

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE

RNDr. Marcela Braunová

Executive Editor of Plant Protection Science – retired



In March 2019, RNDr. Marcela Braunová, the long-serving Executive Editor of the scientific journal *Plant Protection Science*, retired. She chose an editorial career after her study of chemistry in the Faculty of Science of Charles University in Prague. In 1971, she successfully defended her doctoral thesis (rigorosum, background for RNDr.) in organic chemistry. Beginning in March 1972, she became a junior editor in the editorial office of the scientific journals, *Zemědělská technika* (Agricultural Engineering), and *Scientia Agriculturae Bohemoslovaca*.

In 1974, she took responsibility for the editorial office of the journal, *Sborník ÚVTI* (Proceedings of Institute of Scientific and Technical Information), which was comprised of two quarterly journals – *Genetika a šlechtění* (Genetics and Breeding) and *Ochrana rostlin* (Plant Protection), as well as two bimonthly journals – *Meliorace* (Melioration) and *Sociologie a historie zemědělství* (Sociology and History of Agriculture). Publication of these two journals was ended in 1983, and, in the same year, the journal *Sborník ÚVTIZ* expanded into a new quarterly journal *Potravinářské vědy* (Food Sciences). Until 2000, M. Braunová served as an Executive Editor for these three quarterly journals.

In 1974, she started her editorial career linked with *Ochrana rostlin* (Plant Protection) under Editor-in-Chief RNDr. Jaroslav Zakopal (during his illness, RNDr. Josef Šedivý served as Editor-in-Chief). In 1976, Assoc. Prof. Vít Bojňanský took over as Editor-in-Chief. In the years 1988–1990, Prof. Zdeněk Čača served as Editor-in-Chief.

Substantial changes and evolutions in journals occurred after the political changes in former Czechoslovakia at the end of 1989. At that time, a new Editor-in-Chief (Prof. Václav Kúdela) was hired, and, step-by-step, the journal was transformed into an international scientific journal written in English. Starting in 1999, the journal changed its name to *Plant Protection Science* and was fully published in English. Its Editorial Board was expanded to include international experts in the area of plant pathology and plant protection.

In 2006, Prof. V. Kúdela completed his tenure, and a new Editor-in-Chief was selected, Prof. Aleš Lebeda, who has led the journal until now. Dr. M. Braunová was active in the journal transformation process, and she served very efficiently in these changes. With the introduction of computer processing for manuscripts, she was responsible not only for its administration, but also for the technical processing of journals.

Starting in 2000, she received the position of Chief-Editor of all scientific journals published by the Czech Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) and was active in this role until the middle of 2014. In the years 2001–2014, she continued as an Executive Editor of *Plant Protection Science* and *Czech Journal of Food Sciences*. In the years 2006–2007, she was involved, together with the company Fractal, in the development of a new editorial system for the scientific journals of CAAS. Since 2008, this editorial system has been used for processing manuscripts for all journals published by CAAS.

During last two decades, Dr. M. Braunová substantially contributed to the production of various conference proceedings in the areas of plant protection and food sciences. As examples, we can mention “6th Conference of European Foundation for Plant Pathology” (2002), “Impact of Climate Change on the Occurrence and Activity of Pathogens, Pest and Diseases” (2009), “Biotech-Crops and their Utilization in Plant Protection against Diseases and Pests” (2012), and “1st International Conference Wild Plant Pathosystems” (2013).

It is also worth mentioning Dr. Braunová’s participation with Prof. Kúdela on an edition of the bilingual dictionary “Česko-anglické rostlinolékařské terminologie – Czech-English Plant Health Terminology” published by Academia (Prague, 2007), which contains definitions for 7888 terms pertaining to all theoretical and practical aspects of plant health care.

In 2017, she completed her position at CAAS and for the last two years has working on a contractual basis as an Executive Editor for *Plant Protection Science*. For her sustained and fruitful services, she received a Bronze Medal in 2012 from the Board of CAAS and a Silver Medal in 2016 for extraordinary contributions to the development of science and research in the agricultural sector.

Over a 47-year career, Dr. M. Braunová has displayed a very high degree of professionalism and enthusiasm, strong involvement in editorial activities, immeasurable contributions to the development of all journals published by CAAS, while helping to guide their transformation to the internationally recognized publications we know today. She has displayed considerable professional diligence and a remarkable knowledge of agricultural and plant health sciences. Among her assets include an ability to foster friendship, cooperation and team work. Marcela is still full of energy and ideas. We wish her a very happy, prosperous, fruitful, healthy and long life, as well as many further achievements in her personal life.

Prof. Aleš Lebeda, Olomouc and Prof. Václav Kúdela, Prague