



Editorial news and events

Memorial of Professor Jan Kowalczyk (1931–2017)



Professor Jan Kowalczyk was born in Bondyż, Poland in 1931. After graduating from middle school in Zamość (1948) and the Technology and Chemistry High School in Lublin (1950), he studied chemistry at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University (UMCS) in Lublin. After working for several years as an assistant at the UMCS and the Agricultural University, in 1961 he began work at the newly created Institute of Animal Physiology and Nutrition of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Jabłonna as head of the Chemical Laboratory. Next, he became head of the Ruminant Nitrogen Metabolism Unit, and has headed the Department of Ruminant Physiology and Nutrition since 1991.

Prof. Kowalczyk's scientific interests have focused on studying the various aspects of nitrogen and carbohydrate metabolism in the rumen and absorption in the more distal parts of the digestive tract.

During 1968–1970 Jan Kowalczyk stayed at the Institute of Animal Production in Havana, where he studied possibility of increase of sugar and urea amount in diets for cattle. Results of these studies were presented in 1971 as his doctoral thesis.

Prof. Kowalczyk cooperated with several scientific institutes and universities, i.e.: Rowett Research Institute in Scotland, Oskar-Kellner Institute in Rostock, Germany, as well as with scientific institutions in Czechia, Slovakia and others. In 1980–1986 he worked as an elected coordinator of an international project undertaken by the Academies of Middle-Central Europe.

In parallel with his work on the use of non-protein nitrogen compounds in ruminant nutrition, Prof. Kowalczyk investigated a key problem at the

time, i.e. the protection of feed protein from deamination in the rumen. He presented the results in a thesis for the degree of doctor habilitated, which he was awarded in 1992. Shortly thereafter, in 1994 the President of Poland awarded him with the title of professor of agricultural sciences.

With his thorough background in chemistry, Prof. Jan Kowalczyk has proved to be a talented analytical chemist, working on new analytical methods of determining indicators of rumen microbial protein synthesis, and on the separation, identification, and quantification of fatty acid isomers and other compounds using HPLC.

Prof. Jan Kowalczyk is the author of more than 300 original scientific papers, 12 chapters of books, and over 400 communications. For years he has been an expert for the International Foundation for Science (Stockholm), a member of the European Society of Scientific Journals Editors, a member of several editorial boards of international scientific journals: *Animal Feed Science and Technology*, *Egyptian Journal of Nutrition and Feeds*, and *Archives of Animal Nutrition*.

In 1991 Prof. began working as an editor-in-chief of *Journal of Animal and Feed Sciences* – an international journal, which from 1999 is covered by the Philadelphia Institute list of scientific journals.

For his scientific achievements he has earned several awards from the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the international award of the Polish and Czechoslovakian Academies of Sciences. President of Poland awarded him with the Gold Cross of Merit and the Knight's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta, and for his activity during World War II, the Partisan Cross and the Home Army Cross.

On May 16, 2017 Prof. Jan Kowalczyk passed away in Jabłonna.

We will remember Professor as the outstanding scientist and full of energy, expressive person, who important part of his life devoted to the science and the Institute.

*Institute Directory Board and Editorial Board
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