

PREFACE

Professor Tamás Pócs is a recognized researcher, lovely colleague, a friend, a helpful person, a smart advisor and a pleasant social person. A complete "Man" in his reality. On behalf of myself and the close collective, we are grateful that we can enjoy these excellent human qualities for a long time to come, and we wish him good health for the future on his 90th birthday.

The eminent Hungarian botanist and bryologist Prof. Tamás Pócs, who is the professor emeritus of Eszterházy Károly Catholic University, was born in Budapest on 6th August 1933. He started his elementary studies at the Reformed Secondary School in Budapest (Lónyai Gimnázium), famous for its outstanding professors, and his serious interest in botany began. In 1951 he applied to study biology at Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest and this was the starting moment of his unique and excellent professional career as botanist and bryologist which lasts until now. On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of his biology Diploma, he got the Iron Diploma in 2021 in Budapest at Eötvös Loránd University.

He is a professor with Széchenyi Professor Grant, an ordinary member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, board member of several international and national scientific organizations and participates in the public life of the local scientific community. In addition to all this, he has a special charm with his large beard and he is extremely friendly, well-intentioned and helpful to all who come to him, in the field of professional or scientific matters. According to the current data, 555 of his publications have appeared in print, and the number of references given to them reaches 4,000.

In recognition of his educational and scientific activities, he has received many honours and awards: the Albert Szent-Györgyi Award (1996), the Pro Natura Award (2001), the Szilárd Leó Professor Scholarship (2003), The Hungarian Republic Cross of Merit (2010) and Széchenyi Prize (2014).

The national and international scientific community, the Department of Botany and Plant Physiology, the Authors of the articles wish him Happy Birthday and offer Tamás this ABPA Volume with respect and love.

Eger, May of 2023

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