

*In memoriam*

Professor Stevan Rončević, PhD

1933 - 2016



Professor dr Stevan Rončević was born in Krčedin in 1933. In 1957 he graduated from the Higher Pedagogical School, majoring in Biology and Chemistry, and started his fruitful pedagogical career. Recognized as a prominent pedagogue, he taught biology and chemistry to students of elementary and high schools.

Driven by his inquisitive mind, he began his scientific career as a Laboratory Technician at the Faculty of Technology in the University of Novi Sad. At the Department of Flour Technology, headed by Professor dr Šemborn, he discovered the secrets of flour and flour based products. Having gained valuable knowledge in the field, professor Rončević recognized that biological and entomological analysis was an integral and important part of food safety in commercial mills, the baking Industry, pasta factories and the confectionery Industry.

In 1966 professor Rončević graduated from the Faculty of Science (Biology) at the University of Novi Sad. The following year, he became a Teaching Assistant, working at the Faculty of Technology and teaching Biology under the guidance of Professor dr Štefka Pelicarić. By this time his focus was fully in applied entomology, with firm intentions to merge science and practice. In 1973 professor Rončević received his Master's Degree in Biology with his thesis, "Fauna and dynamics of insects populations in production machines of some mills in Vojvodina". In 1977 he received his PhD degree in Biology with his thesis, "Study of biology and harmfulness of Mediterranean flour moth *Anagasta (Ephestia) kuehniella* Zell." Later that year, through the integration process at the University of Novi Sad, professor

Rončević was transferred from the Faculty of Technology to the Faculty of Science on the Institute of Biology. As a result of this process, Professor Rončević's field of expertise, applied entomology, was integrated into the institute's researches. All the publications and conference presentations written by professor were the results of his work in the field of applied entomology and study of stored-product insects. There are no mills in the province of Vojvodina that professor did not visit, and his advice and recommendations were highly valued by mill workers.

Lectures given by Professor Stevan Rončević in the field of Biology to students of the Faculty of Technology, in addition to his influential lectures in Zoogeography to the students of Geography at the Faculty of Science will be remembered by many generations. Drawing from his rich pedagogical experience, he wrote a Biology Text book and three Exercise books for students in Food engineering and Pharmaceutical engineering study programs at Faculty of Technology, which are still in use today.

Professor Stevan Rončević sadly passed away on 14. July 2016. His scientific legacy remains in his published papers and books. He will be remembered by his colleagues and students as kind and mellow but firmly determined in his pursuit for knowledge.

Dr Zorana Banovački  
University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences,  
Department of Biology and Ecology,  
Trg Dositėja Obradovića 2, Novi Sad, Serbia