

History since
1852



History since 1852

The University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of București is the oldest and largest institution of higher agronomic education in Romania. In the last years, 2012–2017, the attractiveness of the educational programs offered increased and the number of students enrolled at USAMV București at bachelor, master and PhD has remain at the average of 12,000.

The origins of USAMV București lies in a document signed in 1852 by Barbu Dimitrie Știrbei, Ruler of Wallachia (1849–1856), who established the Institute of Agriculture in Pantelimon, near București. The Institute started its activity in 1853, being joined a few years later, in 1861, by the Veterinary School.

The agronomic and veterinary education evolved towards more developed forms, interrelated to the increasing need of specialists in plant and animal breeding, with the development of the specialised sciences and knowledge.

In 1867, when the curricula enlarged to include the forestry sciences, the school became the Central School of Agriculture and Forestry. The first experimental didactic farm in Romania was established within this School. At 1st of August 1868, the King Carol I, set the foundation stone of the new school on Herăstrău Estate in București and in 1869 teachers and students started their activity here.

In 1887, the first agricultural research institution in Romania, named the București Agronomic Station, was established within the school and the experimental plots were established on the Herăstrău lake shore.

After 1893, the school was known as the Central School of Agriculture from Herăstrău, when the forestry higher education became a separate entity in Brănești.

During the following years, the agronomic education developed further under several names: Higher School of Agriculture from Herăstrău (1915), Academy of Higher Agronomic Studies (1929), Faculty of Agronomy – integrated within the București Polytechnic School (1938), the Agronomic Institute of București (1948).

In 1952, the Agronomic Institute of București at 100 years of existence received the name of the great Romanian patriot and historian Nicolae Bălcescu. In 1992, the name changed to the University of Agronomic Sciences, and in 1996 it became the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of București.

THE INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE



Barbu Dimitrie Știrbei, Ruler of Wallachia, in 1849-1856, establisher of the Institute of Agriculture from Pantelimon

The praiseworthy and brave Ruler Barbu Dimitrie Știrbei, in the brief period between the retreat of the Russian-Turkish occupation armies from 1851, and the new Russian occupation from 1853, found the necessary time and money to open again the schools that were closed during the 1848 Revolution, and to establish, in 1852, the "Institute of Agriculture from Pantelimon", forerunner of the

University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of București. Alexandru Slătineanu, who had just finished the agricultural studies at Paris, was assigned to employ an agronomist from Germany as head of applied works for the established school of agriculture. Following the recommendation of the Hohenheim School of Agriculture, beginning from 1852, he employed Wilherm Konzelman for a period of five years. Thus, the emerging institution had Alexandru Slătineanu as director (1852-1857), and Wilherm Konzelman as head of applied works.



Alexandru Slătineanu, first director of the Institute of Agriculture from Pantelimon (1852-1857)

Alexandru Slătineanu was professor of Agriculture, having vast knowledge in the field of physics, chemistry and mineralogy, while Konzelman was "director of applied works". Besides them, the school also employed five other professors, a "trainer" and a gardener. Alexandru Slătineanu affirmed: "The profession of a land worker is the knowledge of the means by which to make a larger profit with little

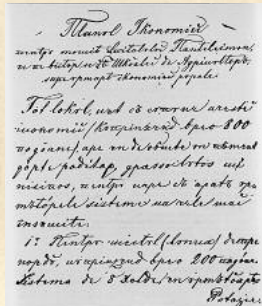
capital or with less work. The land worker is a manufacturer of products. Its factory is the soil and the works done on it. He must know the type of land it works, the crops that fit best and which make more profit; he must find out the ways to improve a less productive land, he must improve the conditions for growth and production of the plants, the reasons for damages or diseases, the ways of preventing the bad things". His assertion is just as true today, too.



First building of the Pantelimon School

There is not much data about the first year of functioning of the school, but it is an established fact that all courses took place on the Pantelimon estate – property of the Civil Hospitals organisation – whose plan of crops had been decided by Konzelman since November 1st, 1852.

On the leased land, the School organised its administrative headquarters, the mulberry nursery (50 hectares), a garden of fruit trees and vegetables, a factory for agricultural machinery and tools, as well as the actual farm. Constantin Bozianu, director of București schools, said in his speech, at the awarding festivity for the 1852-1853 year of education that "the School of agriculture established this year, gave and electric pulse to land agriculture..."



Crops Plan of the Pantelimon Estate, drawn up by W. Konzelman in 1852



Award given by Alexandru Ioan Cuza Ruler to the Pantelimon School



FROM PANTELIMON



Ruler
Alexandru Ioan Cuza
(1859–1866), who
revived the School of
Pantelimon

After Alexandru Slătineanu, the Pantelimon School had C.N. Racotă as director, from 1857 to 1863. The curricula also included disciplines such as rural economy, animal sciences and veterinarian art, botanic and forestry, elements of metrology, physics, chemistry and mineralogy applied to agriculture, rural constructions, sericulture, apiculture, accounting, etc.

According to a drawing

from 1860, the building was organised as follows: classroom, drawing room, room for machinery and models, library, isolation room for sick people, bathroom and school principal room. During the years when Racotă was school principal, the Pantelimon School took several names: Saint Pantelimon National School of Agriculture; Saint Pantelimon National Institute of Agriculture; Pantelimon National School of Agriculture. The arable land, organised in plots, was worked by peasants from Pantelimon village, on renting basis, as it was the usual practice. As shown by archived information, the school had an average number of 50 students in each calendar year. In 1863, Petre S. Aurelian became Principal of the Pantelimon School, whom Nicolae Iorga characterized as "... a man of deep culture, with broad view beyond the limits of his speciality, a universal spirit [...] among the first to teach us that land working is a scientific craft [...], who wanted to make out from this school a light beam for the Romanians abroad and for the people of the neighbouring countries...". In 1867, the Pantelimon School participated at the Paris Universal Exhibition, where it received the bronze medal from Emperor Napoleon III.

First seal of the School, whose symbol is an eagle with a bunch of spikes in his claws. This symbol is also used in the current logo of UASVM of București



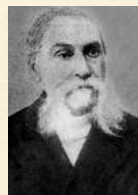
Alexandru Ioan Cuza's reign was a special moment in the history of Pantelimon School of Agriculture. While Barbu Dimitrie Știrbei is considered the father figure of the school, because of the act he signed, Alexandru Ioan Cuza, through his entire policy, through the attention he paid to the general education, by his achievements in the agricultural issues, and by the measures taken regarding the education system, has the merit of revival the agricultural school. Thus, he affirmed: "... I wish that in the near future, in our country, a Ph.D. in agronomy receives the same consideration and advantages as a Ph.D. in letters".



C. N. Racotă



Vasile Lucaci



Pană Buescu

Several professors stand out during this period, such as Vasile Lucaci, who taught animal sciences, from 1859 to 1864, and Pană Buescu, who taught agriculture, botany, rural economy, physics, chemistry and technology, from 1859 to 1893. Pană Buescu also had the great virtue of supporting the importance of the "theoretical education" of the pupils, contrary to those who claimed that the practical education is enough to bring up specialists. "All sciences come to the help of agricultural education", was he stating in the papers of his time.



Bronze medal received by the Pantelimon School from Napoleon III, at the Paris Universal Exhibition in 1867.



1852
1867

CENTRAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY



Carol I, supporter of moving the School to Herăstrău Estate

At the beginning of 1867, the problem was whether to transform the School into a “second degree school”, which meant one step forward for the agricultural education. That was Petre S. Aurelian's point of view. Following the debates in the Assembly of Deputies, the commission consisting of Petre S. Aurelian, Alexandru Slătineanu, C.N. Racotă, Ion Ionescu

de la Brad, Pană Buescu, Alexandru Vericeanu and Alexandru Holbau, issued the Decree from August 31st, 1867, by which the School became secondary school. After debates regarding the movement of the Pantelimon School to a new location, on August 1st, 1868, King Carol I set the foundation stone for the future building of the school: “at Herăstrău, on the left side of Mogoșoaia main road.”



Petre S. Aurelian, school principal in 1863–1883

The School from Pantelimon actually moved to Herăstrău in 1869, becoming the Central School of Agriculture and Forestry, better known as the “Herăstrău School”. The first association of the students was established the same year, under the form of a “Society for literature”, with cultural purpose, which published the “Embryo” journal in

manuscript. In 1873, the Agricultural School from Herăstrău received the bronze medal at the Universal Exhibition from Vienna. By December 1st 1883, when Petre S. Aurelian left the leading position of the Herăstrău School (as of the same day he became Minister of the Ministry of Cults and Public Education), the institution already had a library with 1,006 titles.



“Embryo”, manuscript journal of the “Society for literature”, cultural organisation of the Herăstrău School students



Bronze medal received in 1873 by the “School of Agriculture from Herăstrău” at the Vienna Universal Exhibition



Medal received at the Competition for Agriculture and Industry in 1881



Trowel and hammer used by King Carol I to set the foundation stone for the School of Agriculture from Herăstrău (August 1st, 1868)



1867
1893

School of Agriculture from Herăstrău (built in 1868–1869)

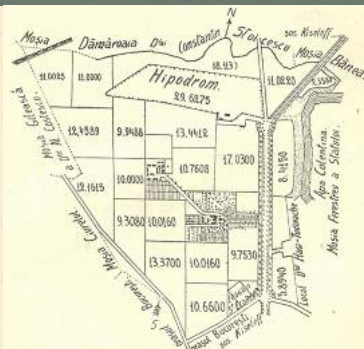
THE CENTRAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY FROM HERĂSTRĂU



Laboratory for milk analysis from the Herăstrău Central School of Agriculture



Laboratory for viticulture from the Herăstrău Central School of Agriculture



Plan of Herăstrău Estate, of the Higher School of Agriculture, January 1st, 1900

In 1893, through “Carp Law” – Law for the organisation of the professional education – the name of the school changed to the “Herăstrău Central School of Agriculture and Forestry”. On July 12, 1908, Constantin Sandu Aldea was appointed school Principal and he led the institution for three periods: 1908–1911, 1911–1914 and 1919–1927. He was to play an important role in the acknowledgement of the higher education status of the School. The Law stipulated “...the establishment of at least three model farms located on state-owned estates, as selected by the Ministry of Agriculture. In these farms, the graduates of the Central School of Agriculture will work for one and a half year to learn the practice of agricultural works and that of a good administration”.



Constantin Sandu Aldea, Principal of the Herăstrău School

This period marks the beginning of the endeavour of the teaching staff to improve the didactic activities and to transform the School into a higher education unit. As result of this enterprise for the *de jure* acknowledgement of the *de facto* status of the Herăstrău School as higher education unit, in 1909, the Consultative Commission of

the Ministry deliberated and approved the organisation of the School as higher education unit. Following the petition of April 1st 1914, on March 13, 1915, the Regulation for the application of the 1893 Law for the organisation of the professional education and of the 1904 Law was promulgated, together with the changes which allow the higher education level, even if it was not in the form wanted by Constantin Sandu Aldea. Nevertheless, he continued with his efforts.



Park of the Herăstrău Central School of Agriculture



Medal received at the Paris Universal Exhibition in 1900



Medal received at the General Romanian Exhibition from Carol Park, 1906



“Visitor’s registry” of the Central School of Agriculture (1904–1925)



First textbook for “Agricultural plants breeding” written by C. Sandu-Aldea and various scientific papers from 1895 to 1914

HERĂSTRĂU AGRONOMIC STATION



Vlad Cărnă Munteanu,
Principal of the
Herăstrău School of
Agriculture (1887–1903)

Since November 1887, the School is headed by Vlad Cărnă Munteanu, agronomist, forestry scientist and biologist, the first breeder of wheat and oats in Romania. The București Agronomic Station was established the same year, while in 1890 the experimental plots of the School are established. This was the beginning of the

modern agricultural research. Following his researches, in 1892 Corneliu Roman published the paper “Researches on seeds performed in the Agronomic Station laboratories”. Experiments on the sugar beet crops had started two years before, at the initiative of Cărnă Munteanu. The results of these researches, continued for four years, were published by Roman in 1894 in “Experiments of sugar beet cultivation at the Agronomic Station”.



Scientific publications of the researchers from the Agronomic Station

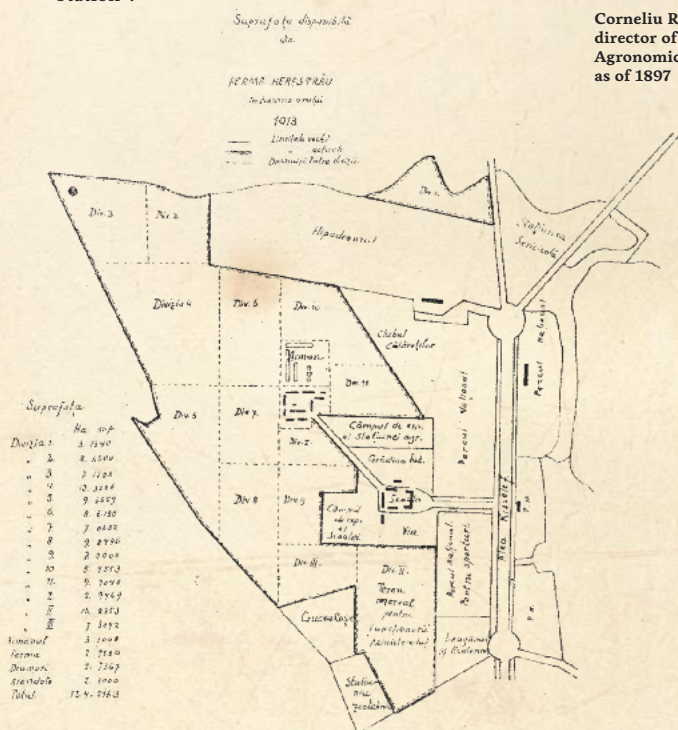


Corneliu Roman,
director of the
Agronomic Station
as of 1897

The first laboratory soil analyses are also performed at the Station, with results published by Vlad Cărnă Munteanu and Corneliu Roman in: “Study of the arable land in the Romanian Plain”, in 1891, “Arable land of Romania, study of the mechanic and chemical composition” in 1900 and “Balance of the arable land of Romania” in 1905. The

two authors also published (in 1900) a scientific paper entitled: “Researches on the Romanian cereal crops: the grains and their meals, corn and barley”, and “The wines of Romania, economic and chemical study”. Also, the first number of the “Annals of the Agronomic Station” was published in 1904, as an expression of the new path of the Romanian scientific agricultural research. The new headquarters of the Research Station were built, with particular efforts, on the left side of Kisselef Road, inaugurated in 1905 and bearing the logo **EX TERRA AURUM** on its frontispiece. The București Central Agronomic Station was included in 1930 in the newly-established Agronomic Research Institute of Romania (ICAR).

Design of the Agronomic Station experimental plot (established in 1890)



THE VETERINARY MEDICINE SCHOOL OF BUCUREȘTI



Building of the Higher School of Veterinary Medicine built in 1885–1888, architect Nicolae Cerchez

On June 8th, 1860, Dr. Carol Davila proposed the establishment of the Veterinary School, within the National School of Medicine and Pharmacy. According to the resolution of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, the School was established on January 1st, 1861. The official data when the courses actually started is May 15th, 1861. The first headquarters of the School was within the

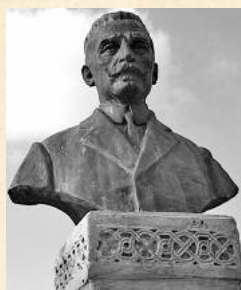
Central Military Hospital. In full campaign of support for the veterinary education, 14 of the veterinary teachers, professors and practicing veterinarians, established the Society of Veterinary Medicine on May 15th, 1871. The first issue of "The Veterinarian Doctor" was published in 1879, edited by Alexandru Locusteanu, M.Gh. Măgureanu, Gh. Persu, and Pândelescu Constantinescu and directed by C. Rădulescu. The young veterinarians established the "Society of the Veterinary Medicine Students", on October 19th, 1880, chaired by Ioan Șt. Furtună. Alexandru Locusteanu became

President of the society in 1883; he supported the development, modernization and organisation of the veterinary school. In March 1883, upon the insistence of Alexandru Locusteanu and with the support of Petre S. Aurelian, who led the Ministry of Education, the school became Higher School of Veterinary Medicine. In 1893, the Vaccine Institute, headed by Luis Vincent, is established within the School, which was then transformed in 1895 in the "Institute for Animal Vaccines".

According to the 1909 Law of organisation of the Veterinary School, the "Institute of Serum-vaccines" was established in the same year, turning into the „Pasteur Institute of Serum-vaccines", beginning with 27 December, 1921. On May 27th, 1909, King

Carol I promulgated the "Law for the functioning of the Higher School of Medicine (Haret-Athanasiu Law)", which also stipulated the establishment of an Animal Sciences Institute. Immediately after the First World War, by efforts of the veterinarian professors and students, the draft of the Law for the transformation of the School of Veterinary Medicine into

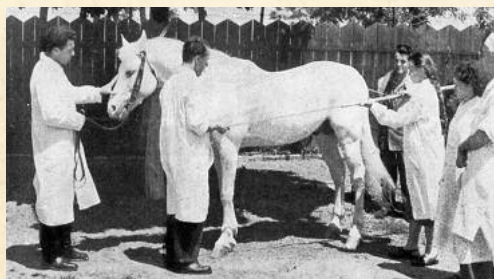
faculty is submitted. Presented to the Parliament by Senator N. Tănăsescu, the draft of this law is promulgated as Law on July 22nd, 1921. The new Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is included within the University of București.



Alexandru Locusteanu, director of the Higher School of Veterinary Medicine (1890–1907)



Consultation cabinet



Applied work of topographic anatomy on "Bălanu" horse, mascot of the veterinary doctors for 47 years.



1861

1921

Principals of the București
School of Veterinary Medicine

Carol Davila 1861–1870
Dr. Teodoru 1870–1871
Mauriciu Colben 1872–1883
Alexandru Locusteanu 1883–1885
Ioan Popescu 1885–1890
Alexandru Locusteanu 1890–1907
Ioan Athanasiu 1907–1910
Paul Riegler 1910–1919
Constantin Motaș 1919–1921
and first Dean of the Faculty of
Veterinary Medicine – 1921–1926

HERĂSTRĂU HIGHER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

During the First World War, the Herăstrău School had been closed. After the war, in 1919, Sandu Aldea returned to its leadership within a new conjuncture, as the Grand Union raised new economic problems for the entire country. The

activity of mending the damages and of building new spaces started immediately after the war: the chemistry laboratory (built in 1925–1927) and the dwellings for the director and administrative staff. Afterwards, the first student hostel was built in 1928. The efforts for the full acknowledgment of the higher education character of the Herăstrău Higher Agri-

Gh. Ionescu-Șișești,
director of the Herăstrău
Higher Agricultural
School in 1914–1919 and
1928

cultural School continued. After the death of Constantin Sandu Aldea in 1927, the School was led by another high personality of the Romanian agronomic education – Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești.



**Building of the Chemistry
laboratory built in between
1925–1927**



**Director's dwelling,
built in 1925–1927**

peasant property, which will cripple the future agricultural production and will cause new agrarian crises in our country”.



**Medal presented by the US National
Commission for Horticulture, 1919**



**Medal presented by Mihai I, King of Romania,
upon the anniversary of 75 years from the
establishment of the School of Agriculture
from Pantelimon, 1928**



**Gh. Ionescu-Șișești
attending the
Agricultural Congress,
București, 1928**



**Gh. Ionescu-Șișești in the botanical garden of
the Herăstrău Higher Agricultural School,
along with Traian Săvulescu and Grigore
Antipa, 1928**

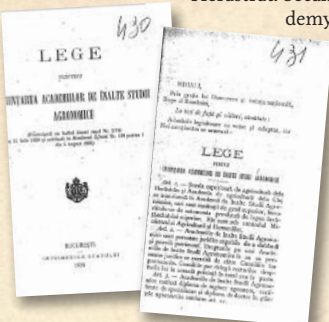
1918
1929



BUCUREȘTI ACADEMY OF HIGHER AGRONOMIC STUDIES

On July 31st, 1929, the Law for the establishment of the Academy of Higher Agronomic Studies was promulgated, so that the Higher Agricultural School from Herăstrău became the Academy of Higher

Agronomic Studies, higher education unit, with four years of study and an extra year of specialization.



On the occasion of celebrating 75 years of agricultural education in București, on June 28th, 1928, Gheorghe Buzdugan laid the foundation stone for the future student hostel. After the interim presidency of

Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești, the following chairs of the Academy of Higher Agronomic Studies were Alexandru Nasta, 1929; Dumitru Busuiocescu, 1930–1932; Marin Chirițescu-Arva, 1932–1935 and Cristian Musceleanu, 1935–1938. Between 1929 and 1930, the school employed 18 professors and 6 associate

Hall for agricultural machinery



professors, for 430 students (including the year of practice). Attesting the prestige and status of the institution, on May 10th, 1931, King Carol II awarded the academy the “Romanian Star” Order.



Students' hostel whose building started in 1928 (above) and was inaugurated on November 2nd, 1931 on the presence of King Carol II (left)



Laboratory of the Department of Systematic and Phytopathology, Professor Traian Săvăulescu, 1929

The 1929 Law was changed in 1933 by increasing the duration of the studies for the higher agricultural education to five years, organised on branches, as per the norms set by the Teaching Staff Council and by the Senate. The “specialised agricultural education” was established in 1930, with the following groups: Agro-phytotechnics, Animal Sciences, Organic and Agro-Technological Chemistry, Rural Engineering, Viticulture, Horticulture and Forestry. The Laboratory of Viticulture was built in 1934.



Agronomic Research Institute of Romania, inaugurated on June 19th, 1937

On January 1st, 1928, Gh. Ionescu Șișești was appointed director of the Agronomic Research Institute of Romania. The building of the Institute has been started in 1928 on a plot from the land area owned by the Academy.

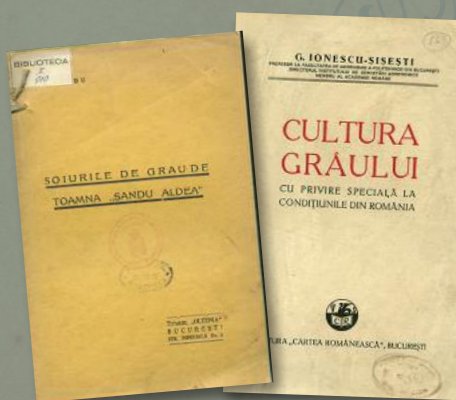


Medal obtained at the Barcelona International Exhibition, 1929



“Romanian Star” Order awarded to the Academy in 1931 by King Carol II

1929
1938



THE FACULTY OF AGRONOMY WITHIN THE BUCUREȘTI POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

On November 4th, 1938, the Academy of Higher Agronomic Studies of București became the Faculty of Agronomy within the București Polytechnic Institute. Traian Săvulescu became Dean of the Faculty on December 8, 1938. The institution enjoys several facilities: legal personality, its own management, administrates its mobile and immobile assets, uses their top incomes in order to develop the patrimony. After 1938, the economic potential of the faculty

develops: it works an area in excess of 5,000 ha, including six didactic farms: Băneasa (192 ha), Istrița (300 ha), Pietroasa (60 ha), Fetești (2,216 ha), Petroșani (760 ha), Jegălia (744 ha), Dunărea (2,119 ha) as well as the 40 ha remaining from Herăstrău farm, after circumstantial „adjustments”. In 1937, the practical activities in the

School farms were of 310 days for the 4th year graduates. The professors had a broad extracurricular activity during this period: Gh. Ionescu-Șișești – minister several times, I.C. Teodorescu – secretary of state within the Ministry of Agriculture, Al. Nasta – governor of the Agricultural Credit, Eugen Apostoleanu, N. Cornățeanu, D. Busuiocescu – deputies, C. Jornescu – senator, M. Chirițescu-Arva – parliamentarian, etc.

As of 1944–1945 there were five years of study, and in 1941 the library is reorganised and a copying service is established. The important achievement of the year 1945 is the publishing of the “Bulletin of the Faculty of Agronomy”, with four issues per year, under the direction of Traian Săvulescu and editorial activity of I. Andronescu-Cale.



Polytechnic Institute, Polizu building

The involvement of the professors in scientific activities is beneficial for the teaching activity. It is about increasing the quality of courses and about the transmission of what lies beyond the lesson taught.



Professor Traian Săvulescu, Dean of the Faculty of Agronomy, opened the university year 1939



First headquarters of the Faculty of Horticulture in Băneasa, 1948, currently the building of the National Institute for Agricultural Machinery (INMA)

The following rectors chaired the faculty during 1938–1948: Traian Săvulescu, 1938–1940; Nicolae Săulescu, 1940–1944; Anastasie Munteanu, 1944–1945; N. Gavrilescu, 1945–1946; Agripa Popescu, 1946–1947; N.A. Dumitrescu, 1947–1948.

In July 1943, the National Agricultural Society, established in 1913, transformed into the Agricultural Academy of Romania with the aim to support the progress of scientific researches.

The following professors were part of the various departments of the Academy: Gh. Ionescu-Șișești, Nicolae Săulescu, Nicolae Cornățeanu, Traian Săvulescu, Teodor Saidel, N. Florov, I.C. Teodorescu, F. Grințescu, Alexandru Nasta and Marin Drăcea.



1938
1948

Manor of the Băneasa Experimental Farm



BUCUREȘTI AGRONOMIC INSTITUTE

The decision of the Ministry of Agriculture, concerning the establishment of agricultural schools, from September 19th, 1945 that were to function during the following period: 4 agricultural faculties at București, Cluj, Iași and Timișoara; 6 middle schools; 46 lower schools; one special school for cellar workers; 6 applied agricultural schools; 12 winter agricultural schools. There also were 2 sub engineer colleges (agriculture and forestry) and 27 agricultural high schools, all of them subordinated to the Directorate of Education and Agricultural Propaganda within the Ministry of Agriculture.



Laboratory of the Faculty for Agriculture Mechanization



Animal farm

By decision of the Ministry of Public Education from October 26th, 1948, the București Faculty of Horticulture is established, the first such institution in Romania. Since there was no special location; it functioned for a period in the building of the former Middle School of Horticulture from Băneasa. A collection of 277 fruit tree varieties, a vineyard, a floriculture field and a vegetable seedlings sector were organised, in a short period of time. For the summer practical training, the students were going to the horticultural and viticulture farms from Istria and Pietroasa in Buzău County. The Faculty moved in 1952 to its present location, building designed by architect Ianola Trișcu.



București National Animal Sciences Institute



Hall of lecture no. 1

The 1948 education reform discontinued the Faculty of Agronomy within the București Polytechnic and established the București Agronomic Institute, with the faculties of Agriculture, Horticulture and

Agriculture Mechanization. Both the Institute of Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine were simultaneously functioning, with the Faculties of Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine. This administrative reform was accompanied by some unfortunate actions, such as the adoption of educational theories and methodologies imported from the Soviet Union, by the permanent “ideologization” and politicization to the detriment of the science. The most unfair and painful consequence was the brutal dismissal of great specialists such as Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești, whose life has been unconditionally dedicated to school and profession. The higher animal science education was established as an independent unit on August 3rd 1948, when the “Institute of Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine” from București was being established, having two faculties: Faculty of Animal Sciences and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. The Institute received as affiliation the Faculty of Fishery from Constanța. The task of the Faculty of Animal Sciences was to prepare higher education specialists in the field of rearing, breeding and exploiting farm animals. The necessary educational space has been provided by the Ministry of Agriculture within the building of the Institute of Animal Sciences Research, located at 63, Dr. Staicovici Street, the Faculty of Animal Sciences using the ground level (the Aula Magna included) and the semi-basement.



Vegetation house



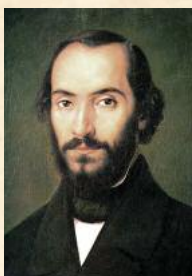
Building of the Faculty of Horticulture, architect Ianola Trișcu (1952–1954)

1948
1952



Students House no. 3 in Băneasa

“NICOLAE BĂLCESCU” AGRONOMIC



Nicolae Bălcescu
(1819–1852), Romanian
historian, writer and
revolutionary

In the fall of 1952, upon the 100th anniversary of the Pantelimon School of Agriculture, and upon the 100th anniversary of Nicolae Bălcescu death, the Institute of Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine merged with the Agronomic Institute, within a single higher agricultural education unit named the “Nicolae Bălcescu” Agronomic Institute. The Faculties of Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine were included in this new institute.

After 1957, the Institute didactic farms were integrated within the large farms of the State Agricultural Holdings or within the newly-established Institute for Horticultural and Viticulture Research (ICHV). Out of the 6,431 ha owned by the “Nicolae Bălcescu” Agronomic Institute in its didactic farms, it only kept Băneasa farm with an area of 192 ha.

After the 1952 reform, the structure of the “Nicolae Bălcescu” Agronomic Institute was the following:

- ★ Faculty of Agriculture – true home of the agronomic education in București, a continuity element of the Romanian agronomic school.
- ★ Faculty of Horticulture – established in 1948. As of 1952 it had the specialisations of Horticulture and Viticulture.
- ★ Faculty of Agriculture Mechanization – established in 1951 and separated from the Faculty of Agricultural Machinery, established in 1948.
- ★ Faculty of Agricultural Machinery Construction, established in 1951 and separated from the Faculty of Agricultural Machinery, established in 1948.
- ★ Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, returned to the Agronomic Institute, from the Institute of Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine.
- ★ Faculty of Animal Sciences, established in 1948.

STUDIES LENGHT

1953–1955	1955–1957	1957–1959	1959–1963	1963–1978	1978–1991
4 years	4.5 years	5 years	5.5 years	5 years	4 years

Building of the Agronomic Institute constructed on the place of the Academy of Higher Agronomic Studies, architects Gheorghe Negoescu and Mirela Silvia Nicolau, 1953–1955



Professor Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești among the students at Istrița Fruit Nursery, 1955



Academician David Davidescu in the vegetation house

After the 1940 earthquake, the old building of the Faculty of Agronomy was abandoned and all the classes, laboratories and administration moved to the student's hostel. The problem of building a proper house

resumed in 1951, when the urbanistic plan for the expansion of the built area for agricultural faculties was drawn up. The “Old Lady from Herăstrău”, as Sandu Aldea was calling it, was demolished. First, only the building of the Faculty of Agriculture was constructed, as designed by the architects Gheorghe Negoescu and Mirela Silvia Nicolau (1953–1955). Once with the new building and with the establishment of the „Nicolae Bălcescu” Agronomic Institute, the Faculty of Animal

Sciences moved to the new location of the Institute, at 59, Mărăști Boulevard.



Bowling hall from Agronomy-Herăstrău Campus



Applied work in the field



INSTITUTE OF BUCUREȘTI

The Faculty of Agronomy functioned without intermission and, at different stages, included other faculties. During 1953–1954, the section of Agrarian Economy became a faculty in itself, while in 1959–1961, it returned as section of the Faculty of Agronomy, only to be cancelled later on.

The Faculty of Horticulture functioned until 1956 with two sections (Horticulture and Viticulture). Ten years later, specialised departments are used again – vegetables crops, protected vegetables cultivation, fruit growing and viticulture. As of 1986 it became section of the Faculty of Agronomy till 1990.

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine remained, until 1961, the only one in Romania. In 1985, due to the vicinity with the “House of the People” (under construction), it was moved to the campus from Mărăști Boulevard and only after 11 years returned to its campus in Splaiul Independenței.

In 1957, the Faculty of Animal Sciences became section of the Faculty of Agriculture, then an independent faculty in 1968 and merged again with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in 1989, forming the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences till 1990.



Cezar Nicolau, first dean of the Faculty for Land Reclamation

The Faculty of Land Reclamation has been established in 1970, although such section already existed in other faculties. The faculty building was finished in 1974. In 1986, the faculty was included within the Faculty of Agriculture, where it remained until 1990.

The Faculty of Agriculture Mechanization was part of “Nicolae Bălcescu” Agronomic Institute only in the period between 1951–1955. After 1955, it was subordinated to the Polytechnic Institute of București.



Building of the Faculty for Land Reclamation, inaugurated in 1974

four farms: Belciugatele, Băneasa, Roșia and Moara Domnească. The experimental fields of the Faculty of Horticulture were set up at Băneasa; the experimental fields for the disciplines of agrotechnics, plant breeding, agriculture mechanization, phytotechnics, forage production and storage, botany were set up at Moara Domnească, while animal husbandry developed mainly at Belciugatele farm. After the establishment of Belciugatele Didactic Station, a plan was developed for its organisation and development, which run from 1980 to 1989, which presumed the construction of animal husbandry farms, local irrigation system, seed drying facilities, student hostel, canteen etc. Major transformations were done in the student campus from 59, Mărăști Boulevard. Until the Revolution from December 1989: student houses A3, A4, A8 și A9 were built (in the early 50s); followed by A1, A2, C1 and C2, and the student canteen (in the 60s) and student houses A5, A6, A7 (in the 70s); in 1977–1981, by efforts and under the coordination of



Agronomia Sports Hall, inaugurated in 1981 on the occasion of the International University Games



A5 and A6 Student dorms

Professor Mihai Tătărăscu, head of the Physical Education Department, the “Agronomia” Sports Hall was built, being inaugurated on the occasion of the 1981 International University Games. The 1977 earthquake affected rather seriously the new building of the Faculty of Land Reclamation, the student house and the library (built by famous Liviu Ciulley in 1937). The Romanian state allocated funds only for the consolidation of the Faculty of Land Reclamation building. Despite its historic and architectonic value, the library building had been deserted and degraded gradually. In the early '80s a complex of greenhouses covered in glass was built on one hectare of land, for research and production purposes, which were demolished, however, in the late '90s.



Works in the Moara Domnească Didactic farm



IANB București green house



SDE Belciugatele Animal Husbandry farm



Complex pumping station

In order to apply the “Education – Research – Production” triad, by Ministry Council Decision from January 1975, the Belciugatele Didactic Station was established on an area of 4,254 ha. At that time, the station had

tion of animal husbandry farms, local irrigation system, seed drying facilities, student hostel, canteen etc. Major transformations were done in the student campus from 59, Mărăști Boulevard. Until the Revolution from December 1989: student houses A3, A4, A8 și A9 were built (in the early 50s); followed by A1, A2, C1 and C2, and the student canteen (in the 60s) and student houses A5, A6, A7 (in the 70s); in 1977–1981, by efforts and under the coordination of

1952
1990

BUCUREȘTI UNIVERSITY OF AGRONOMIC SCIENCES

The December 1989 events produced changes not only in the political regime, but also in the organisation of the higher education system. Within the new context, the “Nicolae Bălcescu” Agronomic Institute underwent changes and modernization and, in 1992, changed its denomination into the **București University of Agronomic Sciences**.

One of the most important aspects of the 1990's was the employment of young staff on new disposable teaching positions and the reopening of new PhD courses. This favoured the employment of didactic staff with potential for personal development. In the early 90s, the first projects of international cooperation are started within TEMPUS program, with universities from Italy, Belgium and France. The drawn funds are used for the purchase of modern equipment and for mobility grants for the young staff.

A



The Faculty of Agriculture remained independent, with specialisations such as “Agriculture” (basic specialisation) and new specialisations such as: “Forestry” and “Biology”.

H

The Faculty of Horticulture got independent again, previously belonging to the Faculty of Agriculture, with two specialisations: “Horticulture” and “Landscaping”.



F

The Faculty of Animal Sciences was re-established in 1990, after a period of turmoil. The faculty has four specialisations: “Animal Sciences”, “Fishery and Aquaculture”, “Hunting” and “Food Products Processing Technology”.



V



The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine went back to its former location which escaped demolition because of the December 1989 events. In 1996, the faculty returned to the Veterinară-Cotroceni Campus in Splaiul Independenței. The reconstruction of the buildings continued and the EU norms for the faculties of veterinary medicine were adopted.

In 1996, the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine applied as member of the European Association of the Veterinarian Higher Education Institutions (EAEVE) with two specialisations: “Veterinary Medicine” and “Control and Expertise of Food Products”.

IF

The Faculty of Land Reclamation and Environmental Engineering turned independent again in 1990, with four specialisations: “Land reclamation and rural development” and “Engineering and Environmental Protection in Agriculture”, “Civil Engineering and Management” and “Land Measurement and Cadastre”.



B



The Faculty of Biotechnologies initially functioned as section of the Faculty of Horticulture in 1994-1995. It was dissociated as an independent faculty in 1996 and was accredited in 2001. The faculty has three specialisations: “Agricultural Biotechnologies”, “Medical-Veterinarian Biotechnologies” and “Biotechnologies for Food Industry”.

M



The Faculty of Management, Economic Engineering in Agriculture and Rural Development was founded in 2001. The faculty has two specialisations: “Economic Engineering in Agriculture” and “Engineering and Management in Public Alimentation and Agro Tourism”.

1990

1996



THE UNIVERSITY OF AGRONOMIC SCIENCES AND VETERINARY MEDICINE OF BUCUREȘTI

During this period the university started to recover its land patrimony that it had before 1948 or acquired in time. The Pietroasa farm, which meantime became the Pietroasa Research and Development Station for

*Pietroasa
veche*

university. The two branches celebrated in 2008, 115 years of existence, a great opportunity for launching the new “Pietroasa veche” collection of wines. In 2009, Tămâioasa românească 1986 collection wine won the



Anniversary of 160 years of existence of University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of București, 2012

The scientific research activity is conducted within research projects won by national and international competitions. These projects contribute substantially to the operational funds of the university and to the purchase of modern research equipment.

The University has 9 research centres acknowledged and licenced by the National Council for Scientific Research and Higher Education (CNCSIS), as well as a research institute:

- ★ Research Centre for Sustainable Agriculture
- ★ Research Centre for Quality Studies of Horticulture and Viticulture Products and of the Useful Substances from Plants
- ★ Research Centre for Integrated Fruit Growing
- ★ Research Centre for Rural Engineering and Environmental Protection
- ★ Research Centre for Microbial Biotechnologies – BIOTEHGEN
- ★ Research Centre for Applied Biochemistry and Biotechnologies – BIOTEHNOL
- ★ Research Centre for Compared Oncology
- ★ Research Centre for Animal Production Quality
- ★ University Centre for Diagnosis and Treatment of Animal Diseases
- ★ Institute for Poultry Research

With the anniversary of 160 years of existence in 2012, a new era started for the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine. The University received the Royal Decoration “Nihil Sine Deo” granted by His Majesty King Mihai I for the impressive scientific and technical contribution to the development of Romanian agriculture and veterinary medicine and to honor the high standing teachers that served during the years.



In the same year, the University initiated the annual International conference “Agriculture for Life, Life for Agriculture”. Every year the conference is attended by more than

600 experts from more than 50 countries. The presented scientific papers are published in 7 *Faculties Acta* and in *AgroLife Journal*.

In October 2012, the Royal Family represented by Her Highness Princess Margareta and His Highness Prince Radu, set the foundation stone of the Research Center for Studies of Food and Agricultural Products Quality – HORTINVEST.



Her Highness Princess Margareta setting the foundation stone of the Research Center for Studies of Food and Agricultural Products Quality

2012
2017

The Royal Decoration
“Nihil Sine Deo”
granted in 2013
by His Majesty
King Mihai I





Signing ceremony for the Consortium of the Universities of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine – Life Sciences of Romania

In 2014 the four Romanian agriculture universities: the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of București, the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj, the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine “Ion Ionescu de la Brad” of Iași and the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat “King Mihai I of Romania” from Timișoara formed the Consortium of the Universities of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine – Life Sciences of Romania with its headquarters in București.

In 2015 the Research Center for Studies of Food and Agricultural Products Quality – HORTINVEST was inaugurated having in its structure 13 research laboratories top equipped on a total area of 4,045 sqm. Besides that, the Research Green House with an area of 2,756 sqm, was opened during the visit of his Excellency Mr. Graziano Da Silva, General Director of FAO.

The Campus Agronomie-Herăstrău increased its accommodation capacity by opening in 2016 a new Student dormitory and Hostel – A10, with a capacity of 88 rooms and 6 apartments. The building is mainly destined to Master, PhD students and foreign students and guests.

In 2016, the Faculty of Biotechnology celebrated its 20 anniversary. With that occasion a modern building for education and research was inaugurated with a total area of 5,931 sqm.

In 2017 the Faculty of Animal Sciences changes its name into Faculty of Animal Productions Engineering and Management.



Research Center for Studies of Food and Agricultural Products Quality inaugurated in May 2015



Research Center Green House, inaugurated by His Excellency Mr. Graziano Da Silva, General Director of FAO



AgriCons-AgriTin Counseling and Career Guidance Center, founded in 2015



New student dormitory and Hostel, founded in 2016



New building of the Faculty of Biotechnology, founded in 2016





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