

In memory of Alexander Nikolayevich Burdov

Alexander N. Burdov, Doctor of Science (Veterinary Medicine), RSFSR Honored Scientist, participant of the Great Patriotic War, Director of the All-Union Foot-and-Mouth Disease Research Institute (nowaday FGBI "ARRIAH") in 1981–1992 (11 years), passed away in March 2020 at the age of 93 after a long battle with a disease.

Alexander N. Burdov was born on September 15, 1926 in Vyazovka village, Mainsky Raion, Ulyanovsk Oblast. In 1945, while being a military cadet, he was sent to the Far East, where he participated in military operations against Japan. After demobilization in 1946, he entered the Kiev Veterinary Institute. After graduation in 1951, the USSR MoA assigned Alexander N. Burdov to work in the Kazakh SSR as a head of a veterinary health unit, Senior Veterinarian of the MTS, head of the Raion veterinary laboratory.

In 1959–1962, Alexander N. Burdov studied in the full-time postgraduate school of the All-Union Institute of Experimental Veterinary Medicine, and as soon as he graduated from it, he was employed as a Chief Veterinarian in the Chief Veterinary Administration of the USSR MoA. In 1963, he defended a Candidate's thesis.

In April 1964, Alexander N. Burdov was promoted to the position of the Director of the USSR MoA Research Agricultural Institute (Kazakh SSR), where under his leadership the team of employees implemented and put into the veterinary practice a number of developments being of significant national and economic importance. In 1971, Alexander N. Burdov defended the Doctor's dissertation in the AURIVVM (Pokrov). In 1972, he was appointed as the Head of Department in the Chief Administration of the Research and Production Institutions of the USSR MoA. In 1978, Alexander N. Burdov was assigned to work as the Director of the USSR MoA Veterinary Laboratory in the People's Republic of Congo, and later in 1981 he was appointed as the Director of the All-Union Foot-and-Mouth Disease Research Institute, which was headed by him until 1992.

Alexander N. Burdov was a highly qualified expert in highly dangerous animal disease virology and epidemiology. He published 150 research papers, received 6 patents for inventions. Monograph "Foot-and-Mouth Disease" published under Alexander N. Burdov's edition (1990) summed up the best domestic and foreign practices on the disease control.

Lots of activities on the production of new biological products, means and methods for animal protection against quarantine and poor studied diseases were carried-out under his scientific supervision. The contribution of Alexander N. Burdov to the development of the method of the large-scale cell and FMDV cultivation is especially significant. The domestic technology of culture FMD vaccine production was developed on the basis of



this method. The same is applied to the radically new production technologies of the recombinant DNA-based and chemically synthesized vaccines.

Twelve Candidates of Science were trained under the supervision of Alexander N. Burdov actively participated in scientific and public activities; he was the chairman of the Specialized Thesis Council of the AUFMDRI, member of the Specialized Doctor Dissertation Council of the AURIVVM, member of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the USSR Agroindustry Committee, Head of the FMD Coordination Centre of CMEA Member-States.

In 1990, Alexander N. Burdov was awarded the honorary title "RSFSR Honored Scientist" for the advancement of Veterinary Science and training of highly professional specialists.

Alexander N. Burdov was awarded the Order of the October Revolution, Order of The Patriotic War 2nd Class, Order of Friendship of Peoples, two Orders of the Red Banner of Labour and many medals.

In 1992, Alexander N. Burdov retired.

Alexander Nikolayevich was a man of great scientific learning and work capacity. He always took professional and creative initiative and was strictly committed to his principles. All these have earned him a well-deserved renown, respect and wide popularity both in our country and abroad. He will be remembered by his colleagues and friends as this kind of person.

*Administration,
Trade Union Committee,
FGBI "ARRIAH" staff members*