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IF YOU WORK WITH INSPIRATION – SUCCESS IS GUARANTEED

In 2021, Viktor Khalak, Candidate of Agricultural Sciences, Senior Researcher, Doctor of Philosophy, Head of the Laboratory of Animal Husbandry of the State Institution Institute of Cereals NAAS, will be 60 years old.

Viktor Khalak was born on April 20, 1961 in the Mykhailivka village, Novovorontsovka district, Kherson region. In 1978, when he graduated the high school, he studied at the Kakhovka Training Complex, and then (1979–1984) at the Dnipropetrovsk Agricultural Institute. Then there was service in the Soviet Army and work as the Chief Zootechnician of the State Farm-Plant "Kamianskyi", Beryslav district of Kherson region.

In 1985, he was offered the position of assistant at the Farm Animal Breeding and Genetics Department at the Dnipropetrovsk Agricultural Institute.

For a long time, this department was headed by Professor M. O. Selek, V. I. Sokrut, Candidate of Agricultural Sciences, Professor I. M. Panasiuk, Doctor of Agricultural Sciences. First of all, the attention was paid here to purposeful and effective research and active creative work. In view of this, the young specialist carefully heeded the advice of experienced scientists, and at the same time tried to make the best of their own intellectual potential. He strengthened theoretical and practical knowledge in 3-month advanced training courses on "Genetics with the biometry basics" at the Moscow Veterinary Academy named after K. I. Scriabin. Hard work yielded the fruitful results. There were first scientific publications, participation in conferences, seminars, regional and national meetings on farm animal breeding and genetics, etc.

In 1988, Viktor Khalak entered the full-time postgraduate course of the Poltava Research Institute of Pig Breeding of the Southern Branch of VASHNIL in the specialty 06.02.01 "Farm Animal Breeding, Selection and Reproduction". During the period of postgraduate study, according to the schedule of postgraduate training, he performed the experimental part of the work, developed the literature sources, mastered various research methods, and actively participated in creating pig population the new parent intrabreed type of Large White breed with improved fattening qualities UVB-2 (Professor M. D. Berezovskyi, Academic Adviser, Doctor of Agricultural Sciences, Corresponding Member of NAAS). He treated creatively and responsibly to scientific work, carefully an



alyzed the data, and is particularly interested in the statistical processing research results. After postgraduate study in 1991, according to the personal distribution of State Commission for Food and Procurement under the USSR Council of Ministers, Viktor Khalak was sent to Dnipropetrovsk State Agrarian University, where he first worked as an assistant, and since 1996 - Senior Lecturer at the Farm Animal Breeding and Genetics Department.

Since 2003, the Victor Khalak's career was closely linked with the Institute of Animal Husbandry of the central regions of UAAS; here he held the position of Senior Researcher at the Pig Breeding Department. In 2006, he successfully defended his Candidate's dissertation on the topic "Efficiency of using boars with different breeding value and sows of intra-breed types of Large White breed" in the specialized Council of Kherson State Agrarian and Economic University, and since 2008 he has headed the Pig Breeding Department.

The main directions of Khalak's scientific activity are research of efficiency of pigs of foreign selection at purebred breeding, the industrial crossing and hybridization, the level of adaptation and phenotypic manifestation of polygenic-hereditary traits in pigs of Big White breed of English, French and Hungarian selection, indicators of conformation, growth, development, fattening and meat qualities of young pigs of different genotypes assessed by DNA markers, as well as the introduction of innovative assess methods for the pig breeding value of different origins (BLUP method, evaluation and breeding indices, modern genetic methods (DNA markers) in agricultural formations of the region.

In 2009, Viktor Khalak held the degree of Senior Researcher on the specialty 06.002.01 "Animal Breeding and Selection", and since 2010 – held the position of Scientific Secretary of the Institute of Animal Husbandry of the central regions of UAAS.

After the reorganization in 2011, the Institute of Animal Husbandry of the central regions became part of the Institute of Agriculture of the Steppe zone of NAAS (now the State Enterprise Institute of Grain Crops NAAS of Ukraine), and Victor Khalak became to hold a position Head of the Animal Husbandry Laboratory. He was appointed the Task Leader and Principal Investigator of the Research Program of the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences No. 30 on the topic "Innovative technologies of breeding, industrial and organic production of pig products" "Pig Husbandry" and No. 31 on the topic "Genetic improvement of farm animals, their reproduction and keeping biodiversity" ("Genetics, keeping and reproduction of biological resources in animal husbandry"), as well as the Coordinator of research work on keeping biological diversity of genetic resources of farm animals "Keeping the gene pool of breeds".

A significant achievement of Viktor Khalak is the development of new pig genotypes. According to Order No. 71/73 of March 15, 2011 of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences of Ukraine approved the Bakhmut pig breed type of Large White breed with improved meat qualities. The Scientific Supervisor was Doctor of Agricultural Sciences L. P. Hryshyn, co-authors were Doctor of Agricultural Sciences M. D. Berzovskyi, Candidates of Agricultural Sciences Yu. P. Aknevsky, V. I. Khalak, etc.

Anniversary celebrant is a highly qualified researcher who always makes constructive decisions, creatively approaches urgent issues. Perseverance, purposefulness, ability to defend one's own scientific concepts, diligence and discipline in the performance of official duties are the basis of fruitful work and a guarantee of recognition in the scientific community. Based on the results of research, Viktor Khalak has prepared and published 447 scientific papers, including 4 monographs and scientific and methodological manuals (with co-authors), 7 guidelines. Ten of his works were published in the international scientometric database Web of Science. He is the author and co-author of 9 utility model patents. Eleven breeding plants and breeders for breeding Large White pigs were established by his participation. Khalak's scientific developments have practical value and are implemented in agricultural formations of the Dnspropetrovsk, Kharkiv and Kherson regions and research farms of the NAAS.

Khalak is a permanent member of the Expert Commission on Attestation and Reattestation of Breeding Subjects in Animal Husbandry (Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, Department of Agro-Industrial Development of Dnipropetrovsk Regional State Administration),

member of the Academic Council of the Institute of Grain Crops NAAS of Ukraine, as well as a member of the Coordination and Methodological Council for the implementation of the research program of NAAS "Pig Breeding" and the Coordination Council in working with the Large White pigs.

Victor Khalak pays a lot of attention to scientific work, and also makes a significant contribution to the education of the young generation of scientists and specialists of agro-industrial complex, in particular, he has repeatedly headed and now heads the State Examination Commission of the Faculty of Biotechnology of the Dnipro State Agrarian and Economic University for CAD "Bachelor" in specialty 204 "Technology of production and processing livestock products."

He is a member of the Editorial Board of the Interdepartmental Thematic Scientific Collection "Pig Breeding" (Institute of Pig Breeding and Agroindustrial Production of NAAS of Ukraine), collection of scientific papers "Grain Crops" and Scientific Bulletin of Lviv National University of Veterinary Medicine and Biotechnology named after S. Z. Gzhytskyi. Series: "Agricultural Sciences".

Victor Khalak is well known and respected not only in the scientific staff of the State Enterprise Institute of Grain Crops of NAAS and its research farms, but also in other scientific organizations, institutions and agricultural formations. The results of scientific research of the anniversary celebrant are published in the both domestic and foreign journals and collections.

Viktor Khalak is a reliable partner and comrade, a person who can argue his own opinion, always correct and attentive to the problems and concerns of colleagues.

The staff of the State Enterprise Institute of Grain Crops NAAS sincerely congratulates the talented scientist on the anniversary and wishes good health, family happiness, harmony and peace, prosperity to Victor Khalak, do not stop there, and fully realize professional plans and personal dreams.