

Novica Randelović: Tireless botanist explores on the verge of his ninth decade



Fig. 1. Novica Randelović and his crocuses: A - *Crocus rujanensis* N. Randj. et D.A. Hill; B - *C. jablanicensis* N. Randj. et V. Randj.; C – *C. danubensis* H. Kernd., E. Pasche, N. Randj. & V. Randj.

Exactly ten years ago, 9th Symposium on the Flora of Southeastern Serbia and Neighboring Regions has been organized in honor of 70th birthday of Novica Randjelović. He was a founder of non-formal South Serbian Botanical School, Symposium on the Flora of Southeastern Serbia and Neighboring Regions, the first professor and founder of the Department for biology and ecology at the University of Niš (Stamenković, 2007). Even though he was in his eight decade, professor Randjelović tirelessly continues his research activities. He published many scientific papers. Especially important are those

describing a new species from his favorite genus *Crocus* - *C. jablanicensis* (Randelović et al., 2011) i *C. danubensis* (Harpke et al., 2014). Two species belonging to this genus were named in his honor – *Crocus novicii* (Miljković et al., 2016) and *C. randjeloviciorum* (Harpke et al., 2017).

He published 13 papers (6 in international journals) in the period from 2007 to 2017. Besides that, he is still a regular participant of all botanical scientific symposiums held on the territory of entire Balkan peninsula.

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Fig. 2. Novica Randelović with associates from Serbia and Germany on the field

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