



Professor. Andrzej Bednarek
1948-2003

After a long struggle with an incurable disease, Prof. Andrzej Bednarek passed away in Warsaw on 22 June, 2003. He was a scientific member of the Department of Zoology, Chair of Biology of Animal Environment, Faculty of Animal Sciences, Warsaw Agricultural University. Prof. Bednarek was born on 28 April, 1948 in Poznan. In the years 1967-72 he studied Biology at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan where he received his MBS. During his studies he was a very active member of the Student Scientific Movement and in the League for Nature Preservation.

Under scientific guidance of Prof. Dr. Henryk Sandner, in 1982 he defended his doctorate thesis entitled: "Effect of internal environment of *Neoaplectana carpocapsae* Weiser (Rhabditida) on the formation of the nematode-host arrangement". In 1991, on the basis of his thesis "Ecological conditioning of biological activity of entomophilic nematodes in the soil environment of agrocenoses" he was conferred a title of a habilitated doctor. He had scientific training in the USA (Rutgers University, New Jersey), Holland (Institute of Plant Protection, Wageningen) and in the former USSR (All-Union Institute of Biological Methods in Kiszyniów).

In his research he dealt with problems of biology and ecology of insecticidal nematodes and research aiming at practical application of biological and integrated methods in agricultural and horticultural practice. Lately, he worked on putting into practice the Bio-Plus technology attempting to eliminate insecticides in the protection of vegetables cultivated under cover and substituting them with biological methods. For his scientific and research work Prof. Bednarek received prizes from the Secretary of State in the Ministry of Higher Education and Science in 1987 and in 2002. He was rewarded with a honorary distinction "For the merit of Warsaw Agricultural University". He was the author of 47 original scientific papers, 43 popular scientific articles, 9 books and textbooks.

Prof. Bednarek was a member of many scientific societies and organizations, such as the Polish Entomological Society, Polish Ecological Society, Polish Parasitological Society, International Organization of Biological Control, and the Society for Invertebrate Pathology. He was in contact with various scientific centres in Poland and abroad - Institute of Ecology of the Polish Academy of Sciences at Dziekanów, Institute of Agricultural Environment Protection of the Agricultural

University in Krakow, Department of Animal Ecology in Szczecin, Department of Applied Ecology at the Tennessee University (USA), Institute of Plant Protection in Wageningen (Holland), Institute of Czech Academy of Sciences in Ceske Budjowice and Ecology Department of the Ostrava University (the Czech Republic), Institute of Zoology, Belorussian Academy of Sciences in Minsk (Belorussia) and Institute of Parasitology, Academy of Sciences in Moscow (Russia). Prof. Andrzej Bednarek performed didactic work in three Faculties of the Warsaw Agricultural University. He was a scientific adviser for MBSc and PhD students. He worked out programmes of studies for such subjects as Ecology, Agricultural Ecology and Polish Fauna. He actively participated in the field of biological methods of plant protection and ecological agriculture.

Prof. Andrzej Bednarek was a patient teacher, open minded, initiative, hard working, cheerful, sincere, with a great sense of humour, always willing to help others. He will be sadly missed by his friends, students and colleagues. He is survived by his wife and an only son, Peter.

Prof Aleksandra Hartwig
Warsaw Agricultural University