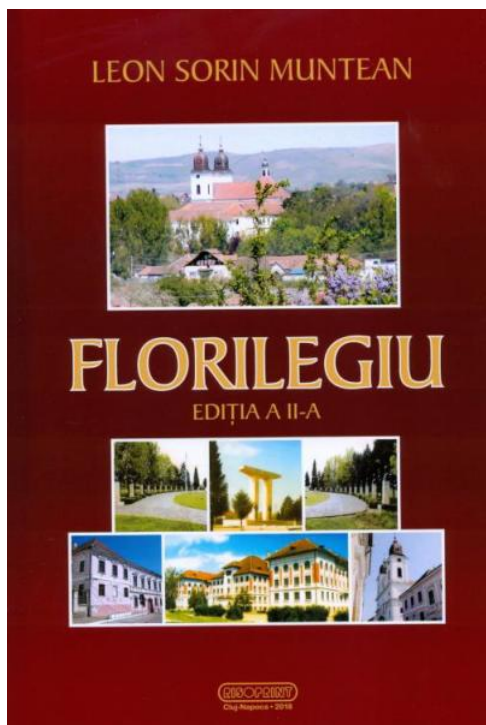


**ANNIVERSARY ANTHOLOGY FOR THE 80<sup>TH</sup>  
BIRTHDAY OF PROFESSOR LEON SORIN MUNTEAN  
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At the beginning of March 2018, the academic community of the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca celebrated, in a festive framework, the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of the great PhD. Prof. Leon Sorin MUNTEAN, top class didactic and scientific personality, former Rector of Cluj Agronomy between 1990-2000, permanent member of the Academy for Agricultural and Silvic Sciences and President of ASAS (*Academy of Agricultural and Silvic Sciences*) Branch of Cluj-Napoca.

Upon such anniversary moment, Professor Leon Sorin MUNTEAN, consistent with himself, published, after 10 years, the second edition of the volume “FLORILEGIU” (*Anthology*), an impressive reference material on the didactic, scientific, managerial and family accomplishments gathered during the eight decades of life (of which 54 years have been dedicated to teaching) belonging to the honourable



Professor. Through a remarkable analytic rigor, he creates a rich biographical volume, excellent in editorial terms, a real model for collaborators, colleagues and for those interested.

I personally met the Professor when I was a student and after another nine years, I had the opportunity of a contest for occupying the position of Assistant Professor at Phytotechny Department, whose collective at that time was composed of Professor Alexandru SALONTAI and Reader Leon Sorin MUNTEAN. Therefore, it is a special pleasure for me to highlight the fact that we became teaching colleagues and created a professional connection and a true friendship, fact that marked my academic career for which I thank to him and I remain deeply grateful. During the period of 30 years, until his retirement, in which we have worked together in teaching and in research contracts related to the discipline, I have been always close to him and enjoyed his goodwill and trust.

Professor Leon Sorin MUNTEAN represents a role model for many generations of students and colleagues who admire him and appreciate him, both for his human qualities as well as for the exceptional professional training, as a teacher and scientist and for the managerial ability, which he demonstrated during the 10 years of occupying the position of Rector.

Apart from the flawless academic posture, during years, I have admired the passion, attention and thoroughness implied when preparing his lectures, accompanied by a rich illustrative reference material, related to the technologies for the cultivation of field plants. This manner of working, which he preserved until the last lecture, represented a good example for his collaborators. With a particular passion for the didactic activity, he put teaching and the work with students on the first plan, being very close to his students, but similarly demanding.

He dedicated himself with a great efficiency to the research activity in very different areas of biology and technology of field cultures, from cropping-system to crop rotation, control of heathers, conducts of certain species and plant hybrids in the ecological condition of Cluj up to the biology and technology of cereals cultivation, legumes for beads, sugar beet, potato, hops and medicinal plants.

One of the most valuable accomplishments in his research is a remarkable contribution to the national programme „Hops Culture”, conducted, since its foundation in 1972, by the Professor Alexandru SALONTAI and, after his retirement, in 1997, by the Professor Leon Sorin MUNTEAN. During such period, together with his collaborators, he obtained important results in the technology and amelioration of such plant, by the creation and homologation of six types of hops.

He lead with great passion and ability the research contracts related to the bio-ecology, amelioration and cultivation technology of several medicinal and aromatic species of plants, cultivated or in process on being introduced in culture and the results he obtained have contributed to the enrichment of the national patrimony of agricultural science.

As stated in the second edition of "FLORILEGIU" volume, during his activity, the famous Professor Leon Sorin MUNTEAN elaborated and published, alone or in collaboration, a number of 56 books, treatises, monographies, academic courses, anthologies, etc., among which the most famous are „Manual de Fitotehnie” („*Phytotechny Manual*”), in several editions, „ Micul Tratat de Fitotehnie” („*Small Phytotechny Treatise*”), in three volumes, „ Tratatul de plante medicinale cultivate și spontane” („*Treatise on cultivated and spontaneous medicinal plants*”), in two editions, etc., some of them being awarded by the Romanian academic institutions. He also published a number of 350 scientific papers including a large range of problems in the field of Phytotechny, contributing to the enrichment of the national and global scientific treasure, over 50 specialty informative papers and over 100 papers on different subjects. He is also the author and co-author of nine patented inventions (type of hops and medicinal plants).

Complex personality, with a very rich professional and scientific activity, the honourable Professor revealed us, which surprised us extremely pleasant, another face of his passions, the artistic creation. The proof are the five poetry and prose volumes about Blaj, home of history and culture, for which I warmly congratulate him and wish new accomplishments in the future.

In the 10 years of managerial activity in the position of Rector, the university passed through a difficult but especially important phase of its existence, a period of deep transformations, in which many objectives have been met, objectives which contributed to the reformation and modernisation of the education and scientific research, among which the development of a material basis, the creation of new specialisations at all forms of study, strengthening of the collaborations with universities and research institutions from country and abroad, organisation and broadening of the education in colleges, organisation of the advanced and Master degree studies, etc.

The prestigious professional and scientific accomplishments place Professor Leon Sorin MUNTEAN among the top personalities of the agricultural education and research from Romania, with a wide acknowledgement and national and international appreciation. He is a

member in many scientific organisations in the country and has been awarded with numberless diplomas and academic titles, prizes and distinctions.

The new anniversary volume, similar to the first edition, is a remarkable anthology of the academic and scientific life of Professor Leon Sorin MUNTEAN and represents a model for the current and future generations.

I congratulate you, Professor, for everything you accomplished during the 80 years of life and I wish you to enjoy many years of health, peace and zest for work, along with your beautiful family!