

## IN MEMORIAL TO Janez POGAČAR

The international community of cattle breeders regrets the sudden death of Janez Pogačar, Professor for Animal Breeding and Biometry at the Biotechnical Faculty of the University of Ljubljana.

After his basic agricultural education Janez Pogačar had the possibility to broaden his knowledge with Prof. Fewson at the University of Hohenheim and the Bayerische Landesanstalt für Tierzucht in Grub. He also spent some time with Prof. Politiek at the Dutch Agricultural University in Wageningen. His Ph.D.-thesis about the importance of milk ability covered not only selection aspects, but also the importance of milk ability as workability trait in larger dairy herds in Slovenia, the origin of his data. At an early stage he introduced breeding values for milk ability in his country and in other parts of the former Yugoslavia.

Janez Pogačar was well known as a teacher, but he also was interested to put theoretical findings into applied work. The selection programs for all three main cattle breeds in Slovenia were mainly influenced by him and his coworkers. This led very early to an engagement with the European Braunvieh Conference and the European Fleckvieh Association, where he was in certain periods the Slovenian representative. Besides of his breed involvement his main interest was in the development of milk recording in his country, not only for the larger state farms, but also for the farmers in the less favourable mountain regions. He was very early interested in the fast return of milk recording results to improve the herd management and his office offered action lists for larger herds long before it became a routine service. From the beginning of INTERBULL Janez Pogačar served as Slovenian representative and was the member of the steering committee for a four year period as Eastern European representative. Conversion formulas were applied at an early stage and Slovenia was among the first countries to deliver data for the joint MACE-evaluation in Upsalla.

He was actively engaged in the "International Committee on Animal Recording" and its working groups. On many international conferences Janez presented papers and used to be an active discutant. The international community regrets his early death and especially that he could not witness the ICAR-conference in Bled in 2000, an event he was actively preparing even in his last days of life.

Special wishes deserve his family, who always supported him in all activities, even in running a small farm in the Bohinj hills. Those who had the privilege to know him will preserve the memory of this actively dedicated, knowledgeable and whole-hearted colleague and friend.

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