

FOREWORD OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In 2014, after 10 years of interruption, Book 2 – Botany of the Annual of Sofia University “St Kliment Ohridski”, comes to life again. The volumes of the Annual of Sofia University are more than a century old and have been recognized and acknowledged by audience not only as a pure scientific collection of papers, but also as a vital historical documentation, which reflects the activities of University teachers. This, together with the fact, that the Annual is issued just once in a year, makes it an unique periodical publication, with a totally different fate from other pure scientific journals. It was a long discussion among the members of the newly established Editorial Board how to proceed in future, if we decide to continue at all in the circumstances of the new requirements for scientists and new scientific style, where the impact peer reviewed journals are appreciated as the most valuable ones. In spite of this, it was our common decision to take the risk of *revival* of this periodical on the highest possible scientific level, keeping in the same time the best of its traditions. We strongly believe that these efforts are worthy, especially now, when biodiversity is a focal point of all nature conservational activities but “classical studies, characterizing different categories of biodiversity on all levels, are no longer appreciated by many younger (and also older) biologists” (MOLLENHAUER 2014). Therefore we accept as our scientific and national duty to keep this special periodical issue, in which could be published valuable scientific data on local and regional biodiversity of Bulgaria, based on the solid fundamental knowledge of classical botany but strongly linked with modern systematics methods and paradigms. In addition, other papers, orientated towards different aspects of plant sciences are and will continue to be more than welcome in our specialized volume. Honoring the best traditions, Book 2–Botany will keep its readers informed about the research carried-out by the youngest botanists and mycologists – bachelors, master students and PhD students of the Faculty of Biology of Sofia University, scientific conferences reports and book reviews. In spite of being created and declared as departmental periodical, Book 2–Botany of the Annual of Sofia University, as a peer-reviewed periodical is permanently open for all botanists and mycologists, who would like to share their knowledge and recent findings.

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