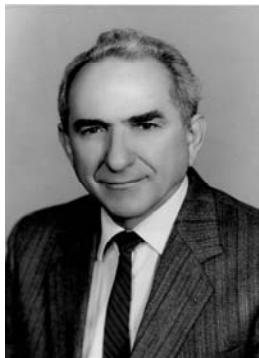


In Memoriam Prof. Dragoljub D. Sutic



In the pursuit of knowledge, Professor Dragoljub Sutic completed three faculties. Firstly, he graduated from Military Academy in 1940. Having returned from war captivity where he served as a prisoner of war for four years, he graduated from Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade in 1949. During the studies he became particularly interested in botany and phytopathology, scientific fields which marked his scientific and pedagogical life, and to which he remained devoted to the very end. His professional work began at Faculty of Agriculture where he began his career as a teaching assistant in the field of phytopathology. Always eager to expand his knowledge of biology, he, concurrently with the work on doctoral thesis, graduated from Faculty of Science in Belgrade (1954), whereas in the following year, he defended his doctoral thesis at Faculty of Agriculture. In the years that followed, he was admitted to academic titles of Assistant Professor (1959), Associate Professor (1961) and Full Professor (1969), and was later retired.

As an academic, he delivered lectures in phytopathology at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate courses of study. He published a large number of books and textbooks, including the following: "Plant Viruses, Handbook of Plant Virus Diseases and Anatomy, and Physiology of Diseased Plants", out of which the latter two were translated into English and published in the USA.

He was proficient in a number of European languages (French, German, Italian, Russian and English) which, besides his high professional qualifications, helped him to easily make connections and maintain exceptional international cooperation with phytopathologists worldwide. He was a leader or a participant in numerous domestic and 4 international projects, and also participated in a large number of international scientific meetings. He was a member in a wide range of international professional and scientific organizations and editorial boards of renowned scientific journals.

Dragoljub Šutić was a pioneer of the plant virology of Serbia and former Yugoslavia. He was among the first to attempt to discriminate PPV isolates, and it was him who distinguished three kinds of PPV strains depending on kinds of local lesions induced on herbaceous indicator *Chenopodium foetidum*. His scientific work also encompasses the study of relationship between host plants and viruses (particularly of *Plum pox virus*), i.e. detection of new herbaceous and woody plants hosts, identification of the different pathogenicity of some PPV isolates/strains for particular species of hosts of *Prunus* genus, the investigation of resistance of stone fruits to PPV, the study of epidemiology and the virus spread by leaf aphids and the developing control measures. He made an enormous contribution to the study, detection and identification of types and strains of viruses and bacteria in vegetable and fruit crops. He was the author and co-author of 165 scientific and a number of professional papers. Dragoljub Sutic was highly merited scientist both in domestic and scientific community abroad, which resulted in his appointment for the corresponding member of Agricultural Academy of France and a huge number of awards.

His extraordinary knowledge of phytopathology and high competence in describing complex phenomena in an extraordinary simple and understandable way, his openness to discussion, respect he showed for other people's work and knowledge, readiness to help the young and open new realms of science, professionalism, his devotion to new experiences, his swift conceiving of new practical issues and possibilities of application of scientific results provided him an extraordinary merit both among colleagues and students. All of them were happy enough to have known him, especially those who were honoured to work with him, and all of them certainly feel great respect for him. He will live in their memory as a powerful person and an accomplished scientist.

Svetlana Paunovic

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