

LÁSZLÓ RADICS

I was born in Budapest on the 22nd of August, 1949. My qualifications: I have a candidature degree in the field of agricultural science (1973, Gödöllő University of Agriculture) as habilitated professor.



Preface

I retired after 42 years of active work. Many things happened to me during this period, yet I was always guided by one thing: a love for weeds – whatever I did, this always came up in my work. Much of my research was focused on developing education, which was manifested in the development of educational materials, the writing and editing of books, scientific-informative works, TV appearances, videos and other electronic content. My work was transfused with the broader approach of agroecology, the drive for innovation and a demanding attitude. These included my initial forays early on in my career at the Justus Liebig University (Giessen, Germany) supported by the International Atomic Energy Agency, my studies in N15 in connection with weeds, which then led to developing long-standing personal, educational and research connections. My research on the impact of climate change also had a similar nature, during which we carried out weed surveys on fallow, organic and conventional grains along climate gradients from Southern Italy all the way to Vardo (Norway) over the course of 3 years. I managed to secure international subsidies to get this programme started as well, including funds from the UNDP. Another example of long-lasting research was the development of organic farming training, which lasted for more than 15 years. Under the department's direction, we launched the Compass programme in Naples, which resulted in a brand new book, with CDs in multiple languages, as well as supplementary materials and follow-up questions at the end of each chapter. The publication was focused on the theme of Organic Farming, for which it provided post-

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secondary training materials. This was followed by the development of Ecologica, which is an online remote learning material under the guidance of a teacher, which provided individual or group training in the subject of organic farming. The costs of this internationally collaboration were covered by the EU. I could go on about the branching nature of innovation in length, but the details are described below.

I was supported throughout my career by many people, without whom I would have been unable to achieve the results. Dr. Miklós Ujvárosi, Prof. Dr. Imre Dimény, Prof. Dr. Béla Győrffy, Prof. Dr. Gyula Czimmer, Prof. Dr. Joachim Alkämper, Prof. Dr. György Bálint as well as my family all played a key role in launching my career and supporting me throughout my journey.

I also received supported during various stages of my professional activities from professor János Sváb, Prof. Dr. Tamás Harrach, Dr. János Bálint, Prof. Dr. Urs Niggli, Prof. Dr. Ulrich Köpke, Prof. Dr. Imre Kádár, István Bolyki, Prof. Sang Mok Sohn, Prof. Dr. Tamás Mészáros, and Salvatore Basile.

I additionally received special assistance from József Farkas, Pál Andrásfalvy, Gyula Balázs, Dr. József Tarjányi, and Béla Radvány.

I am also a married; my wife is economist Dr. Katalin Szép. I have six children and – currently – 11 grandchildren.

In addition to my mother tongue (Hungarian), I use German and English in my professional work, both in personal correspondence and when writing German and English publications.

The main stages or milestones of my career include the following: I completed Professor Ujvárosi's course in weed biology between 1976 and 1977. In 1977, I obtained by doctorate degree, followed by a candidature degree in the field of agricultural science under academic Béla Győrffy in 1990. In 1991, I was chosen as the national representative of the Hungarian Section of the European Weed Research Society (EWRS). In 1997, I was habilitated with the assistance of my former mentor, instructor and academic Béla Győrffy. Between 2000 and 2004, I served as the President of the Hungarian Weed Research Society, which I relinquished to Gabriella Kazinczi following my resignation. Since 2000, every year - individually at first, and later together with the experts of the (current) "Dr. Miklós Ujvárosi Foundation for a Weed-Free Environment", we organized scientific conferences for the Hungarian weed researcher community, sponsored by companies. This has become a regular event, which has continued to this very day. President of the newly-established Hungarian Association for Organic Farming (MÖGÉRT). Between 2004 and 2015, I led the Hungarian Association for Organic Farming (MÖGÉRT) as President before standing down and giving over the reins to Dr. István Borsiczky. In 2005, I was elected as a board member of ISOFAR. There are approx. 600 individual around the world who are responsible for establishing the scientific backing of organic farming. I 2007, I was elected as the president of the ECOLOGICA Association.

The following are the key milestones in my work experience: Prior to graduating from university, I worked as a departmental assistant at the Higher Education Institute of Animal Health and Animal Husbandry.

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In 1973, I completed my thesis at the Research Institute of Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Martonvásár with the help of János Baracskai Horváth. I carried out separate weed surveys on the mother and father rows of hybrid seed producing maize stock. As an intern, I worked for a year in the farms of the State Farms Center of Pest and Nógrád Counties. My colleagues at the department were all highly experienced processions, who taught me more than I could learn at the university. Subsequently, I worked as an agronomist at the Kiskunság State Farm in Apajpuszta.

In 1975, I was involved in work placement scheme of the University of Agricultural Sciences Gödöllő (GATE) for 3 years - thanks to Prof. Dr. Imre Dimény - at the Botanical Research Institution Hungarian Academy of Sciences where I had the chance to work alongside Prof. Dr. Miklós Ujvárosi. I was tasked with the evaluation of the II National Weed Survey and the preparations for the III National Cropland Weed Survey. The costs of the road trips for this were financed personally by 'Uncle' Miklós himself. Following his retirement, I was relocated to Gödöllő.

I worked as a departmental engineer and assistant professor at the GATE Department of Crop Production, while additionally, I was in charge of the departmental experimental farm (40 ha of cropland, 80 ha of forest).

I carried out the instruction and researching of the subjects of agriculture, weed control and plant production under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Sándor Sipos. That is when I wrote the weed seedling field guide (university lecture notes).

I pursued the following scientific research topics at the university: agroecological weed control; the role of light exposure in weed development. Impact of tillage and fertilization systems on weeds. I was particularly interested in the effect of the pore volume of various soils on crops and weeds. The edaphological and fertilization weed research was carried out at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences' farms in Nagyhörcsökpuszta, Csomád and Nyírlugos with the assistance of Prof. Dr. Imre Kádár.

Between 1983 and 1985, my research on weeds with N15 at the Justus Liebig University (Gießen, Germany) is noteworthy.

Between 1988 and 1991 I regularly held lectures at the Justus Liebig University in Gießen, as well as at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU).

Between 1989 and 1991, I served as the liaison officer between GATE and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) and organised exchange lectures between professors from the two universities. Additionally, I gave regular lectures at the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian College in Berehovo.

In 1991, I started working in a position (University of Horticulture and Food Industry (Budapest), where I was invited by the dean of the university, Dr. János Bálint, to organize a new "green" department, which proved to be highly successful over the next 20 years. I served as the doctoral supervisor for multiple tenders – in the field of OMFB, OTKA organic farming research and development. I worked as head of the Department of Agricultural Production at the University of Horticulture and Food Industry as well as the subject supervisor of the compulsory "A" course "Crop production".

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From 1991, I worked as the crop production editor for the Gazdaképző (Farmer Training) television series on MTV1, MTV2, and DunaTV. Under the supervision of Prof. Dr. György Bálint, we travelled throughout the country for eight years, and every week we prepared a half-hour long material on farmer training, and on all occasions, I appeared on television and VCR recordings – the lectures were published in written form in the journal entitled Magyar Mezőgazdaság (Hungarian Agriculture) as well as in book form – for teachers and students of farmer training centres.

Between 1992 and 2013, I introduced the "Organic Farming" subject into the curriculum of the University of Horticulture and Food Industry. At this time, we published the textbook entitled Organic Farming Volumes I and II – the first of its kind – in collaboration with Hungarian universities and research institutes.

I was also the founder and head of the Department of Ecological and Sustainable Management Systems until my retirement.

Between 1993 and 1995, I served as chairman of the local organising committee of the 9th EWRS International Conference and an invited member of the EWRS (European Weed Research Society) Scientific Committee.

In 1994, I introduced the "Agricultural science" "A" subject (encompassing the field of agroecological weed management) into the curriculum of the University of Horticulture and Food Industry.

In 2000, I was appointed professor by the President of the Republic.

From 2000, I worked as the editor and publisher of the peer-reviewed "Hungarian Weed Science and Technology" journal; after standing down from the position, I remained a member of the editorial board. Also since 2000, I have been the organiser of the "Eastern European Conference on the Future of Organic Farming" and a member of the editorial board of the edited journal entitled "Kertgazdaság" (Garden Farming).

In 2004, I became the coordinator of the CHANNEL 6 EU programme. It was the first Hungarian-led programme in the field of agriculture in Hungary.

In 2005, I was the editor of the book entitled "Ecological Approach to Animal Product Production" together with Prof. Dr. János Seregi, which was also of groundbreaking significance in Hungarian agricultural higher education. In 2005, I also became the coordinator of ECOLOGICA's Leonardo program. I succeeded in developing a remote education programme that covered the entire field of organic farming.

In 2006, I organised the final conference of the international CHANNEL 6 programme (EU framework programme to assess organic farming in the 10 new and 4 old Member States).

In 2007, I became the head of a workgroup for Organic.Edunet's „A Multilingual Federation of Learning Repositories with Quality Content for the Awareness and Education of European Youth about Organic Agriculture and Agroecology eContentPlus” project.

From 2008, I oversaw numerous EEA and EU projects.

I was elected Vice-President of the European Weed Research Society (EWRS) in 2011 and President from 2013 to 2015. During this time, I organised an EWRS weed conference in Montpellier before developing an amendment to the Articles of Association.

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In 2013, I retired from (the then) Corvinus University. After eight months' notice, I was given three days to vacate the room I had used for 22 years. Fortunately, István Bolyki provided me with a room at his publisher's office where I could continue my work.

Between 2013 and 2015, I served as the President of the Hungarian Association for Organic Farming (MÖGÉRT).

Throughout my career, I took part in 56 separate study trips abroad, several of which were supported by international organisations (IAEA, DAAD, Collegium Hungaricum, PHARE, TEMPUS, Cochran, UNDP, etc.).

My science metrics data: 352 total publications, 39 scientific books (book chapters). 1304 citations (as of 1 November 2022)

Key books - partially mentioned above:

László Radics 1994: Gyomírtás a kiskertben. (Weeding in the small garden) p. 132 Series: Kertészkedjünk okosan. (Gardening wisely) ISSN 0866 4048 Magyar Mezőgazdasági Kiadó Budapest

László Radics 1997: Szántóföldi növénytermesztés. (Crop production) p. 108 Notes. Nagyváthy János Gazdaképző Egyesület

László Radics (ed.) 1998: Gyommag határozó. (Weed seed field guide) p. 244 ISBN 963 9121 57 6 Mezőgazda Kiadó Kft. Budapest

László Radics (ed.) 2001: Ökológiai gazdálkodás. Általános kérdések, Növénytermesztés, Állattenyésztés. (Organic Farming. General issues, crop production, animal husbandry) p. 318 ISBN 963 657 329 8 Dinasztia Kiadó Budapest

László Radics (ed.) 2002: Ökológiai gazdálkodás II. Kertészet, Élelmiszerfeldolgozás, tárolás, minőségbiztosítás, Ökonómia és marketing. (Organic farming II. Horticulture, Food processing, storage, quality assurance, Economics and marketing.) p. 319-663 ISBN 963 9422 04 5 Szaktudás Kiadó Ház Budapest

László Radics (ed.) 2001: Alternatív növények termesztése I. (Cultivation of alternative crops I.) p. 336 ISBN 963 356 326 7 Mezőgazdasági Szaktudás Kiadó Budapest

László Radics (ed.) 2002: Alternatív növények termesztése II. (Cultivation of alternative crops II.) p. 286 ISBN 963 9422 05 3 Szaktudás Kiadó Ház Budapest

László Radics (ed.) 2003: Növénytermesztés határok nélkül (EU-konform növények termesztése) (Growing crops without borders (growing EU-compliant crops)) p. 264 ISBN 963 9553 07 7 Szaktudás Kiadó Ház Budapest

László Radics – János Seregi (ed.) 2005: Ökológiai szemléletű állattermék-előállítás. (Organic production of animal products) p. 495 ISBN 963 9553 32 8 Szaktudás Kiadó Ház Budapest

László Radics (ed.) 2006: Organic Farming. Course book for post-secondary education. COMPASS 264 o. ISBN 963 9553 91 3 Szaktudás Kiadó Ház Budapest

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- László Radics et al (ed.) 2007: Development of central data bank on European level for the education of ecological farming advisers. Leonardo da Vinci Pilot program. 2005-2007 ISBN 978 963 9736 48 1 Budapest Guide in 26 languages.
- László Radics (ed.) 2007: Szántóföldi növénytermesztés. (Crop production) p. 260 ISBN 963 9422 97 5 Szaktudás Kiadó Ház Budapest
- László Radics 2008: Növénytermesztő mester könyve. (Master grower handbook) p. 240 (Series: Mestergazda könyvek (Master farmer books)) ISBN 978 963 9736 72 6 Magyar Agrárkamara Szaktudás Kiadó Ház Budapest
- László Radics (ed.) 2010: Fenntartható szemléletű szántóföldi növénytermesztéstan (Sustainable approach to arable crop production) 1. p. 700 ISBN 978 963 502 924 2 Agroinform Kiadó Budapest
- László Radics (ed.) 2012: Fenntartható szemléletű szántóföldi növénytermesztéstan (Sustainable approach to arable crop production) 2. p. 507 ISBN 978 963 502 949 5 Agroinform Kiadó Budapest
- László Radics (ed.) 2012: Fenntartható szemléletű szántóföldi növénytermesztéstan (Sustainable approach to arable crop production) 3. p. 430 ISBN 978 963 502 950 Agroinform Kiadó Budapest
- Monika Tóthová et al. (ed.) 2011 (Hungarian language edition): Zöld növényvédelem – mobil tanulás az ökológiai gazdálkodásban. Green plant protection. p. 138 ISBN 978 963 502 944 0 Agroinform
- László Radics 2014: Gyomkonyha. (Weed kitchen) p. 206 ISBN 978 963 502 976 1 Agroinform Kiadó Budapest (29 recipes with weeds, still in circulation)
- László Radics (ed.) 2018: Ökológiai gazdálkodás dióhéjban. (Organic farming in a nutshell) p. 379 ISBN 978 615 5666 20 9 Agroinform Kiadó Budapest
- László Radics is responsible for multiple volumes of the Practical Knowledge Repository electronic publication series of the Szaktudás publishing house. These are parts of chapters from the Sustainable crop production book series, highlighted with up-to-date information. <https://szaktudas.hu/webshop/aa/76-szantofoldi-novenytermesztes?>

Active involvement in scientific trainings:

1. Committee member at academic defences e.g. in the case of Prof Dr. Imre Béres, Prof. Dr. Gabriella Kazinczi, Prof. Dr. Péter Solymosi;
2. Under my departmental leadership, 5 individuals have obtained a Candidate of Science or PhD degree.
3. I supervised the academic training (PhD) of two German nationals; of these, Dr. Michael Glemnitz defended his degree at the Humboldt University of Berlin.
4. I was also involved as a committee member in multiple PhD dissertation defences (Mosonmagyaróvár).
5. Many failed to attain a qualification, yet are worthy of inclusion in this category, such as Katalin Szépkuthy.

Memberships:

Dr. Miklós Ujvárosi's Weed Knowledge Society, since its foundation. Thanks to the head of the society for keeping this large family of weed researchers together.

Members of the European Weed Research Society (EWRS).

Member of the board of directors of the Nagyváthy Farmer Training Association

Member of the board of directors of Kemece Agricultural Producer's Association

Member of the audit committee of the Paks Agricultural Development Association

Member of the International Society for Horticultural Science

Board member of the "International Society for Horticultural Science" (ISOFAR) for several terms

President of the ECOLOGICA Association (based in Naples) with the cooperation of the Biocert association, the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra and the University of Horticulture of Food Industry

MÖGÉRT

EWRS President (membership since 1983)

International relations and researches:

1. Justus Liebig University Giessen, Germany

Teaching, research, lectures, IAEA/International Atomic Energy Agency fellow: N15 nitrogen uptake by weeds, research program. My key mentors included Prof. Dr. J. Alkämper (joint PhD student) and Prof. Dr. Tamás Harrach (joint diploma student)

2. Universität für Bodenkultur Vienna, BOKU, Austria 2 months with the support of Collegium Hungaricum

3. Hungarian-Spanish International Cooperation Programme Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias Generalitat Valenciana Investigation of the occurrence of Diplotaxis eurocoides with the collaboration of Prof. Dr. Gyula Czimer and Ferenc Hartman.

4. Hungarian - German International Cooperation Programme, UNDP, OTKA ZALF Müncheberg, Institute für Landnutzungssysteme Development of grass mixtures for extensive and ecological cultivation Climate and changes in weed vegetation¹ 3 years of research with Dr. Michael Glemnitz and Prof. Dr. Gyula Czimer and Jörg Hoffman (article in Hungarian Weed Science and Technology)

5. TEMPUS I

Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Milan Demo and Prof. Dr. Magdalena Bartusova

Milan University Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, Milan, Italy

University College, Cork, Ireland

Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Gödöllő

Technical University, Paris, France

Forschungsring für Biologisch Dynamische Wirtschaftsweise, Darmstadt, Germany

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- Institut National Agronomique Paris-Grignon, France
Fachhochschule Fulda, Germany
Warsaw Agricultural University, Department of Organic Food Production Methods, Poland
6. Leonardo Pilot Project
Istituto Technico Agricoltura Agri Naturalia – Napoli
International education in organic farming and the potential of multimedia tools
 7. Leonardo Mobility Project
Organic farms in Germany
 8. Leonardo Pilot Project II Compass programme, see books above, in Hungarian, Italian, English
Biocert srl Napoli
University of Kassel
Viseu Polytechnic Institute
Solagro - France
Harmonisation of organic farming education at the EU level
 9. Leonardo Mobility Project II
Organic farms in Germany and Denmark, monitoring organisation in Italy
 10. ECOLOGICA program (LDV HU/05/B/P/PP-170018 no. pilot project) partners:
BioForschung Austria, Vienna
Association for Hungarian Organic Framing (AHOF, MÖGÉRT)
Cesce B. Agricultural University
Priekuli Plat Breeding Institute, Latvia
Agricultural University, Nitra
Maribor Agricultural University Biocert srl Napoly
 11. CHANNEL 6 EU framework program SSA tender with 25 participants from 15 countries
"Opening communication channels between accession and EU member states on organic farming"
 12. Organic.Edunet 2007 launch. 3-year project, reference number: ECP 410012 –
Organic.Edunet
The initiative resulted in the first free content provider in the field of organic farming and agroecology, unique in Europe. Contains over 10,000 meta data
 13. Lovet I 2009 initial year.
The aim was to create a scientific and practical communication platform in the organic food system. This was a good opportunity provided under the leadership of the Warsaw Agricultural University. Doctoral supervisor: Prof. Dr. Eva Rembialkowska
 14. Lovet II Continuation of the project with 2012-1-PL1-LEO004-28191. 15 partners.
Its tasks were to develop "Good Practice" models for knowledge transfer in organic agriculture between September 2012 and June 2014. The programme is implemented by groups of emerging and more highly developed countries. The work included questionnaire surveys, round-table discussions and joint evaluations. (The program was accessible through the www.lovet2.eu website.)

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15. Green Plant Protection.

State-of-the-art knowledge on plant protection, edited by Monika Tóthová from the Agricultural University of Nitra, in book form in English, Hungarian, Slovak and Italian languages and as a mobile app. developed with the help of László Radics jnr. in the languages of all participating countries.

16. NewEco Farmer

All the knowledge that farmers require for organic form is accumulated digitally and in book form, available in the book entitled Organic farming in a nutshell.

The international research was made possible by the hard work and contributions of the staff of the Department of Ecological and Sustainable Management Systems under my leadership.

Recognitions, awards:

Dean's Commendation (1982)

Széchenyi Professorial Scholarship (1997)

Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary,
Knight's Cross (2009)

Distinguished university professor,
Mosonmagyaróvár (2015)

