

# STATEMENT

From: Prof. Ph.D. Mitko Todorov Lalev – Agricultural Institute – Stara Zagora,

Scientific Department "Breeding and technologies in Poultry and Rabbits", field of higher education 6. "Agricultural sciences and Veterinary medicine", professional field 6.3. "Animal husbandry", scientific specialty "Breeding of farm animals, biology and biotechnology of reproduction".

Regarding: Competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional field 6.3. Animal husbandry - scientific specialty "Poultry" at the Agricultural Faculty of Thrakia University at the Department of „Animal husbandry - non-ruminants and other animals“

## **1. Information about the competition**

The competition was announced for the needs of the Department of „Animal husbandry - non-ruminants and other animals“ at the Agricultural Faculty of TrU, announced in Governmental newspaper no. 104 / 08.12.2020.

I participate in the composition of the scientific jury of the competition according to Ordinance № 305 / from 15.02.2021 of the Rector of TRU.

## **2. Brief information about the candidate in the competition**

The professional development in the field of animal husbandry of Assistant Professor Ph.D. Hristo Lukanov Hristov started in 2005, after graduating from TrU with the acquisition of the educational - qualification degree "Master of Veterinary Medicine". From 2006 to 2009 he studied at the Agricultural Faculty of the same university and acquired a Master's degree in „Animal husbandry“, Poultry program. After a regular form of education at the Department of „Animal husbandry - non-ruminants and other animals“ and successful defense of a dissertation on "Study of egg productivity and egg quality in crosses of the breed Rhodeland and Schindellar", he received educational and scientific degree "Ph.D.". From 2016 until now he has been teaching students in the specialty "Poultry" at the Agricultural Faculty of TrU - Stara Zagora, and since 2019 he has been a Chief Assistant.

### **3. Fulfillment of the requirements for holding the academic position**

Analyzing the presented evidence materials in accordance with the requirements of the LDASRB on Research and Teaching and those set out in Annex 8.1. of PDAS in TrU - Stara Zagora it is evident that at the required minimum for "associate professor" 545 points, Ph.D. Lukanov presents a scientific product, forming 1367.5 points, which is 150.9% overfulfillment, and there is no indicator that is in a negative version.

### **4. Evaluation of the teaching activity for the candidate**

The teaching activity of the candidate started in 2015, training ten graduates in the specialty "Zoo engineering", and since 2016 Assistant Professor Ph.D. Lukanov conducts practical classes and lectures in the disciplines "Poultry", "Production Management in the agricultural sector", "Technologies for the industrial production of eggs and egg products", "Technologies for the industrial production of poultry meat", "Technologies for the production of fatty liver", "Incubation" and "Qualification of hen eggs". He has also taught the elective and optional disciplines "Turkey" and "Waterfowl". In parallel with his teaching work, he co-authored a "Guide to Poultry practical classes" and a "Poultry practical classes Workbook" for students specialty in "Zoo engineering".

### **5. Brief description of the presented scientific papers / publications**

The main areas in which Ph.D. Lukanov works are the quality of poultry production, breeding technologies, nutrition, biology and genetic characteristics of birds, which are reflected in his publications. The presented list of scientific papers shows 34 scientific articles and reports, of which 21 scientific papers are in indexed editions in world databases and 13 in un-referred journals with scientific review, 23 are in Latin (English) and 11 in Cyrillic. The candidate also presents a monograph on "Quails of the genus *Coturnix* in nature and agriculture." The topicality of Ph.D. Lukanov's research activity is detached in 26 citations in journals, all refereed and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, as only one is in a source without IF and / or SJR.



## **6. Synthesized assessment of the main scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the candidates**

The main directions in the research activity of Assistant Professor Ph.D. Hristo Lukanov are in the field of egg-laying and meat-producing productivity in chickens, pheasants and quails. With non-less importance are the studies establishing the productive qualities of the Black Shumen hen and the Easter laying hen. In the field of nutrition, the influence of silymarin as a food supplement on productivity in quails and the influence of the addition of garlic powder on the quality of broiler chicken meat and its interaction with added probiotics in the rations were studied.

## **7. Basic critical remarks and recommendations**


I recommend in future research related to establishing the effect of various organic and inorganic products affecting productivity to establish the amino acid and fatty acid profile of the products (meat, eggs), which will enrich the information related to rational nutrition in humans. Histological examinations of the digestive tract would also be evidence of the effect of the test product on bird productivity.

## **8. Conclusion**

Analyzing the presented evidence for the overall scientific-applied, publishing and project activity, I believe that all the criteria of LDASRB and PDAS of TrU - Stara Zagora regarding the terms and conditions for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" are covered. My personal impressions from my early acquaintance with Ph.D. Lukanov give me reason to say that he is already an experienced and well-established lecturer and researcher in the field of poultry farming.

In support of this, I allow myself to propose to the members of the scientific jury to give a positive assessment and propose to the Faculty Council of the Agricultural Faculty of the Thraka University to award the Assistant Professor Ph.D. Hristo Lukanov Hristov the academic position "Associate Professor" in 6. "Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine", professional field 6.3. "Animal Husbandry", scientific specialty "Poultry"

Date: 10.03.2021  
Stara Zagora

  
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( Prof. Ph.D. M. Lalev )