



OPINION

regarding the competition for the academic position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 6. Agrarian Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, professional area 6.1. Crop Science, scientific specialty Crop Science, announced in the State Gazette, issue 99/28.11.2023 with a candidate Assoc. Prof. Vanya Atanasova Delibaltova, PhD

reviewed by Prof. Dragomir Gospodinov Valchev, PhD from the Agricultural Institute – Karnobat – Agricultural Academy Sofia in the professional area 6.1. Crop Science assigned a member of the scientific jury according Order № ΡΔ- 16-145/30.01.2024 of the Rector of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv

1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

Vanya Atanasova Delibaltova was born on January 16, 1969, in the town of Elhovo. In 1992, she graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Agronomy - Crop Production from the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. From 1994 to 1998, she worked as a lecturer at the Private Agricultural College - Plovdiv. In the period 1998-2001 she was a full-time doctoral student in the Department of Crop Science at the Agricultural University – Plovdiv. In 2001 she obtained a Ph.D. degree. Since 2002 she has occupied the position of assistant professor in the Department of Crop Production at the Agricultural University and has successively held the following academic positions: senior assistant professor – since 2003, chief assistant professor – since 2005, associate professor – since 2011. Assoc. Prof. Vanya Delibaltova is member of the Accreditation Commission, member of the Faculty Council at the Faculty of Agronomy, a Member of the Academic Council (Scientific Secretary) at AU-Plovdiv, a Member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Scientific Research, Technology Transfer, and Intellectual Property Protection, a Member of the Commission for Verification of Procedures according with the Rules for Development of Academic Staff, a Coordinator of the Verification Commission on Scientometric Indicators in the Professional Field 6.1 Crop Production at AU-Plovdiv.

2. General description of the candidate`s scientific work.

In the competition for the academic position of "Professor" Assoc. Prof. Vanya Delibaltova participates with 97 developments in total grouped as follows:

- ❖ Scientific publications in the field of the specialty – 97 in total, including:
 - Publications related to the doctoral dissertation – 6, which are not subject to review;
 - Publications related to the acquisition of the academic position of "Associate Professor" – 50, which are not subject to review;
 - Publications that do not repeat those submitted for obtaining the doctoral degree and the academic position of "Associate Professor," covering the national minimum scientometric requirements for obtaining the academic position of "Professor" – 41. ' They are grouped as follows:

- Publications with impact factor – 7;
- Publications with impact rank – 9;
- Publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals – 27;
- Publications in conference collections – 14.

In the present competition for the position of "Professor" Assoc. Prof. Vanya Atanasova Delibaltova is the only candidate. The submitted documentation complies with the requirements of the Act on Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADASRB), the Regulation for the Implementation of ADASRB, and the corresponding Regulations of AU-Plovdiv.

In the compliance certificate regarding the fulfillment of national scientometric indicators according to Article 2"b" of ADASRB the following are noted:

For **group "B"** - indicator 4 – 10 research papers, all published in journals with Quartile and Sjr and/or Impact Factor. The total score for this category is 135.14 (100 points required), which exceeds the minimum required for occupying the academic position of "Professor."

For **group "Г"** - indicators 7 and 8 – 247.5 points (200 points required).

For **group "Д"** - 815 points, significantly exceeding the required scientometrics.

For **group "E"** – 169.2 points (100 points required).

Assoc. Prof. Vanya Atanasova Delibaltova's personal contribution to the mentioned 41 works is illustrated by the fact that she is the leading author in 13, the second author in 13, the third author in 9, and the fourth author in 6.

- ❖ Textbooks – 2.
- ❖ Training guides – 2.

3. Teaching work.

Assoc. Prof. Vanya Atanasova Delibaltova, PhD, has over 21 years of experience as a lecturer at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. Her teaching activities mainly involve classroom and extracurricular activities in the disciplines of "Crop Production", "Medicinal, Aromatic, and Culinary Plants", "Cereal and Legume Crops" and "Fundamentals of Crop Production" with both full-time and part-time students. In addition to classroom teaching, extracurricular activities include the supervision of 25 successfully defended diploma theses. Assoc. Prof. Vanya Delibaltova has supervised two doctoral students, who were enrolled and successfully defended their theses at AU-Plovdiv.

The candidate has developed a total of 10 syllabuses, with 8 designed for Bachelor's degree programs and 2 for Master's degree programs.

4. Research work.

Assoc. Prof. Vanya Delibaltova's research studies are related to the experimental work conducted in several key areas such as: agrobiological assessment of varieties and hybrids of field crops, studying the influence of environmental conditions on quantitative and qualitative indicators in cereal and essential oil crops, as well as investigating specific technological aspects of wheat, barley, triticale, maize, sorghum, soybean, lavender, and coriander cultivation.

The contributions are grouped into scientific and scientific-applied. The original scientific contributions of the candidate are 5, and the original scientific-applied – 11. They adequately reflect the results obtained after the conducted experimental work.

Citation and referencing of the scientific publications

The number of presented citations is 63, including 50 citations in scientific publications indexed in world databases of scientific information (25 of which are in journals with impact factor) and 13 citations in non-indexed journals with scientific peer review. Assoc. Prof. Vanya Delibaltova accumulates 815 points in this indicator, significantly exceeding the required minimum.

Participation in scientific projects

Assoc. Prof. Vanya Delibaltova has participated in one national scientific program - "Intelligent Crop Production," 2 national educational projects under the Human Resources Development Operative Program and 2 research projects under the National Agricultural Academy. She has also led one infrastructural project at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv.

5. Conclusion.

Based on the analysis regarding the teaching, research and applied work of the candidate, I believe that Assoc. Prof. Vanya Delibaltova, PhD, meets the requirements of the Act on Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of ADASRB, and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for its application. The submitted documentation is sufficient in volume and experimental depth, significantly exceeding the scientometric requirements for the academic position of "Professor." Taking into account her extensive research work, consistency and responsibility, the candidate is undoubtedly an established scholar with high professional qualities.

All of the above mentioned gives me grounds to evaluate her overall work **POSITIVELY**.

I allow myself to propose to the esteemed Scientific Jury to also vote positively, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect **Assoc. Prof. Vanya Atanasova Delibaltova**, PhD, as a "**Professor**" in the scientific specialty "Crop Science".

Date: 08.02.2024
Plovdiv

OPINION WORKED OUT BY:.....

(Prof. Dragomir Valchev, PhD)