto-citations). By Scopus a total of 29 scientific papers were cited. The interest shown on an international scale is indicative, and speaks of the high scientific value of the results of the research, as a certain publication was cited 24 times during the period from 2006 (immediately after publication) to 2022 inclusive. The average annual citations are 5.76.

Scientific publications have a common IF 5.421 and Q / SJR -2.158; IR -0.617.

The developed and approved curricula - a total of 20, for full-time and part-time students, compulsory and / or elective courses, are mainly in the field of "Plant Biotechnology", specialty agronomy (horticulture and organic production). Students are trained in the disciplines "Plant cell and tissue cultures", "Biotechnological methods in plant selection", "Plant genetic resources "; "Phytogenetic resources, methods for creating genetic diversity and working with populations", "Application of biotechnological methods for the production of seeds and planting material", "Genetically modified plants". "Regulatory framework", as well as "Biotechnological methods for fruit crops", "Fruit growing and production management", as well as "Biotechnological methods in vine selection".

During the reporting period, she conducted English language training in the disciplines "Plant Biotechnology", for students from South Africa, " Plant Genetic Resources ", etc.

Impressive is the series (on average 1.5 specializations per year, in the period 1992 - until 2022) of the conducted scientific specializations: a total of over 45 (long-term): (Netherlands) - Netherlands, Czech Republic, England, Belgium, Israel, Germany, Kazakhstan, China, Lebanon, Spain, Greece, Finland, Vietnam and Uzbekistan and short-term - Mongolia, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Turkey, Hungary, France, Croatia, Japan.

Given lectures at foreign universities: Germany, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, China, Greece. Foreign language training: Students under the Erasmus and Erasmus + program, and under bilateral agreements - South Africa, Kazakhstan.

Scientific supervising - graduates: - 6 bachelor's theses + 11 master's theses. Training of doctoral students: - 5 doctoral students: Greece, Kazakhstan (3) and Bulgaria, three defended. Training of specialists - Training of 4 specialists from RIMSA-Troyan and one from IPGR-Sadovo in the field of applied biotechnological methods in the selection.

With the participation in **International scientific** and educational **projects**: TEMPUS JEP -5 pcs; FORBIO- Australia; 2 projects on bilateral cooperation Bulgaria-China, 6 projects of FAO / IAEA, Vienna, Austria; - OP "Human Resources Development"; Innofood-CEE- № CEE / CB / 0028 / 1.3 / X - Cross-border cooperation 2007-2013.

Participation in scientific forums - over 20 International and over 10 in Bulgaria

Organizational skills and competencies - 2007-2011-2015 - Two terms as municipal councilor in the Municipality of Maritza. Coordination, management and administration of people, projects and budgets in the professional environment and public organizations, and strategic decisions. Definitely Dr. Yancheva has clear **administrative competencies**.

Membership in scientific organizations - USB, Publishing Boards of International and Bulgarian Scientific Journals: Since 2006 - Journal Biotechnology & Biotechnologycal E quipment; since 2009 - Journal of Central European Agriculture (2010 - JCEA Editor-in-Chief); from 2019 - Field crops studies, Dobrudzha Agricultural Institute.

Holds a Driving License - Category "B"

The supporting documents provided to me, certifying the actual achievements in teaching and administrative activities, present a person comprehensively trained at a high scientific level, coping with the task and in the field of exposure of young professionals with high competitiveness and opportunities for participation in international scientific research projects.

6. Significance of contributions to science and practice. Motivated answer to the question to what extent the candidate has a clearly defined profile of a researcher and work.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS: scientific-theoretical contributions of original character. The possibility of growing the medicinal plant *Fabiana imbricata* Ruiz et Pav., has been proven by in vitro cultures with varying degrees of differentiation with an effective micropropagation system and optimal composition of the nutrient medium (publ. 29,32)

Experimental protocols for micropropagation, induction of cell and protoplast cultures have been developed (publ. 3). Molecular markers can be used as an alternative, highly effective approach in modern plant breeding (publ. 7,8,9,10). The effectiveness of the ISSR (Inter-Simple Sequence Repeats) technique in distinguishing profiles of different species, including mutant and hybrid genotypes, for variety identification has been demonstrated (publ. 9,10); A protocol for the modern ISAP method (Inter-SINE-Amplified Polymorphism) has been adapted (publ. 8), and the ability to absorb chromium-plating of ecosystems from industrial pollutants, in particular heavy metals, has been demonstrated (publ. 24) are screening tests to determine the selectivity of soil herbicides and in different crops under abiotic stress (publ. 6,11,16,17,18). A high antioxidant activity has been found in bilberry and strawberry (publ. 15).

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS: Optimized micropropagation protocols have been developed for raspberry and tall bilberry varieties (using a combination of cytokinins) for genetic transformation of red raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) - the resulting transgenic plants help to further

improve crop resistance. of diseases, pests and stressors. (publ.5). (publ. 7, 8,19). High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) methods have been adapted to assess the biological value of pericarp in fruit.

Digital holographic microscopy was applied (for the first time) to observe and determine the size of cell clusters. A digital holographic microscope (DIHM) developed at the AU - Plovdiv, was used to visualize, count and measure plant cells and analyze the viability of cell cultures, etc.

APPLIED CONTRIBUTIONS - effective protocols for micropropagation of raspberry varieties (publ. 1,2, 4) and introduced raspberry varieties with proven efficiency have been established (publ. 34); A reliable *in vitro* protocol has been developed for adventitious organogenesis, from wild berries, to natural habitats (publ. 15), for micropropagation of blackberry-raspberry hybrid hybrids (publ. 14), with high anthocyanin content (54.03 mg /%) and total polyphenols (94.12 mg / g. (publ. 33); A protocol for *in vitro* propagation of three different paulownia genotypes (publ. 14), 12 vine varieties and 11 rootstocks was developed in order to obtain pre-basic planting material.

A PCR-based marker for early selection of pepper plants with high potential for β -carotene synthesis has been developed. (publ. 7). Mutant genotypes of peppers with orange fruits have been found to be more sensitive to moderately high temperature stress than those with red-colored fruits. (publ. 7.8). Lines with improved fruit morphology and plant productivity, mutants with high β -carotene content were obtained, and lines for accelerated creation of varieties and F1 hybrids of pepper with orange and red fruit were selected for the selection programs (publ. 7.8)

The mutant lines 1647 (Gold Medal *ms8*) with nuclear male sterility (*ms8ms8*) and K587 with nuclear-cytoplasmic male sterility (*Srfrf*) were cytologically characterized. The stability of the mutant genes, pollen sterility and lack of pollen in the flower anthers, defines the lines as promising. (publ. 7). Different lines, varieties and F1 hybrids of tomatoes are characterized, incl. native and foreign, with a mutant gene introduced into them by hybridization. (publ. 8).

The developed screening tests to determine the selectivity of soil herbicides in winter peas, corn and pepper are applicable as a model for abiotic stress (publ. 6,11,16,17,18,36), for selection for stress resistance.

In the LB of the environment in Almaty, Kazakhstan, 29 local and foreign samples of millet (*Panicum miliaceum* L) were studied for new selection programs.

By combining induced mutagenesis and application of MAC (marker assisted selection), a variety of pepper "Desislava" was created, which has a Certificate of Originality issued by the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The comparative data, indicated in the table, demonstrate fulfillment of the criteria for acquiring of the academic position "professor", also show the high activity and prove the significant exceeding of the requirements under the **LDASRB**.

- 7. Critical remarks and recommendations from the reviewed and analyzed documentation I am convinced that Assoc. Prof. Dr. St. Yancheva is a very well-built, active teacher and scientist, with high authority, realized with high efficiency in his work.
- **8. Personal impressions and opinion of the reviewer** I got excellent impressions from personal contacts, from her deep attitude to research and teaching, from her correct attitude towards students and colleagues, from the high degree of communication and ability to work in a team, from the arranged documentation in connection with the competition for holding the academic position "Professor", from her scientific and scientific-applied contributions, as well as from her organizational-administrative competence on the problems of education and training.

CRITERIA for holding the position of "professo INDICATORS (by ZRASRB and PZRASRB			
respectively PPZRASRB of AU, Plovdiv)		for Professor	Execution -
	, - 10 (41)	101 1 10105501	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla
Higher education, 1989		in AU	Yancheva
Total length of service (Certificate №		in AU	Series A 87 №004174
11101.02.2022		III AU	27 years /23.9 years teaching
Science degree		Doctor	experience
Scientific title		Associate	Diploma №24930 / 28.08.199
		Professor, AU	St. №25214 / 21.08.08
Teaching activity - general experience		-	Total 27 / taught 22 0
load - for the competition ()			Total 27 / taught-23.9 years 2119.5 academic hours
sr. annual load (5 year period)			423.0 academic hours
Management of graduates, in AU - in general		tank / mag /	6/11/3 total - 20 pcs.
, and a second	general	spec	0/11/3 total - 20 pcs.
Education and teaching abroa	ad, in English	2010 - 2021	Spain, Greece, Czech
	,	2010 2021	Republic, Croatia, Poland,
			Slovenia
Doctoral Students' Guide / ongoing		1/1	5 pcs (Greece, Kazakhstan /
			Bulgaria)
Participation in the Scientific Jury: - opinions		-	6 pcs
(for Dr., Assoc. Prof., Professor) - reviews		_	3 pcs
Scientific production + developments in total		20	81
/ by competition		20	39
including. for the competition "Professor" -		50.0%	36 / average per year 2.8 pcs.
scientific. stat.		50.0%	55.8%
- independently $+ 1st + 2nd$ author (50%)		-	10
- referee. in Bulgarian scientific sources и .and in		-	14 pcs 146 points
foreign scientific sources			167 pcs. with odds 10,149 th
- citations in scientific articles with general IF			most common
Scientific and applied research (including		3	5 pcs.
teaching aids, programs, methods)			20 pcs. programs
Participation in research projects - total		3	9 intern. and
(with external financing - no.)		-	12 pcs. scientific projects.3
as a project manager		1 (2)	pcs.
Nl. Cl			on 6 pieces - institute
			coordinate.
Number of known citations from other authors		20	167 pcs 8.4 times more
(for the competition), incl abroad / in Bg		10/10	167 pieces - 16.7 times more
Scientific specializations - over 45		-	Hungary, Czech Republic, UK,
			Belgium, Israel
Participation in scientific forums - total		10	Over 30
in Bulgaria / abroad		5/5	Over 10 / over 20
Computer skills and competences			SS, Statistics, Internet
Textbooks issued Published textbooks and books		2 (3)	2
N/ 1 1: :		1	1
Membership in	UNION OF SCIENTISTS IN BULGARIA, PUBLISHING BOARDS OF		
authoritative professional podies	INTERNATIONAL AND BULGARIAN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS - Journal		
	Biotechnology & Biotechnolo - gycal E quipment - Journal of Central European Agriculture (Editor-in- Chief JCEA); - Field crops studies,		
organizations (NS; NZ,			
etc.	Dobrudzha Agricultu		
	Deputy Rector of the	University of Plo	vdiv. from 2016 Ch

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activity of the candidate, I believe that Assoc. Prof. Dr. St. Yancheva meets the requirements of LDASRB,

The Regulations for its application, and the Regulations of the Agricultural University.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Yancheva as a candidate in the competition, significantly exceeds the requirements for the academic position of "professor", with a clear, intensive, active and effective teaching, research and publishing activities, scientific and applied contributions, mastered and used teaching methods, participation and project management, supervizing of graduates and doctoral students, as well as active social, administrative and institutional activity.

PROPOSAL:

After a detailed and in-depth analysis, the comparison of the documents and materials provided to me in the competition in accordance with the criteria of LDASRB, as well as my personal impressions of the professional qualities of the candidate, I believe that her activities are relevant, and precise and with opportunity for practical implementation. This gives me reason and conviction to highly evaluate the overall work of **Assoc. Prof. Dr. St. Yancheva**

I recommend to the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to vote **POSITIVELY** and to propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Viticulture and Horticulture, at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv, to elect Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Dimitrova Yancheva for **PROFESSOR** in Professional Field 6.1. Crop production, specialty "Selection and seed production of cultivated plants (Plant biotechnology)".

Date: 09.05.2022

City. Plovdiv

REVIEWER:

(Prof. Dr. Sl. Lukipudis)