ANIVERSALIA

PROFESSOR PhD MIHAI MITITIUC AT HIS 80TH ANNIVERSARY



Mihai MITITIUC was born on March 16th 1937 in Sinăuții de Jos, Bucovina (today Mihăileni, Botoșani County) as son of Rosalia and Ștefan Mititiuc. He attended the local school from Mihăileni and in 1955 he graduated the No. 1 Boys Middle School (today "Grigore Ghica Vodă" High school).

Immediately after the high school graduation he was enrolled as substitute teacher at Hărnava School and one year later he was accepted at the Faculty of Natural Sciences-Geography, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iaşi. As student of this

institution he proved seriousness and tenacity, dedication and rigor, qualities through which he was remarked throughout all 4 years of faculty and which recommended him as valedictorian. In 1960 he passes the *State Exam* and obtains the title of academic diplomat. In the same year he becomes Assistant at the Faculty of Natural Sciences-Geography within the Botany Department, for *Plant Morphology and Anatomy* and *Phytopathology* courses. In 1964 he becomes a PhD student at the Faculty of Biology, University of Bucharest, under the coordination of Professor PhD Olga Săvulescu and in 1968 he obtained his *PhD in Biology* with the thesis *Contributions to the knowledge of micromycetes and macromycetes from Ponoare and Frumoasa-Suceava natural reserves*.

He followed an academic career within the Faculty of Biology, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iaşi as lecturer (1969-1990), associate professor (1990-1992) and professor (1992-2007) for several courses, such as: *Biogeography*, *Phytopatogens biology*, *Plant systematic*, *Phytopathology*, *Mycology* and *Plant protection*. Starting from 1991 he became a PhD coordinator in the field of *Botany*, training more than 20 PhD students.

He publishes over the years, as single author or co-author more than 300 scientific articles in Romanian and foreign journals, more than 23 volumes and monographs in the field of *Phytopathology* and *Mycology* and participates at numerous symposia and scientific sessions with valuable oral communications and conferences. His most recent book published in 2015 is entitled *Ciupercile genului Phyllosticta* and represents a thorough analysis of the fungal species belonging *Phyllosticta* genus regarding their morphology, pathogenesis and economical importance.

Throughout his career, **Mihai MITITIUC** discovers 35 new for science species of fungi, more than 430 new species for Romania and over 900 fungal species mentioned on new hosts.

He decisively contributed to the development of the *Herbarium* from the Faculty of Biology, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iaşi, by handing in 2731 herbarium sheets that include micromycetes, macromycetes and vascular plants.

His passion for Botany and Mycology, but also his organizational and managerial skills were put to good use during his time as director of "Anastasie Fătu" Botanical Garden of Iași (1990-2007), period in which 3 new greenhouse compartments were built, the heating system was renewed and several functional spaces were rearranged.

He was also a member in numerous committees and boards, work groups and scientific societies: president of the Romanian Mycological Society (1995-2007), president of the Botanical Gardens Association from Romania (2004-2008), member in the editorial board of *Analele Științifice ale Universității "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" din Iași, seria Biologie Vegetală* and editor of *Buletinul Grădinii Botanice Iași*.

With this special occasion, on behalf of "Anastasie Fătu" Botanical Garden staff we wish **Professor PhD. Mihai MITITIUC** many healthy years, joy and fulfillments, ability to work and all the best!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
Ana COJOCARIU, Cristiana Virginia PETRE, Cătălin TĂNASE

MITITIUC MIHAI

CIUPERCILE GENULUI PHYLLOSTICTA



