

ANNIVERSARIES AND DATES



MARINA ABRAMOVNA YUROVSKAYA

This year on March 1 Prof. Marina Abramovna Yurovskaya, one of the most highly regarded specialists in the chemistry of heterocyclic compounds, celebrates her birthday.

The whole of Marina Abramovna's life has been inseparably linked to the Chemical faculty of M. V. Lomonosov Moscow State University or, more precisely, to the Laboratory of biologically active organic compounds created by Prof. A. N. Kost. M. A. Yurovskaya has worked in this laboratory since its formation in 1969. From the very first days the tutors and colleagues of M. A. Yurovskaya could see her true devotion and commitment to her chosen profession, her passion for the work, and her tenacity of purpose. All these qualities, so essential to a scientist, Marina Abramovna has retained to this day.

The first researches carried out by M. A. Yurovskaya in the laboratory of A. N. Kost were connected with the synthesis of alkaloids, their analogs, and optically active α -amino acids. In all the subsequent years Marina Abramovna Yurovskaya's scientific interests were linked continuously with the chemistry of nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds and predominantly the chemistry of indole and pyridine.

M. A. Yurovskaya carried out a series of fundamentally important investigations connected with the pyridylethylation of heterocyclic compounds, the study of intramolecular charge-transfer complexes, the synthetic possibilities of tertiary salts of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro- γ -carbolines, and the stereochemical structure and chemical transformations of 3-acylindoles and their oximes. The cycle of investigations connected with the transformations of 1-alkyl-3-nitropyrimidinium salts under the influence of various nucleophilic reagents must also be mentioned. The particularly significant achievements of M. A. Yurovskaya included a new method for the synthesis of derivatives of tryptamines based on the use of 3-pyridylethylation and an original method for the construction of the indole bicyclic system that made it possible to obtain the most varied alkylated derivatives of indole, including functionally substituted and chiral compounds.

Investigations being carried out by M. A. Yurovskaya with students and colleagues at the present time are involved with the search for new stereoselective approaches to the synthesis of various heterocyclic compounds and also new catalytic methods for the construction of heterocyclic systems. In addition, Marina Abramovna's scientific interests also include the search for new organic derivatives of fullerene C₆₀ and C₇₀ for prospective use in medicine and technology.

M. A. Yurovskaya is the author of more than 200 scientific publications, including several monographs, dozens of fundamental review articles, patents, and author's certificates. In addition M. A. Yurovskaya is the author of a textbook of organic chemistry and a series of practical guides on the chemistry of heterocyclic compounds.

M. A. Yurovskaya has played an invaluable role in the publication of the international scientific journal "Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds", one of the three worldwide specialist periodicals on the chemistry of heterocyclic compounds, with which she has worked for more than 40 years as scientific editor and then as member of the Editorial board and regional editor for Russia. Her high professionalism and adherence to scientific principles and also her constant readiness to afford the necessary practical assistance to authors in the preparation of publications have won M. A. Yurovskaya high prestige and sincere respect among the authors of the journal.

The educational activities of M. A. Yurovskaya have been enormous; her versatile scientific interests, erudition, and benevolence have attracted the younger generation of researchers. Marina Abramovna is always surrounded by a large number of students, graduates, and young research workers.

M. A. Yurovskaya's research has many times been marked by the Government of the Russian Federation and by various foundations and societies. Her high degree of professionalism and adherence to principles, her ability to achieve her defined goals, her constant desire to move forward, her generous attitude toward people, and her endeavor to transmit her experience to her young colleagues have brought Marina Abramovna well-earned respect in the scientific environment and have won her the sincere respect of her numerous students and colleagues.

N. S. Ovchinnikova and A. V. Karchava

The Editorial team of "Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds" sincerely congratulate Marina Abramovna on her birthday, wish her happiness, good health, and the constant joy of creative work, and look forward to continued fruitful collaboration.