

Contribuții Botanice, XXXVIII, (1), 2003
Grădina Botanică “Alexandru Borza”
Cluj-Napoca

IN MEMORIAM,
Professor Doctor **IOAN HODIȘAN**
(1928-2003)



On 27 July 2003, Professor **Ioan HODIȘAN**, one of the outstanding personalities of Cluj biological education in the second half of the last century, died in Cluj-Napoca.

The professor **Ioan HODIȘAN** was born on 10 April 1928 in Tăut, Bihor county. He attended general school in his native locality and graduated from the Beiuș High School in 1949.

In 1949, he started university training at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Section of Biology of the Cluj University, from which he graduated in 1953.

The didactic career of Professor **Ioan HODIȘAN** includes the following important stages: head of laboratory (1953-1954); instructor (1954-1963); assistant professor (1963-1970); associate professor (1970-1977); professor (1977-1995) and consulting professor (1995-2003).

In 1966, he obtained his PhD in biology, the speciality **botanics**, with the subject *The Flora and Vegetation of the Feneș Basin/ Alba county*.

The basic disciplines in his didactic activity were general botanics, systematic botanics (Thallophyta), plant anatomy and biogeography.

His scientific activity in the fields of floristics and phytosociology includes 85 scientific works published as a single author or in collaboration in Romania and abroad, and 25 popularization articles. We also mention that he was a co-author of two monographs (1978,

2002) and two printed university courses (1976, 1983), and a single author of 6 printed courses, which have represented the basic bibliographic source for many generations of students and professors.

An important moment in Professor **Ioan HODIȘAN**'s scientific activity was the award in 1980 of the "Emanoil Teodorescu" prize of the Romanian Academy, for the monograph *The Flora and Vegetation of the Zarand Mountains*, to which he collaborated. In 1985, he received the diploma of "distinguished professor" of the "Babeș-Bolyai" University.

His scientific researches offered valuable information on the Romanian cormoflora (two taxonomic units new for science and the indication of new localities in Romania for 27 species), and in particular on the Romanian vegetation (description of 4 plant associations as new for science, accepted by Romanian and foreign authors, etc.).

Through his researches, he also contributed to the knowledge of the economic potential of the cormoflora and vegetation of the Someșul Cald Basin, Zarand Mountains, Cluj county, etc.

Dynamic by nature, the Professor was actively involved in the administrative life of the university, the faculty and other professional organizations. He was: a member of the Romanian Society of Biological Sciences; a member and manager of the Editorial Board of the journal "Contribuții Botanice"; head of the Department of Biology, between 1976-1984; Dean of the Faculty of Biology, Geography and Geology of Cluj-Napoca, between 1971-1976; PhD director at the "Babeș-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, in the period 1994-2003; referee of numerous PhD commissions, etc.

In the period 1986-1996, he was the Director of the "Alexandru Borza" Botanical Garden, and he played a special role in the organization and prosperity of this institution of the "Babeș-Bolyai" University.

Professor **Ioan HODIȘAN** remains in our memory as a man with a tumultuous character, extremely tenacious and perseverant in solving problems, never putting his verbal threats into action, generous with his students and collaborators (most often under the mask of severity), faithful to his social creed and his family.

We believe that the didactic and scientific experience of the distinguished professor, as well as his gift to inspire confidence around him, are living through the generations of graduates of the Cluj Biological School, to the training of whom he had a special contribution.

By evoking and honoring his memory, we place him in the gallery of the great professors of Cluj who have contributed essentially to the development of Romanian biological education and science in the last half of the century.

"Bona fama in tenebris propium splendorem tenet"!

Dr. Marcel PÂRVU
Dr. Felician MICLE
Dr. Vasile CRISTEA