

## Letter from the Editor

With the first issue of 82 volume of *Acta Societatis Botanicorum Poloniae* the Editors want to bring to your attention a very special event – 90-ieth anniversary of our journal's first appearance. Free Poland, regaining in 1918 its freedom, lost in 1772 due to partitioning by foreign states, which has been named by the historian C. D. Hazen the most iniquitous act of the century and one of the greatest political crimes in European history, quickly recreated a very good environment for all civil activities. This was especially beneficial for the development of plant science. Polish botanists organized themselves establishing at first their Society (PBS – Polish Botanical Society) in 1922 and shortly afterwards, in 1923, their first professional scientific journal *Acta Societatis Botanicorum Poloniae*. It has been successfully published until today, with only short time of discontinuity between the years 1940 and 1947, because of World War II. Prominent scientists, such as Hryniewiecki, Paczoski, Starmach, Wodziczko, Szafer, Pawłowski, Gajewski and later Rodkiewicz, Olszewska, Hejnowicz, Wodzicki, Fabiszewski, to name a few, associated through their publications with the ASBP journal, built up its prestige and made it known worldwide. Although in the past the priority of Polish botany was mainly to recognize, explore and protect the country's rich natural resources and still today the ecology and environmental studies dominate the journal's content, the new developments in plant physiology and experimental plant biology have also been presented in a very well balanced way.

Gajewski, the founder of modern plant genetics in postwar Poland was one of the longest acting Editors of the journal. His early works on *Geum* cytogenetics and evolution are still today highly valued and are regarded as classics in the textbooks. It is *Acta* where the discovery of the first periclinal chimera in gymnosperms has been reported. Wodzicki presented here his model of polar auxin transport well before PAT's true nature was recognized in the world's literature, Hejnowicz showed the phenomenon of cambial morphogenetic waves' superposition, entirely new to science, and French physicist Couder explored the potentials of his new theoretical model of phyllotaxis using *Helianthus* as a model plant. These are but a few examples of significant contributions to plant science published in *Acta*. Now, being one of the most prominent, widely profiled botanical journals in Central Europe, operating in electronic space, the ASBP is attracting attention of authors from Western and Southern Europe but also from the Middle and Far East of Asia, which guarantees its further growth in a global scale.

With this year's anniversary we enter the last decade before even nobler event – the CENTENNIAL of ASBP, which will take place in 2023. Thus it is natural to encourage the botanical community to write and publish in ASBP, besides the regular research also the review articles that would sum up the development and achievements of plant science presented by the journal in past decades. We are open now to receiving such historical contributions. This should be the best way of celebrating the special event – the journal's 90-ieth anniversary.

Editor-in-Chief  
Beata Zagórska-Marek

