

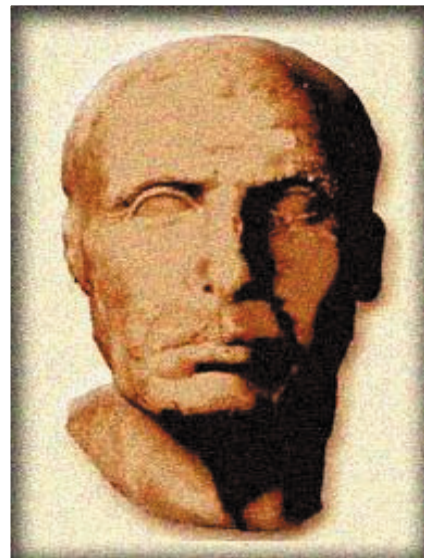
FOREWORD

LECTORIS SALUTEM – GREETINGS TO THE READER

Preparing the preface for this neonate periodical there were two ideas in my mind, how to define the scope and the task of this journal. On one hand it seems to be quite simple, since the title of the journal – Columella – may suggest that. Lucius Junius Moderatus Columella was probably the most popular, and at the same time, the most comprehensive Roman writer dealing with agriculture. His profound knowledge resulted in an exceptionally long active life of his specific book titled “De Re Rustica”, which was translated to most languages and used as a basic textbook in agricultural education for almost two millenniums from the reign of Augustus until the end of the nineteenth Century. He was an expert interpreter of various fields of agricultural knowledge. Most of the statements and technical hints regarding land use, soil tillage, crop production, animal breeding, husbandry, forages and food are still valid in our age.

On the other hand it is really hard to describe the mission of the journal. The scope of that is within the field of agricultural and environmental sciences however the task of the journal is rather diverse. In first place, this journal is intended to give floor to the publication and dissemination of scientific results. Also, a major task of that is to provide bridge between scientists of our university and the international scientific community. Furthermore apart from scientific publication, articles in relation with communication, information and review are welcome.

The word “science” has countless definitions. All of them are related somehow to mental activities, however according to the field of that various assessments are available. In general science can be defined as the branch of knowledge involving systematized observation of an experiment with phenomena. Also, on the basis of that it is a formulated knowledge, that pursuit of principles of the subject. One of the most practical definitions was formulated by the



late Charles Kellogg who stated, that science is nothing else but the process of understanding the world – we seek, we learn. Actually the two cannot be separated.

I am eager to know about something, so I try to learn about that as much as I can.

And it is the crucial point where we arrive to a specific problem of any knowledge; - the dissemination of that. The value of the scientific result is in its utility, namely in the broadcasting of that. The scientist, who is loading his results only to the drawer of his writing desk may be clever, diligent, but will render less services to the society. The results have to be delivered to the users to make a benefit.

I do hope that Columella, this new scientific journal may be a medium between scientists and specific experts in the field of agriculture and environment. I would like to encourage scientists to publish their results in this periodical, and I would advise readers to get acquainted with these results.

Csaba Gyuricza
editor-in-chief