



Professor Syvolap, Yuriy Mykhailovych was born on November 18, 1939 in the city of Dnipropetrovsk. In 1961 he graduated from Odesa State Agricultural Institute, majored in Agricultural Sciences. In 1963 he applied for post-graduate study in all-USSR Institute of Selection and Genetics (all-USSR IS&G), which he successfully completed in 1966. The years of 1969–1970 were spent by Prof. Syvolap in California Institute of Technology in the USA; in 1971–1987 he chaired the laboratory and in 1988–1999 – Molecular Genetics Department of all-USSR IS&G. Throughout 1999–2011 Prof. Syvolap was the Director of Southern Biotechnological Center of Vegetation, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences of Ukraine. In 1967 Prof. Syvolap defended his PhD thesis at all-USSR IS&G and in 1987 – his Doctoral thesis on Organization and Variability Specificities in Genomes of Cultivated Cereals at the Institute of Genetics and Cytology, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus. Prof. Syvolap was awarded an academic title of Professor in 1989 and was elected the Full-Member of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences of Ukraine in 1999.

Professor Yuriy Syvolap was a world-level scientist, who was among the first researchers of the USSR to study DNA of agricultural plants and became the leader in unveiling molecular organization, variability, and specificities of plant genome. Together with scientists from the former USSR, Prof. Syvolap founded Plant Genome, all-USSR scientific program. In 1999, pursuant to the resolution of the presidium of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of Ukraine, Prof. Syvolap organized Southern Biotechnological Center in Agriculture, SBC, which became the center of modern DNA-technologies and methods of *in vitro* cultivation of plants to accelerate the selection of the most important agricultural plants. The SBC, headed by Prof. Syvolap, became the coordinator and a leading institution in implementing Agricul-

## CHRONICLE AND INFORMATION

### In memoriam:

#### Yu. M. Sivolap (1939–2014)

tural Biotechnology, scientific and technological program. Prof. Syvolap was the first in Ukraine to introduce a modern method of polymerase chain reaction in biotechnological studies of plants. He was involved in the first in Ukraine and CIS countries elaboration of Dialogue corn hybrid using molecular markers, which was performed by the selectionists of the Selection and Genetics Institute, SGI. Prof. Syvolap was the vice-chairman of Vavilov Ukrainian Society of Geneticists and Selectionists, the editorial board member of numerous scientific journals, including *Cytology and Genetics*, *Biopolymers and Cell*, *Bulletin of Society of Geneticists and Selectionists of Ukraine*. He published over 500 scientific papers, including 5 monographs, 13 methodological recommendations, and authored 26 patents of Ukraine. He was the founder of the world-known school of molecular geneticists; he supervised 19 PhD and 4 Doctoral theses. In 1995 he was elected a Corresponding Member and in 1999 – Full Member (Molecular Genetics) of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of Ukraine. In 2009 Prof. Syvolap was awarded an honorary title of Science and Technology Scholar of Ukraine and a number of Honorary Diplomas and Certificates.

Full member of NAS, Yuriy Syvolap, was remarkable for a wide range of scientific interests. For many years he collaborated with Odesa Forensic Medical Expertise Bureau and launched DNA-dactylography in southern regions.

He was a restless scientist, scientific organizer, respected specialist, a genuine Teacher; an open intellectual, a man full of life and sincerity; author of short stories; citizen of his country, who painfully witnessed current situation in Ukraine.

A person lives as long as he is remembered...

The image of Syvolap, Yuriy Mykhailovych will be carved forever in the memories of his relatives and grateful students and colleagues.