

ЛЕСОТЕХНИЧЕСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ФАКУЛТЕТ ПО ГОРСКО СТОПАНСТВО
Регистрационен индекс на дата
ФРС-5402/04.08.23.

OPINION

on the materials submitted for participation in a competition for “Professor” in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, Professional field 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty “Silviculture (incl. Dendrology)” in the discipline “Phytocoenology”, published in the State Gazette, No. 26/21.03.2023. Code FOR-P-0223-102.

Applicant: Marius Alipiev Dimitrov, Assoc. Prof. Dr – University of Forestry – Sofia.

Opinion by Prof. Dr. Tzvetan Mladenov Zlatanov, Professor in code 4.3. Biological Sciences, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Associate Professor in Professional field 6.5. Forestry.

1. Brief biographic data of the candidate:

Dr. Dimitrov holds a Master's degree in Forestry from the University of Forestry, Sofia, as well as an educational and scientific doctorate degree in Forestry (incl. Dendrology). The candidate has over 28 years of professional experience in the field of flora, vegetation and natural habitats research, biodiversity conservation, designation of forests of high conservation value, etc.

2. Correspondence of the submitted documents and materials of the applicant according to the Regulation for the Development of academic staff at the University of Forestry.

The documents and materials submitted by the candidate fully comply with the Law for Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation, and the Regulation for the Development of Academic Staff in the University of Forestry – Sofia.

3. Assessment of the candidate's teaching activities

Dr. Dimitrov has been teaching the discipline "Phytocenology and Botany" for a long-time. He is scientific supervisor of four graduate students and two successfully defended PhD students. The candidate is an author of three textbooks.

4. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific, applied and publication activity

4.1. Participation in scientific, applied and educational projects

The applicant has rich experience, especially when it comes to applied projects. Through the implemented projects, Dr. Dimitrov has made a significant contribution to the protection of Bulgarian nature and to the better management of Bulgarian forests.

4.2. Characteristics of the publication activities

For the purpose of the competition, the candidate has submitted 10 scientific publications, equivalent to a monograph, one book based on his dissertation work, four publications in refereed journals, 11 publications in non-refereed journals and 13 chapters in monographs. One of the referenced publications

- Tzonev, R., Tsiripidis, I., Mastrogiani, A., Dimitrov, M., Gussev, C., Mandzhukovski, D., Pachedjieva, K. 2023. Forest communities of European Horse-Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) – relict and endemic tree species to the Balkans. *Diversity* 2023, 15 (3), was not found on the Web, and there is no document giving a proof it has been accepted for publication.

4.3. Reflection of the candidate's scientific activity in the literature (citation rate)

A total of 11 documents were found in Web of Science and/or SCOPUS platforms, cited in 83 publications, H index - 6.

4.4. Contributions of the candidate's works (scientific and applied)

I accept the submitted contributions and consider them to be essential

5. Evaluation of the personal contribution of the candidate

The candidate is first author in 15 of the scientific works presented in the competition. I have reasons to believe that in most of the publications in which the applicant is not the first author, he has made a substantial contribution.

6. Critical comments and recommendations

I have no critical comments. My recommendation is that Dr Dimitrov should publish in prestigious international journals in his scientific field more often.

7. Personal impressions

I know the candidate as a conscientious researcher, and an ethical colleague.

8. Conclusion

On the basis of the submitted documents, I believe that Dr. Dimitrov meets the legislative requirements for the academic position "Professor", hence I PROPOSE the candidate MARIUS ALIPIEV DIMITROV to occupy the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, Professional field 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty "Silviculture (incl. Dendrology)" in the discipline "Phytocoenology"

Opinion by: TZVETAN
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ZLATANOV
(Prof. Dr. Tzvetan Zlatanov)

Date:
2023.08.03
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Opinion submitted on 3.8.2023 г.