

### Professor Viktor Sutoris Sixty Years Old



Professor RNDr. V. Sutoris, CSc., was born on December 23rd, 1926 in a miller's family in a tiny village of Kvačany in the Liptov region.

Having completed the primary school in 1941, he became an apprentice in the Baťa chemical factory and entered the Baťa-factory-school in Svit-Batizovce. During the years 1945—1949, he continued his study at the Chemical College in Gottwaldov and in 1953 he gained the first degree in chemistry after graduation from the Purkyně University in Brno. In the same year he joined the staff of the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the Komenský University and took care of both organizing and research work connected with the foundation of new Department of Organic Chemistry. In 1955, he became the

Head of that Department and was in charge of it for as long as 22 years. In addition to the duties associated with the post of the Head of Department he was engaged also as Vice-Dean and Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences (1963—1969), Vice-Chancellor of the Komenský University (1973—1979), and Director of the Institute of Chemistry of the Komenský University (1976—till now).

In the early years at the Komenský University, Professor Sutoris worked under the guidance of well-known Professor M. Furdík mainly in the field of Diels—Alder reactions with the aim to find effective synergetics for the pyrethrium insecticides and new types of herbicides. Such a research work that promises results which can be directly applied in practice remained typical for him throughout his career in organic chemistry. In 1967, Professor Sutoris made an important decision and started to work on a new project — chemistry of benzothiazole. He has been working very efficiently in this field and has published 62 original papers and 12 patents on preparation and biological activity of benzothiazole derivatives as potential pesticides and plant growth regulators. In the recent years he has been interested in the mechanism of alkylations of various 2-substituted benzothiazole derivatives and in the stability of benzothiazolium salts in water, *i.e.* in the subject which is very important in view of their possible application in agriculture.

Professor Sutoris is famous among his former students, PhD. (CSc.) students, and fellow-workers for his clear, warm-hearted character and for his fondness for a bench-work. Even though he is overburdened with the obligatory work resulting from his position, he always finds enough time for his hobby-performing experiments.

His students and coworkers are taking the opportunity of Professor Sutoris' 60th birthday to express their appreciation of his work and wish him good health, a lot of new ideas, much more time for the bench-work, and the happiness to see one of his compounds in practical application in agriculture. This, according to his own criteria, would be the highest premium for the work he has done in chemistry.

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