

IN MEMORIAM



ZOLTAN KLEMENT
(1926–2005)

Zoltan Klement, Research Professor at the Plant Protection Institute, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, suddenly and unexpectedly passed away on October 19, 2005.

Professor Klement joined the Plant Protection Institute in 1949 and worked in the same laboratory and in the same rooms throughout his 56-year career. He established research in bacteriology at the Institute and later became head of the bacteriology group. His academic career was hallmarked as early as 1964 by the demonstration of the exist-

ence of a hypersensitive response (HR) in plants resistant to bacterial infections (Z. Klement, G.L. Farkas, L. Lovrekovich, 54, 474–477). Recently he and his co-workers had been engaged in the pathological and molecular characterization of a new type of basal resistance of plants effective against bacterial infection. In addition to basic research, Professor Klement was extremely interested in practical aspects of plant diseases, particularly in the role of *Pseudomonas syringae* in the apoplexy disease of apricot trees. He was also involved in

teaching at graduate schools of several Universities.

Although Professor Klement spent his entire career in Hungary, his influence on plant pathology has been felt throughout the world. The scientific community regarded several of the nearly 150 papers he authored as essential, and the book he co-edited (*Plant Pathogenic Bacteria*, 1990) had a very favourable reception. He also dealt with plant diseases in the Mediterranean region and visited countries in the area many times. He co-operated with the Mediterranean Phytopathological Union and with plant pathologists from the Union. He will long be remembered by all of them for his con-

tribution to solving problems in the area, as well as for his friendship.

Professor Klement was a member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences since 1985. He was honoured with a Doctor's degree *honoris causa* by three Hungarian Universities, and with the Széchenyi Award by the State of Hungary in 1994.

While Zoltan Klement worked hard in the laboratory and in the field, he also enjoyed life to the fullest. He had a passion for life, found joy in everything, and this radiated from him. Among his many talents, he was an excellent painter and gardener. After his death, many are grieving for the loss of a truly good friend and scientist.

ZOLTAN KIRÁLY and TAMAS KOMIVES