

**In memory of the founder and Editor-in-Chief of the
Annals of Agrarian Science,
Prof. Tengiz (Gizo) Urushadze**

Arshaluys Tarverdyan

Rector of the Armenian National Agrarian University (1998-2018), Academician of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia, Honored Scientist of the Republic of Armenia.

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Head of International Relations Department of Armenian National Agrarian University (2001-2016).

A Man Who Radiated Light and Kindness

Yes, this is my general impression and belief after more than 20 years of working with Tengiz Urushadze, an outstanding scientist and skilled organizer of the scientific and educational system, who is highly endowed with a sense of accountability. I consider my acquaintance, joint work, and friendship with Tengiz Urushadze to be the most important event of my life and a gift of fate.

When I was appointed rector of the Armenian Agricultural Academy in 1998, after addressing some of the accumulated internal problems, my first step was to restore the ties and cooperation with the fraternal Georgian State Agrarian University. These ties had been interrupted for about 10 years, and I could not imagine the natural development of the academy's (later the university's) scientific and academic system without them.

In the spring of 1999, I contacted Napoleon Karkashadze, the rector of the Agrarian University of Georgia, and requested a meeting in Tbilisi in the coming days. He welcomed the proposal, invited me to Tbilisi, and added that Tengiz Urushadze, the vice-rector for scientific works, would handle all organizational issues.

On the appointed day, at the entrance to Tbilisi, our three-person delegation was met by Tengiz Urushadze, who said he would like to be addressed by his familiar name, Gizo. That day laid the foundation for our warm, long-term friendship. As a result of our discussions on cooperation programs, and considering that Urushadze coordinated the field of science, our first step was to publish a collection of joint scientific articles.

Tengiz Urushadze gladly took responsibility for the publication of the collection. It was published in 2001 with the title page "Armenian Agricultural Academy, State Agricultural University of Georgia, Problems of Agricultural Science, Yerevan-Tbilisi."

Starting in 2000, every year in autumn, during October-November, the State Agrarian University of Armenia organized an international conference attended by delegations from agrarian universities of about 30 countries, including the Agrarian University of Georgia. From 2000 until 2017, the Agrarian University of Georgia was represented at these conferences by the largest delegation, almost always led by Tengiz Urushadze.

During the summarization of the results of the 2002 conference, considering the limited

effectiveness of the current format for publishing collections of scientific works, I proposed establishing a dedicated scientific periodical with joint co-financing. This periodical would enable the presentation of research results from scientists in the agrarian sectors of Georgia and Armenia, along with other countries, to the global scientific community.

Immediately after I made the proposal, Tengiz Urushadze requested to speak and expressed that he had been thinking about the same idea on his way to Yerevan. With unanimous agreement, we considered the work to have begun. Shortly after, an editorial board was established (co-chaired by N. Karkashadze and A. Tarverdyan, with Tengiz Urushadze as editor-in-chief and D. Petrosyan as deputy editor-in-chief). All technical issues were resolved, and work commenced on the first issue of the periodical.

The name of the periodical was decided as "Annals of Agrarian Science," and it was decided that the language of publication would be English. Thanks to consistent and persistent work, the first issue of the periodical was published in 2003. It received appreciation from the scientific communities of CIS, Europe, the USA, and other countries.

And here comes the moment of truth. Neither the first nor the subsequent issues of the scientific periodical would have been published without the dedicated work of Tengiz Feodorovich Urushadze. He is endowed with broad knowledge, a perfect command of languages, a great sense of responsibility, and indescribable hard work.

Both modern and future generations owe appreciation and gratitude to the efforts of Tengiz Urushadze and the editorial team. Daniel Petrosyan, vice-rector of the Armenian National Agrarian University, coordi-

nated the activities. In a short time, the scientific periodical gained significant international recognition. The editorial board was expanded to include representatives from around 20 leading agrarian universities worldwide.

The geography of published articles also expanded to include about 30 countries. Unfortunately, since 2018-2019, the Armenian National Agrarian University has participated passively in the work of the scientific periodical. However, we note with satisfaction and gratitude that Urushadze's work continues to be effective.

Along with the aforementioned qualities, Gizo was distinguished by a high and simple humanity: a subtle sense of humor, an inexhaustible supply of anecdotes, and wise, perceptive speech that created such warmth that the staff of the Armenian National Agrarian University considered Gizo as one of our own.

A clear proof of this is that at the end of the annual conferences or receptions dedicated to solemn ceremonies, Gizo was always chosen as the leader (tamada). Tengiz Urushadze was not only an honorary doctor of the Armenian National Agrarian University but also a full participant in all important events of the university.

In conclusion, I emphasize once again: I consider myself extraordinarily fortunate to have had Gizo as a FRIEND.



The birth of scientific periodical “Annals of Agrarian Science”
(Arshaluys Tarverdyan and Tengiz Urushadze)



Signing of cooperation agreement between Agrarian University of Armenia and Plovdiv Agrarian University (Tengiz Urushadze, Yordanka Kuzmanova, Arshaluys Tarverdyan; standing: Vladimir Bautin, Anna Alajajian and Daniel Petrosyan)



In the presidency of the regular international conference
(from left: Frederick Johnston, Tengiz Urushadze, John Engels)



Tengiz Urushadze presents Yordanka Kuzmanova (University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria) with the "Golden Medal" of Armenian National Agrarian University