



OBRA DEL MAESTRO JORGE ALBERTO CASAS OCHOA



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# EDITORIAL NOTE

HELBER ENRIQUE BALAGUERA-LÓPEZ, Chief editor  
PABLO SERRANO, Co-editor  
Revista Colombiana de Ciencias Hortícolas

As the editor of this Journal and former graduate student and professor for about 5 years, I want to applaud to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Program of Agronomic Engineering at the Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia, Tunja campus, which is currently a publishing institution of this Journal. This distinguished program has provided Colombia with more than 3,000 professionals of the highest quality since its creation on January 11, 1960 under the name of the Agronomy Faculty. Its development and high-quality scientific credentials allowed the Ministry of National Education recognizing it as an “Accredited program of high quality” starting from 2003 and using three self-evaluation processes. It is one of the agronomy engineering programs in Colombia whose alumni are widely recognized for their high human standing and professional training, remaining attractive for the new generations of university students. The Journal hopes that this agronomic engineering program will continue to serve to the development of agricultural sector of the region and the country, as it has done for the six decades.

On this occasion, I present the volume 14 number 2 of 2020 of the Colombian Journal of Horticultural Science with 14 scientific articles. The Fruit tree section includes six articles, dealing with important findings on the characterization of “mal de cintura,” a disease in MD2 pineapples, the molecular characterization of mandarins with ISSR markers, the validation of management strategies to control the spot blotch *Pseudocercospora purpurea* (Cooke, Deighton) in avocado, the trapping methods to capture the screwworm *Telchin atymnius* (Dalman, 1824) in plantain, the use of indole-3-acetic acid in postharvest of the decajá-manga (*Spondias dulcis*) fruits in Brazil, and, finally, the physicochemical and sensory characterization of the ‘Dekopon’ fruits.

The Vegetable section has five articles. Three of these deal with cowpea beans. The first one reveals the correlations and path analyses for quantitative characteristics in the semi-prostrate genotypes, the second one includes the comparative response of *Callosobruchus maculatus* (Fab.) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) to *Momordica charantia* and *Acalypha wilkesiana* mildews under storage conditions, and the third one reports the optimal temperature for the germination and seedling development. The fourth article shows the results of fractionated fertilization as a strategy for reducing the amount of fertilizer applied to potato crops in Colombia, and this section closes with the article on the cultivation methods and planting depths for yacon crop.

The third section, Ornamental crops, has only one article, a manuscript on the floral and reproductive biology of *Alpinia purpurata* (Vieill.) K. Schum. (Zingiberaceae). The Aromatic, medicinal and herb species section includes the manuscript “Effects of the phenological stage, cutting type and plant growth regulator on the propagation of *Poirertia latifolia* Vogel with stem cuttings,” which is a medicinal plant native to Brazil, and the article on the effect of drying method and storage conditions on the yield and composition of essential oil in *Eugenia uniflora* L. leaves.

I am happy to report the satisfactory participation of our Journal in the annual Competition for the indexation of specialized scientific journals in Colombia – Publindex 2020, resulting in our continued ranking in the category B of Publindex. On behalf of the Colombian Society of Horticultural Science (SCCH) and the Universidad

Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia (UPTC), which are both publishing institutions, I want to thank the reviewers, for their valuable contributions, and also the authors and our readers. Finally, I invite all national and international scientists to submit their manuscripts on horticulture issues for publication in our Journal.

**Helber Enrique Balaguera-López, PhD**

CHIEF EDITOR, COLOMBIAN JOURNAL OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE