

Jubilee of Professor Juraj Pivko

On 20 January 2014 Outstanding Slovak scientist and teacher DVM Juraj Pivko, MD., member of the editorial board of the Slovak Journal of Animal Science celebrated his 70th anniversary.

Prof. DVM Juraj Pivko, MD was born 20. 1. 1944 in Pezinok. He graduated in the field of General Veterinary Medicine at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Košice in 1968. In the same year he joined the Research Institute of Animal Production in Nitra, where he graduated in 1978 as a Postgraduate in the field of veterinary morphology and physiology.

His research continued in the reproduction of farm animals and in 1988 he defended his Doctoral dissertation. In 1992 he was qualified as Associate Professor in the reproduction of farm animals and in 1996 was appointed as a Professor of General Animal Breeding.

His research activities from the beginning were devoted to the reproduction of farm animals.

His dissertation in this topic was focused on the reproductive process of infantile gilts. The results of his work formed the basis for the successful solution of the research projects in the field of reproduction of farm animals, which resulted in the preparation of a doctoral dissertation „The processes of oocyte maturation and embryo transfer in cattle, pigs and sheep“.



Professor Pivko significantly contributed to the establishment of biotechnical methods, such as embryo transfer and artificial insemination in farm animals, in the former Czechoslovakia and then in Slovakia. Another important area of his activity was the development of electron microscopy in the field of animal science.

Prof. Pivko underwent research stays and lecturer tours in leading European research centres in Germany, France and Russia. He has been the principal investigator in many international research projects and grants, organizer and coordinator of eminent international conferences. A portfolio of his scientific publications has very good

international response and contains more than 400 bibliographic units (among them 21 scientific monographs and over 200 original scientific papers).

A significant part of the activities of professor Pivko is represented by his teaching activities on the Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Sciences of Slovak University of Agriculture and Faculty of Natural Sciences of Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, where he taught mainly subjects in the field of biotechnology and animal reproduction. He was the supervisor of a significant number of undergraduate theses.

Since 1988 he was Director of the Institute of Genetics and Reproduction of Farm Animals at the Research Institute for

Animal Production, where he created his own scientific school being a supervisor of 12 PhD students; 3 scientists in his research team were awarded the degree Doctor of Sciences.

Prof. Pivko is a member of several scientific boards, academic, expert committees and editorial boards; he is the holder of significant domestic and international awards.

At the occasion of his jubilee we wish professor Pivko in the following years a lot of optimism, health, creative scientific invention and enjoy in work activity and family life.

Prof. Ing. Ladislav Hetényi, PhD.
Editor-in-Chief