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50th birthday of Professor Dr. František Tenora, D.Sc.

Professor Dr. František Tenora, D. Sc., a prominent Czechoslovak scientist, zoologist and parasitologist, Head of the Department of Zoology at the University of Agriculture in Brno, celebrates this year his 50th birthday and 25 years of fruitful scientific activities.

He was born on 22th September 1930 in a small Moravian town of Letovice, where he lived through his childhood and adolescence. Having passed the secondary school in 1949 he started to study at the Faculty of Sciences, J. E. Purkyně University in Brno. He finished the university studies with excellent results in 1953. He specialized in zoology-anthropology under the guidance of Prof. Dr. S. Hrabě, D.Sc. All his further life and work are associated

with the University of Agriculture in Brno where he started to work as an assistant of Prof. Dr. J. Kratochvíl, D.Sc. at the Department of Zoology in 1953. Here he became involved in the study of parasitic worms infecting free-living vertebrates and domestic animals. His attention was particularly focused on theoretical and practical aspects of rodent helminths. He has become a world-known specialist in this problem, as well as in many others. In 1962 he was awarded the C.Sc. degree in biology on the basis of his thesis "Parasitic worms of *Apodemus*" defended at the Institute of Parasitology, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. He received the RNDr. degree from the Charles University, Faculty

of Sciences. His knowledge encompassing not only parasitology, but also ornithology, theriology, evolutionary theories and applied zoology, was reflected in his Dissertation Paper entitled "Origin and evolution of rodent helminths (Anoplocephalidae, Catenotaeniidae, Hymenolepididae, Heligmosomatidae, Oxyurinae)". In 1978 he was awarded the D.Sc. degree from the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences for this work. His scientific and publishing activities are very extensive, comprising 167 original scientific papers. He has always looked for new,



non-traditional approach and viewpoints in his scientific work. The most important and known papers are: Some species of *Hymenolepis* (Cestoda) from rodents and from primates. *Acta sc. nat. Brno*, 4: 1—32, 1970; Parasitische Nematoden aus Wirbeltieren Afghanistans. *Ibid.* 6: 1—46, 1972; The helminth synusy of *Clethrionomys glareolus* in a lowland forest and its changes. *Ibid.* 8: 1—48, 1974; Tapeworms of the family Anoplocephalidae. Evolutionary implications. *Ibid.* 10: 1—37, 1974.

Prof. Tenora acted for short periods at the universities, academies and museums in many scientific centres, as Moscow, Leningrad, Minsk, Sofia, Warsaw, Berlin, Budapest, and also Paris, Barcelona, Bonn, Bern, Neuchâtel and Oslo.

He carried out scientific investigations and pedagogic activity also in Afghanistan at the University of Nangrahar. In this way he centred around him a group of co-workers from more than ten countries of Europe and America. Consequently, the problems of parasitic worms of vertebrates dealt with in his papers concern not only the localities in Czechoslovakia, but also in Hungary, Bulgaria, USSR, Poland, Austria, France, Norway, Finland, Spain, Afghanistan, Mongolia and Cuba. From the regional point of view, the scope of this work is really imposing.

With the same enthusiasm and precision, which are characteristic features of his creative scientific work, Prof. Tenora devoted himself to the pedagogic activity. In 1966 he was appointed Associate Professor and in 1979 Professor of Zoology. Since 1970 he has been Head of the Department of Zoology of the University of Agriculture in Brno, which is an important scientific-pedagogic centre in our country. During his teaching activities, Prof. Tenora educated hundreds of Czechoslovak and foreign specialists in agriculture. His very interesting lectures acquainted the students with the most recent advances in the ecological zoology and showed them a synthetic view on the significance and function of the animal component of agrosystems. Prof. Tenora is the author of a series of texts for students and co-author of a manual "Applied Zoology".

His scientific and organizational activities are also very rich. He is a member of the Scientific Board of the Faculty, active member of several scientific societies associated with the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, and he participates in the scientific education as a supervisor and member of commissions for the defenses of C.Sc. and D.Sc. Dissertation Theses. He has always connected his scientific activities with an active political work aimed at further building up of the developed socialist society.

The extensive scientific and pedagogic work of Prof. Tenora contributed significantly to the development of parasitology and zoology on a worldwide scale and to the publicity of our socialist country. He is a man full of optimism and deep scientific enthusiasm, with many plans for further creative activities.

On behalf of all Czechoslovak parasitologists and zoologists we wish Prof. Dr. František Tenora, D.Sc. good health and every success in his future pedagogic and scientific work.

Dr. V. Baruš, D.Sc.