

CHRONICLE

The year 2016 has a double meaning for the Botanical Garden of Iași, celebrating 200 years from the birth of its founder, the physician and nature enthusiast Anastasie Fătu and 160 years from the foundation of the first Romanian Botanical Garden.

The cultural and scientific events organized by the Botanical Garden of Iași in 2016 were entirely dedicated to Anastasie Fătu. The cycle of anniversary manifestations begun in February with the *Azaleas and Camellias Exhibition* and ended in November with the 40th edition of the Flower, Fruits and Seeds Exhibition – *Autumn Flowers*.

Between September 22nd and September 25th 2016 took place the 9th Edition of the Scientific Symposium *In situ and ex situ conservation of plant diversity* organized by “Anastasie Fătu” Botanical Garden of Iași, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași. With this occasion 50 scientific papers were presented, having as main subjects aspects concerning the structural and functional diversity of fungi and plants, vegetal taxonomy and phytosociology, *in vitro* cultures and fungal and plant metabolites, ecology, biodiversity conservation and ecological education. This symposium gathered in the Senate Hall of “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași over 100 researchers in the field of botany and related study areas from Romania, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Switzerland, and Ukraine. Within this event a field application was organized in the Bicăzului-Hășmaș Gorges National Park and Șugăului Gorges. During this application observations regarding the flora and vegetation of these areas were done.

The personnel of the Botanical Garden of Iași marked the double anniversary by editing a special volume – *Nature conservation in the Botanical Garden of Iași* (coordinated by univ. prof. Cătălin TĂNASE, PhD) dedicated to Anastasie Fătu, which presents the life and activity of the great scholar, the history of the Botanical Garden, the structure and scientific collections, but also the educational and research activities carried out in this institution.

Cristiana Virginia PETRE, PhD
Coordinator of Useful Plants Sector