

STANDPOINT

Concerning competition to hold the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine; professional field 6.1.Crop Production, (scientific speciality - Crop Production), announced in the State Gazette No. 42/12 May,2023,with admitted candidate Chief Assist. Prof. Dimitar Vasilev Dimitrov.

Member of the scientific jury: Assoc. Prof. Rositza Mincheva Todorova, Ph.D., Experimental station of soybean and grain crops- Pavlikeni, scientific speciality "Selection and seed production of cultivated plants", appointed as a member of the Scientific jury, according to the order №RD-16-097/07.08.2023 of the Rector of the Shumen University.

I. Scientometric indicators of the presented scientific production.

The presented verification for the minimum national requirements laid down in the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for development of the academic staff in Shumen University clear, correct and accompanied by evidences.

Chief Assist. Prof. Dimitar Vasilev Dimitrov takes part in the competition to hold the academic position of "Associate Professor" advertised by Shumen University with total of 34 publications, cultivar tobacco, grouped as follows:

1. Articles, published in scientific editions, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information –17 issues /50%/. The total number of points in this group of indicators reached 254, with a required minimum of 100 appointed as a requirement for holding the academic position of “Associated Professor” in the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.
2. Articles and reports published in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals or in peer-reviewed collective volumes – 17 issues /50%/.

Personal participation of the candidate in the publications signifies endorsement. She is the main or second author of 29 articles, which is 85% of the total number of

publications. The majority of them are published in English – 17 issues (50%), with the remainder in Bulgarian. Except articles with high scientific value, Dr. Dimitrov a co-author of tobacco cultivar, which is evidence of their importance.

II. Main directions in the scientific activity of the candidate and the most important scientific contributions

The candidate references the original scientific contributions of research work in tobacco. The field of research work of Dr. Dimitrov is tobacco breeding, fruit crops with the following main directions:

- In the field of tobacco selection, scientific activity is in the direction of creating new varieties of tobacco with high adaptive potential and forming raw material with improved consumer qualities.
- Genetic diversity in tobacco was created by using the intervarietal hybridization method, which was assessed by a complex of quantitative and qualitative indicators. A new Bulgarian variety of oriental tobacco Bistra 514 with improved indicators has been registered.
- Cultivar-rootstock relationships were studied and production of propagating material sweet cherry and peach with a broad spectrum of cultivars.
- The suitability of newly selected sweet cherry rootstocks 20-181, 20-192, as clonal rootstock for the cultivars- Kossara, Trakiiska hrushtialka, Van was established and they provide planting material with a standard trunk diameter and tree height.
- The influence of various abiotic factors on the yield and quality of fruits in different fruit species - peaches, nectarines, cherries and sour cherries - has been studied.
- The effect of late spring frosts -3.6 to -50C in full blooming phenological phase on the growth and fruiting of late nectarine cultivars was established.

III. Importance of the obtained results

The candidate has presented 10 citations as required. Six of them are pointed out in indexed and refereed research journals in worldwide databases. This proves the distinction of a candidate in research circles.

Dr. Dimitrov takes part in five scientific projects financed by Agricultural Academy; four projects by Shumen University. During the last years she has taken a part with some reports and posters in 6 international conferences held in Romania, France, Montenegro and Bulgaria.

IV. Critical notes, questions and recommendations.

Highly evaluate the extremely active and work, undoubted scientific and applied contributions of the candidate. I would like to recommend Dr. Dimitrov to take the leadership of a future project.

CONCLUSION

Based on the presented analysis of the candidate's scientific and applied research work, I believe that Ch. Assistant Professor Dimitar Vasilev Dimitrov PhD meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, its implementation regulations (art. 53, LDASRB). The candidate has defended a doctoral thesis and was awarded a PhD degree in the scientific speciality "Breeding and seed production of cultivated plants" and covers the minimum national requirements, and could be appointed to the academic position of "Associate Professor" as the total number of points is higher. This gives me a reason to **POSITIVELY** evaluate the complete research activity of the candidate.

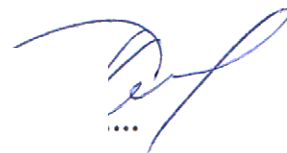
I propose to the honorable Scientific jury to vote positively and the and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the Shumen University to award Chief Assist. Prof. Dimitar Dimitrov, Ph.D. the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific speciality of "Crop production".

Date: 23, september, 2023 r.

Pavlikeni

PREPARED

THE STANDPOINT:...



(Assoc. Prof. R. Todorova, PhD)