



On behalf of the membership of the Bulgarian Botanical Society (BBS) and myself personally, it is an honour and pleasure to extend our most sincere and warmest congratulations to Professor Jelena Blaženčić on the occasion of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We members of the BBS highly appreciate the results of scientific research performed by Professor Jelena Blaženčić and her contribution to the professional preparation of many young biologists - doctors and masters of science, botanists, hydrobiologists. She has earned a noteworthy place and prestige in the scientific community of Serbia and beyond its borders as well.

Professor Jelena Blaženčić is one of those university professors who actively and successfully combine scientific, teaching, administrative and public work.

Both independently and in co-authorship, the works of Professor Blaženčić have been cited in over 200 bibliographic units, which include monographs, scientific publications, textbooks, presentations at national and international conferences.

With the foresight and responsibility of a scientist and a university lecturer, Professor Blaženčić has created unique collections of Charales and other aquatic plants containing over 2500 samples from the territory of former Yugoslavia and different places in France, China, Australia, Namibia and even South America.

All this was marked by an outstanding degree of professionalism, many hours of work, selflessness and love of research and teaching, for which she is highly esteemed and recognised by the botanists of Bulgaria.

With the old Slavic greeting “НА МНОГАЯ ЛЕТА” (May God grant you many years ahead!), we BBS members congratulate Jelena on her birthday and express to her our deep admiration for her personal merits as an individual, a scientist and a university lecturer – a shining example for the younger generation. Her life and work confirm a Mongolian saying: “Trees are the decoration of a mountain; learned persons are the decoration of a country”.

We hope that Jelena will be able to preserve her energy, continue to pass down her accumulated knowledge to the younger generation and enjoy the respect and love of relatives, colleagues and grateful students and followers for many more years to come.

Prof. DSc. Dobrina Temniskova  
President of the Bulgarian Botanical Society

