

## BIOTECHNICAL FACULTY

Biotechnical Faculty (previously Institute) is the oldest scientific-research institution in Montenegro. It was established in 1937 and since then focussed on Montenegrin research in agriculture. In 2005/2006 studies of agriculture have been launched and in 2006 the Institute was officially renamed to the Biotechnical Faculty. The total number of employees in Biotechnical Faculty is 168, of which 40 with PhD and 8 with MSc degree. The Faculty now has three main activities: **teaching, research and extension (advisory services)**.

Teaching programs are organized as academic and applied courses. Academic study programs, organized in Podgorica, are composed of three levels: bachelor studies (3 years), postgraduate specialist study (1 year) and post-graduate master's degree (1 year). Basic studies are conducted through two degree programs: Plant production and Livestock. Postgraduate specialist studies in the study program Plant production are realized through different orientations: Fruit growing and wine making, Field crops and vegetables and plant protection. Post-graduate studies at the master's degree program Plant production is realized through the same orientations. Postgraduate Specialist and Master's degrees in livestock are organized as a unified study program - Livestock.

Biotechnical Faculty is organized in 10 Centres or Departments to cover all the aspects of agriculture: Centre of soil and melioration, Centre of crop production, vegetables and forage plants, Centre of viticulture, wine making and fruit growing, Centre of plant protection, Centre of Livestock Science, Centre of veterinary, Centre of agroecology and rural development, Centre of Forestry, Centre for subtropical cultures, Centre for continental fruit growing. Services within Biotechnical Faculty are classified into two main groups: the extension (Livestock Selection Service and Plant Production Extension Service) and laboratory services (Milk lab, Phytosanitary lab; Agrochemistry Lab; Oenology Lab; Pomology Lab; Seed Control Lab).

Permanent development of international cooperation is one of the strategic priorities and commitment of the Biotechnical Faculty. So far bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation was ongoing with related educational and scientific institutions in the region and beyond (Europe, U.S., Asia). Due to the positive experience gained through REGPOT FP7 project entitled "Improving the scientific basis for the sustainable development of agriculture in Montenegro – AgriSciMont" and other international projects with renowned European institutions in the field of Agriculture, Biotechnical Faculty stands as equal partner in the European science market. Since 2000 BTF researcher realized more than 70 national and numerous bilateral projects, Ministry of Science funding 13 ongoing research projects. According to the number of projects, Biotechnical Faculty is in the top at the University of Montenegro.

1. Considering the number of papers published in international journals, BTF is in the group of leading faculties at the University of Montenegro. In recent years there has been a significant increase of papers published in journals of international importance. BTF publishes two internationally recognized journals (represented in the databases) - Scientific Journal of Agriculture and Forestry (<http://www.agricultforest.ac.me>) and Mycologia Montenegrina, which is unique feature at the University of Montenegro and among other universities in the region. BTF has a professional staff that can meet the demands of food manufacturers, and in that sense, is a connection between scientific research and its practical application through the transfer of knowledge and technology.