

IN MEMORIAM

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c., M A N F R E D A N K E

September 26, 1931 - December 27, 2010



On December 27th, 2010 passed away Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Manfred Anke. He was a distinguished personality of the scientific life with a prodigious activity since the second half of the XX century. Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke has a great contribution in the domain of “Metalloomics”, thus contributing to the development of basic and applicative knowledge concerning metals in the trophic chain soil-plant-animal-human.

Manfred Anke was born in Altenhain-Saxony (Germany) on September 26, 1931. He finished his school education in Chemnitz and Zwickau. Afterwards he became student in Jena and graduated the Faculty of Agronomy of “Friedrich-Schiller” University Jena. Later on, in 1956, he graduated the Faculty of Chemistry.

Beginning with 1957 he worked as assistant professor at the “Friedrich-Schiller” University Jena, being in the same time scientific researcher at the Institute of Animal Nutrition Jena. His researches were mainly focused on macro- and trace-elements.

In 1959 he defended his PhD thesis with the title “The trace element content (Fe, Mn, Cu, Mo, Co) of several grassland and acre plants depending on the geological origin of the site”.

Being passionate by the analytical physico-chemical methods a great part of his activity was dedicated to elaborate new methods for the investigation of trace- and ultra trace elements as well as to the appliance of those methods in the analysis of foodstuffs for humans. In 1965 he sustained his scientific conference entitled “Macro and trace element content of hair as an indicator of the supply with these elements” and was qualified as a university lecturer.

Until 1970 he continued his studies in the domain of macro- and trace-elements, especially on the nutritional deficiency of Mg, Zn, Cu. After that year the area of his research work was extended to isotopic methods, studying the metabolic aspects in various species. In this context he made investigations on isotopic compounds with ³²P, ⁹⁹Mo, ⁵¹Cr, ⁵⁴Mn, ⁵⁹Fe, ¹¹⁵Cd, ⁷⁶As.

In 1984 was initiated the collaboration between the Laboratory of Nutrition and Chemistry (Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anke) of Jena University and the Laboratory of Embryology-Teratology (Dr. Zeno Garban – senior researcher) of the Institute of Public Health Timisoara. Since 1991 a more lasting cooperation was established among Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke from the Faculty of Biology and Pharmacy of the “Friedrich-Schiller” Jena, chief of the Institute of Nutrition and Environment Jena (Institut für

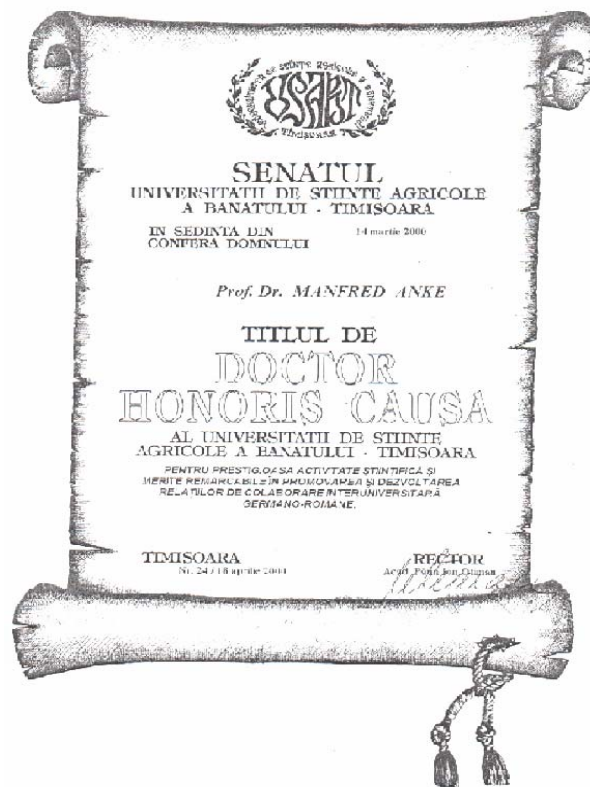
Ernährung und Umwelt) and the Department of Biochemistry-Molecular Biology of the Faculty of Food Products Technology of the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat Timisoara (Prof. Dr. Zeno Garban) and the Urology Clinic of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Timisoara (Prof. Dr. Petru Drăgan).

In the following period, due to the common scientific concern in the domain of metallomics, a strong and extended collaboration was achieved between researchers who participated in Jena at the symposium “Macro- and Trace Elements. Workshop” (Mengen- und Spurenelemente, Arbeitstagung) (Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke), in Budapest at the symposium “New Perspectives in the Research of Hardly Known Trace Elements and their role in life sciences” (Prof. Dr. Istvan Pais and Dr.doc. Sandor A. Kiss), in Timișoara at the Symposium “Metal Elements in Environment, Medicine and Biology” (Prof. Dr. Zeno Garban and Prof. Dr. Petru Drăgan) and in Athens the “International Symposium on Trace Elements in Human” (Prof. Dr. Sophie Ermidou-Pollet). Referring to the international symposium “Metal Elements in Environment, Medicine and Biology” organized in Timișoara it get together numerous university specialists and scientists from all the four universities from Timișoara, i.e. University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat, University Politehnica, University of Medicine and Pharmacy and West University.

The scientific activity of Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke were materialized in more than 950 scientific papers published in prestigious journals.

Starting with 1981, Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke organized the Symposia Series “Macro- and Trace Elements. Workshop” (Mengen- und Spurenelemente, Arbeitstagung) held in Jena. This Symposia Series was organized annually in the period 1981 – 2000 and biannually after 2000. Thus, in 2006 was organized the 23rd Workshop and was published the 23rd volume of the Proceedings.

In 1993 he organized, in Dresden, the World Congress on “Trace Elements in Man and Animals – TEMA 8”. The presented scientific papers were published in a volum having as editors Anke M., Meissner D. and Mills C.F.



After 1995, the international symposium “Macro- and Trace Elements” organized in Jena opened a large way to collaboration and made possible the participation of more than 53 university scientists and researchers from various universities from Timișoara. In this framework more than 14 colleagues from the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat Timișoara were stipended by the German part in order to participate at the symposium in Jena.

In 1983 he received the Klaus Schwarz Medal from the University of California, which is awarded in recognition of contributions to biological trace element research. The University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Czech Republic, awarded him an honorary doctorate (Dr. medicinae veterinariae honoris causa) in 1995.

In the year 2000, to Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke was conferred the title of «Doctor honoris causa» of the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat Timișoara. The Dissertation Committee consisted of the following scientific personalities: Acad. Prof. Dr. Păun Ion Otiman – rector of the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat;

Prof. Dr. Petru Drăgan from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy; Prof. Dr. Ilie Julean from the University Politehnica; Prof. Zeno Garban and Prof. Dr. Aurel Lăzurean from the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat. This interdisciplinary committee emphasis on the inter- and multi-disciplinary character of «Metallomics», the main research domain of Prof. Dr. h.c., Manfred Anke. At this ceremony participated also Mrs. Gisela Anke, the wife of Prof. Dr. Anke and some of his co-workers from Jena.



In 2004, at the symposium “Metal Elements in Environment, Medicine and Biology” organized in Timișoara Prof. Anke Manfred was awarded with the Diploma of the Academy of the Scientists from Romania.

Prof. Dr. Anke Manfred was also honored by a lot of scientific memberships, e.g.: he became a member of the Parent Committee “Trace Elements in Man and Animals (TEMA)”; member of the Board of Directors of “International Society of Trace Element Research in Humans (ISTERH)” and member of the Board of Directors of the “International Council for Control on Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD)”.

In 1999, he was granted full membership of the “Akademie gemeinnütziger Wissenschaften zu Erfurt”.

In 2004, Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke published a book, in 3 volumes, entitled “Elements and Their Compounds in the Environment – Occurrence, Analysis and Biological Relevance”, having as editors E. Merian, M. Anke, M. Ihnat and M. Stoepler, at the Publishing House Wiley-VCH Verlag, GmbH&Co., KGaA, Weinheim.

As recognition of his meritorious scientific activity, in 2004, he became a member of the Royal Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences of Spain.

In the last few years, Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke participated and gave lecture at the annual meeting of the German Working Group on Trace Elements and Electrolytes in Oncology (2000-2005).

Passing into eternity of Prof. Dr. Manfred Anke - a well known personality is a great loss for the scientific community .

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