



## **Prof. Dr Assen Stefanov Konsulov**

After a short illness on 28 May 2010 deceased the famous Bulgarian researcher of Black sea fauna Prof. Dr Assen S. Konsulov. His work as a zoologist was dedicated to study of the rich and original Black sea fauna and to protection of the cleanliness and ecological equilibrium of Black sea.

Prof. Dr Assen Konsulov was born in Dobrich on 25 November 1838. He graduated the specialty 'Biology - Hydrobiology' from St. Kliment Ohridski Sofia University in 1964. He started his investigations in 1970 on the zooplankton of Black sea as a research associate at the Institute of Oceanography and Fish Economy in Varna. Later, in 1989 he moved to the Institute of Oceanology of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences where he followed his research on the structure and dynamics of Black sea zooplankton. He is a member-founder and long-time head of the 'Biology and ecology of the sea' department to which he attracted new young scientists and widened the investigations on the phytoplankton and benthos fauna of the sea. Dr Konsulov took an active part in the organizational and leadership activity of the Institute of Oceanology being Scientific Secretary, (1989-1993), Vice Director (1993-1996) and Director (1996-2000). In 1993 he presented a thesis on 'Biology, ecology and importance of the zooplankton in Black sea in front of Bulgarian coast' and was awarded with the high scientific degree 'Doctor of Biological Sciences'. From 1999 is a professor at the Institute of Oceanology and in 2001 was elected as a professor at the Technical University - Varna.

The scientific and expert activity of Prof. Dr Konsulov is rich and variable. As zooplanktonologist he widened and specified the faunistic list of zooplankton in front of Bulgarian coast, followed its seasonal and annual dynamics, its trophic potential, and the negative influence of sea pollution on its ecological condition and fish production. An important practical achievement of Dr Konsulov is the creation of strom-resistant installation for mussel and oyster production in front of Bulgarian coast, as well as on the weeds over the under-sea facilities. His scientific contributions were published in more than 120 scientific papers in Bulgarian and International scientific Journals.

Prof. Konsulov took part in more than 450 sea navigations, national and international scientific expeditions, was a leader of many national and international scientific projects dedicated to investigation and protection of sea biota. He was a member of the CIESM (Monaco) and European Union for Protection of Coastal Zones (The Netherlands).

With the dead of Prof. Dr Assen Konsulov Bulgarian zoologist sciences lost one of the eminent specialists of Black sea fauna, and Black sea - one of the most active functionary for protection of its cleanliness.

*Editorial Board*