

FOLIA MENDELIANA

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Edited by Jiří Sekerák ■

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MUZEUM BRNO 2020

MENDEL MEMORIAL MEDAL 2020

The medalist of the Mendel Memorial Medal for the year 2020 is Professor Johann Sölkner, who earned it for his promotion of Mendel's legacy through the Gregor Mendel Society of Vienna. Johann Sölkner from University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, BOKU, Vienna is an outstanding laureate. He is professor of animal genetics/animal breeding, Head of Division of Livestock Sciences and he is in the board of the Gregor Mendel Ges. Wien. He was the president of this society in the period before prof. Hermann Bürstmayr.

Johann Sölkner has a quite impressive list of publications. He is the author or co-author of more than 180 scientific articles and publications and the bearer and participant of numerous grants and international scientific projects founded on wide international scientific cooperation. He has many world-wide collaborators including F. Nicholas from Sydney and others. He is working on various problems of livestock breeding, programs from Lipizza horses (suffering from inbreeding because of the very small population) to



Fig. 1. Prof. Johann Sölkner (BOKU, Vienna). Photo credit: Lorenz Vollmann.

breeding for subsistence farming in Africa etc., and from population genetics to genomic selection all with big-data approaches. He worked as Special visiting scientist at São Paulo State University; Science without Borders Program, Brazil or as Adjunct Professor at George Mason University in U.S.A. He is a member of several international editorial boards of scientific journals including Journal of Animal Breeding and Genetics, Asian-Australasian Journal of Animal Sciences and Frontiers in Genetics: Chief Editor „Livestock Genomics“, as Associate Editor. He also organized and chaired many scientific conferences.

The Mendel Memorial Medal was awarded to prof. Sölkner on March 6, 2020 within the International Mendel Day program in the ceremony hall of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna. Prof Sölkner took over the award from the hands of the Director General of the Moravian Museum PhDr. Jiří Mitáček, Ph.D.

Petra Elblová

Contents

FOLIA MENDELIANA 56/1-2 2020

Jiří SEKERÁK: Editorial	3
Peter J. van DIJK, T. H. Noel ELLIS: Mendel's journey to Paris and London: context and significance for the origin of genetics	5
Peter J. van DIJK: Gregor Mendel's meeting with Pope Pius IX: the truth in the story	35

THE CHRONICLE

Johann VOLLMANN: The International Mendel Day 2020 in Austria	51
Petra ELBLOVÁ: Mendel Memorial Medal 2020	55
Pavína PONČÍKOVÁ: Spring Holidays in the Mendelianum Centre, February 19, 2020	57
Petra ELBLOVÁ: The International Mendel Day in Brno, March 8, 2020	59
Pavína PONČÍKOVÁ: Mendel's birthday, July 22, 2020	61

FOLIA MENDELIANA 56/1-2 2020
Supplementum ad Acta Musei Moraviae, CV

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