

Jubilee of Václav Řehout

Prof Ing Václav Řehout, CSc. was born on 29th June 1943 in Malče, South Bohemia. He was awarded the Agricultural Diploma of Engineer in 1969 at the University of Agriculture Prague, Agronomic Faculty České Budějovice and the degree Doctor of Science (PhD) in 1979 at the same institution. Since 1971 his professional career has been closely connected with the Agricultural Faculty in České Budějovice. He started work as an assistant, and in 1972 was a special assistant in the department of Animal Breeding under the memorable leadership of Prof. Koubek. He is still there, now as head of the Department of Genetics, Animal Breeding and Nutrition. In 1988, he was appointed as associate professor, and in 1996, was granted a full professorship.

Prof V. Řehout gives lectures in genetics at the Faculty of Health and Social Studies and the Agricultural and Pedagogical Faculties of the University of South Bohemia. His research activity is very broad. Nevertheless, his focus is on the field of genetics and animal sciences, especially genome analysis, genetic polymorphisms and diversity. His most important work is on the saving of genetic resources. He has analysed some problems of population genetics in cattle, the amino acids content in milk, the longevity of cows etc. He is author and co-author of ten textbooks and 314 papers; for example Řehout V. et al.: Medical genetics and counselling (in Czech), 2003; Řehout V et al.: Genetics (in Czech), 2000; Čítek J. and V. Řehout V.: Genetic diversity in cattle evaluated by microsatellites and protein markers. Czech J. Anim. Sci. 46, 393–400, 2001; Řehout V. et al.: Comparison of growth hormone and k-casein gene polymorphism in Polish red and German red cattle breeds. J. Appl. Genet. 41: 181–185, 2000; Řehout V. et al.: The k-casein allele C in some cattle breeds in CR. Czech J. Anim. Sci. 43: 97–98, 1998.

After working to establish the University of South Bohemia in 1991, he contributed significantly to the advancement of the new institution. In 1998 as vice-rector, he was recognised for his part in the development of the first university in the region of South Bohemia. He is also a member of the Board for Gene and Animal Sources. Prof. Řehout is a member of the Czech Academy of Agricultural Sciences, has received the honour of the Wrocław University Medal (Poland) and the Taufer Medal of the Mendel Agriculture and Forest University in Brno (Moravia). Recently, his laboratory moved its focus from the area of population genetics to molecular genetics and the number of grants received has exceeded the number of scientific workers.

His personal characteristics and charitable activities in the Lions Club are typical and are part of his considerable reputation. He likes tennis, alpine tourism and skiing. Prof Řehout takes great satisfaction in the professional activities of his two children.

We wish Prof Řehout good health and energy for his organizing, scientific and teaching activities.

Josef Berger and Jindřich Čítek
České Budějovice, Czech Republic