

EDITORIAL:

Dear Members of the editorial board, referees, authors, and readers of *Biologia Plantarum*,

I am honoured to have been offered to become a new Editor in Chief of *Biologia Plantarum*. During the year 2020, Dr. Jana Pospíšilová decided to leave her position of the Editor in Chief. I would like to thank Dr. Jana Pospíšilová for her long-lasting and valuable work for this journal. She is still a member of the editorial board and helps with work for the editorial office.

I would also like to thank Dr. Jiří Květoň, who was the Executive Editor until the end of 2020. Dr. Renáta Schnablová has been working in the editorial office for a long time. She has agreed to become a new Executive Editor from January 2021.

A post of the Editor in Chief is a new challenge for me. I have worked as a researcher so far. After finishing my studies of biochemistry at the Faculty of Food and Biochemical Technology of the University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague, I moved to Germany where I started the PhD program. I obtained my PhD at the University of Karlsruhe. My research field in Germany was plant DNA repair and recombination. After my return to Prague, I started to work at the Institute of Experimental Botany, where I focused on the study of protein expression in plants and plant virology. My objective is to further increase the reputation of the journal with support from both editors and editorial staff, whose work I greatly appreciate. The main focus of *Biologia Plantarum* to all aspects of experimental botany will be maintained, although some changes can be expected according to current development. I plan to work more closely with the Editorial Board and consult on the scope of the journal. To reflect changes in plant science approaches I would like to encourage the authors to submission of papers elucidating underlying mechanisms using molecular biology and molecular genetic approaches. I also welcome new editors, especially in the field of photosynthesis, stress physiology, virology, and genetics.

My plan is to change the final design of the articles. The title page will have a new design with additional information (e.g. ORCID) and links to figures, tables and references will be available throughout the article. I also plan to improve the information on the website, which will be supplemented and updated. I would like to speed up the publishing process, in particular, to shorten the time between accepting and publishing an article online. I plan to provide an efficient service for authors and to bring high-quality scientific knowledge to our readers.

I am looking forward to working with our editorial staff and editors and to our fruitful cooperation.

In Prague, February 2021

Helena Plchová