ANIVERSALIA

DR. GAVRIL AUREL NEGREAN AT HIS 85TH ANNIVERSARY



On 30th of August 2017 we celebrated the 85th anniversary of Dr. Gavril Aurel Negrean, a remarkable personality of Romanian botany, with a great scientific career. It was an honor for the entire community of botanists but not only to highlight his diverse and very prolific activity.

The great botanist was born in 30th of August 1932 in Dindeşti village from Satu-Mare County. After he graduates the primary school in the natal village, follows the high-school courses in Oradea and Carei. In 1964 graduates the Faculty of Biology in Bucharest University. For the next five years works in "Louis Pasteur" Institute investigating some avian viruses. Recommended by the great botanist Constantin Zahariadi he works since 1970 in Institute of Biology of the Romanian Academy,

first as biologist and then as scientific researcher. Since 2000 he collaborates with "Dimitrie Brandza" Botanical Garden of Bucharest University.

In these many years he significantly contributed to the knowledge of Romanian flora and mycobiota, identifying new taxa for the country, enriching the Mycological Herbarium of the Institute of Biology, thus making it the greatest collection of this type in Central Europe and working in numerous national and international projects etc. He dedicated his career to the study of Romanian flora and mycobiota, with an accentuated focus on endemic, threatened, vulnerable and rare species. For many of the rare as well as for some ambiguous species he clarified their taxonomy and completed their distribution. He found new taxa for Romania and studied almost all protected areas in the country, proposing the foundation of over 20 new ones. Moreover, Dr. Gavril Aurel Negrean begun and for the most part succeeded in an ambitious activity: to gather and publish the whole Romanian botanic bibliography.

Dr. Gavril Aurel Negrean is the author of numerous scientific articles and books in which he systematized the results of his long and prolific work. He published many articles in taxonomy, flora, mycobiota, phytosociology, sozology, plant ecology, nature conservation and biography of great personalities in biology. One of the most important is the *Red Book of Vascular Plants in Romania* (2009), published in collaboration with Dr. Gheorghe Dihoru. This red book presents for the first time, in a micro-monographic mode, the most threatened

and vulnerable plant species in our country with very comprehensive information about their taxonomy, chorology, biology, areal, habitat, restrictive factors and conservation measures. This book was distinguished with the Romanian Academy Prize (2011). The results of five years of researches of plant and fungi species and also of plant communities from the north – western region of Romania were published in first volume the great monography "*The natural patrimony of Salaj*" (a collaboration with Carol Karácsonyi şi Paul-Marian Szatmari) including 601 species of fungi, 139 bryophytes, 2050 cormophytes and 166 plant communities.

His scientific competence is widely recognized and consequently, he is a valuable collaborator in *Atlas Florae Europaeae* and scientific reviewer for *Acta Horti Botanici Bucurestiensis*, *Biológia* (Szombathely) and *Kanitzia* (Bratislava) journals. Also is member in Nature Monuments Committee within Romanian Academy, Micological Society of Romania, Biological Sciences Society from Romania, Association of Botanical Gardens in Romania etc. It is not surprising that for his overall activity and contribution to Romanian botany Dr. Gavril Aurel Negrean was awarded with the *Linnaeus Medal* granted by Planta Europa (2007).

His passion for plants, fungi and nature, his strictness and critic spirit determined the respect and admiration of his friends, colleagues and younger botanists. Therefore, on the behalf of all colleagues in "Anastasie Fătu" Botanical Garden from Iași, we wish Dr. Gavril Aurel Negrean great health, energy to continue his extraordinary research work and all the best for many years to come!

Happy Anniversary!
Constantin MARDARI, Cătălin TĂNASE

