

CURRICULUM VITAE

I was born in Budapest in 1932. I graduated as an agricultural engineer from the Agricultural University of Gödöllő in 1956.

I was working in the agricultural practise for 16 years. My highest position was chief animal breeder in the State Economy of Hortobágy, controlling the breeding of 4000 cattle, 75 000 sheep, 8000 horses (including nonius nucleus population), 600 sows and several thousand poultries (fowl, duck, guinea fowl, goose).

I left the economy for family reasons (I had to educate my 7 children) and firstly I worked in the Animal Breeding Research Institute in Herceghalom in the horse breeding department, then I was involved in launching Hungarian meat cattle breeding.

I started my work in the University of Veterinary Medicine as an assistant professor, associate professor in 1974 invited by professor Horn, then I became the head of the Animal Breeding Department as an academic lecturer from 1984.

I obtained a doctoral degree with the dissertation of Hungarian grey cattle breeding. In 1967, my candidate thesis was related to the population genetics of horse breeding (1977). My academic doctoral defence was about “Gene reservation in animal husbandry” in 1991.

I can give lecturer and speak fluently in German, English and French. I have given lecturers of genetics and animal breeding in the University of Veterinary Medicine in English from 1993.

My scientific interests mainly include the protection and evaluation of genetic diversity and the breeding of different domesticated species.

In 1990 I was asked to organize a discussion about gene resources and gene reserves and make a presentation on the fourth applied genetic world congress (Edinburgh). I gave an opening discussion of a similar topic in an international conference in Tsukubai (Japan) in 1995. In the 5th applied genetic conference (Guelph, Canada) I was called to be the co-author of the report about Europe.

I am an author, editor and co-editor of several books and book excerpts, as the followings: *Hortobágy Állattenyésztése (1976)*, *Általános állattenyésztés (jegyzet 1996)*, *A magyar szürke szarvasmarha (magyar és angol nyelven, 2004)*, *Eleven örökség (magyar és angol nyelven 2005)*, *Lótenyésztés (kézikönyv 1992)*, *Conservation genetics of endangered horse breeds (2005)*.

I was an initiative of a successful INCO-COPERNICUS application involving genetic diversity exploration of a species with the concomitant use of animal

breeding and molecular genetic parameters. The work was carried out with the cooperation of Austrian, Slovenian and Swiss universities.

I maintain relations with the local practice and I am the chairman of the Hungarian Grey Cattle Breeders Association and the International Horse Breeder Association of Furioso North Star. The engagement in the one hand provides an opportunity to benefit from scientific knowledge and experiences gained abroad. In the other hand, enriches scientific work with new research opportunities giving a possibility for Hungarian and foreign-language publications.

As a recognition, I have been honoured by several local and international awards (Újhelyi Imre, Nagyváthy János and Pro Natura Medallion, Horn Artúr Award, EAAP-Distinguished Service Award, Knight's Cross of the Order of the Republic of Hungary, Konkoly-Thege Award).

Apart from local works, I undertake responsibilities in different international organisations. I was a member of the FAO Expert Panel for Conservation of Animal Genetic Resources from 1982-1992 until termination dealing with the world-wide protection of endangered domestic breeds.

I was involved in the work team of the European Animal Breeders Association registering and protecting genetic diversity in Europe from 1985 to 1997.

I was a vice president of the Horse Breeding Department of the European Animal Breeders Association from 1986 to 1992.

I led the breeding committee of the Lipizzan International Federation from 1985 to 1990 and was a president until 2000.

I have been a member of the directorship of Rare Breeds International NGO carrying out a world-wide action established in Budapest in 1991. I was appointed deputy manager and management committee member of SAVE (Safeguard of Agricultural Varieties in Europe) dealing with the discovery and protection of rare domestic breeds, plant growing and horticultural values under degradation.

I was an initiative of DAGENE (Danubian Countries Alliance for Conservation of Genes in Animal Species) organising the cooperation of neighbourhood countries. I have been a president from 1991 and vice president from 1998.

I was the head of the United Animal Breeding and Nutrition Department in the University of Veterinary Medicine, I was retired in 1998 and I have been working in University of Debrecen Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management Department of Animal Breeding. I have been a professor emeritus from 2002.

Honours:

State economy excellent worker (1970)

Nagyváthy János Medallion (1987)

Újhelyi Imre Award (1991)
EAAP Distinguished Service Award (1993)
Textbook Nivo Award (1993) (1996), (1997), (2002), (2006), (2009)
Pro Natura Medallion (1994)
Doctor Honoris Causa Debrecen (1995)
Darányi Ignác Borad of Trustees Award (1999)
Horn Artúr Award (2001)
Professor emeritus Debrecen (2003)
Knight's Cross of the Order of the Republic of Hungary 2004
Pro Scientiis Agriculturae Debrecen (2006)
Academic Award (2008)
Konkoly-Thege Award (2008)