

<p><i>In memoriam</i> REVEICA IONIȚĂ (Tania Zaharia, Maria Moldoveanu)</p>	<p>“Cercetări Marine” Issue no. 50 Pages 205 - 208</p>	<p>2020</p>
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***In memoriam* REVEICA IONIȚĂ
(03.04.1935 – 28.12. 2020)**

One day, a beautiful December day, a rather spring day, bright and warm, like her heart and soul, the one who was colleague and friend Reveica Ioniță, dr. eng., senior scientist at the *Romanian Institute of Marine Research* from Constanța (now the *National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa"*) passed away.

Born on March 3, 1935, from parents Traian and Ana, farmers in the Dumbrăvița commune, Brașov County, Reveica was the eldest of the 11 children of the family. Almost all of her brothers spread all over the world, only two sisters remaining in the natal village. Raised in a deeply faithful family, two of her brothers attended the *Faculty of theology*.

After the elementary school followed in the native village, Reveica attend the courses of the *High School* from Brașov town. Despite the family financial difficulties, being a very capable student, in 1953, Reveica was admitted to the *Polytechnic Institute of Galați, Faculty of Fish Farming*, which she graduated in 1958.

As soon as she graduated the faculty, Reveica was assigned to perform the internship in production at the „*Fishery Enterprise Corabia*”

Teleorman county, where she remained for only one year, then the next two years (1959-1961) she moved to the *Crișan fishing department* within the *Tulcea Fishing Enterprise*, being part of the management team of the department.

In 1961, Reveica Ioniță started to work in the *Fisheries Research and Design Station* from Constanța (former Marine Research Station "Grigore Antipa" in Constanta, which will become part of the Romanian Institute of Marine Research in 1970), where, for six years, she took part in the majority of the projects carried out by the design studio: 102 projects, half of which being executed and put into operation. This activity consisted in the conception of the arrangement plans, of the technological process of exploitation of the necessary works of art. As responsibilities from this period, we list the projects: "Arrangement of the *Rusca fish nursery*", and "*Organization of the fish pond Jirlau - Amara - Ciulnița*".

In 1967-1969, after the liquidation of the design department, the engineer Reveica Ioniță was assigned at the *Laboratory of economics and development of small nurseries*, from the same research station, where she approached in the following research topics:

- Establishing the necessary conditions for capitalization of the lands found in the vicinity of the coastal lakes, through fish farming;

- Improving the exploitation technology and the technical-economic indicators at the Topraichioi fish farm, Tulcea county;

- Reproduction and breeding of zoo- and phytophagous fish (newly introduced species in Romania from China) in the conditions of our country; the activity was carried out at the Perișor unit (from the Danube Delta), designed at the "Grigore Antipa" Station, in collaboration with the *Institute of Fisheries Research and Design*, to whose conception she personally contributed;

- Studies and research in order to improve the technical-economic parameters projected in the Iazurile - Sarinasuf hatcheries, Tulcea county;

- delegated by the research to be part of coordination and supervision team of the operation of the Bugeac fish nursery, Constanta county.

The year 1970 is a turning point not only in the life and career of engineer Reveica Ioniță but also in that of Romanian marine research, it is the year in which the three research units from the Romanian Black Sea coast (Section *Prof. Ioan Borcea*, settled in Agigea county, Section *Antipa* and Section *Center* in Constanța) merge into a single institute named *Romanian Marine Research Institute* from Constanța.

In the same year, Reveca Ionița returned to Constanta, as chief engineer, to this newly founded institute, being involved in carrying out several research topics, having even the responsibility of some of them, such as:

- The identification of areas with massive agglomerations of red algae on the Romanian Black Sea continental shelf;
- The establishing the harvesting methods and the necessary installations for the industrial exploitation of the algae and mussel stocks; Reveica Ioniță effectively involved in the assessment of the red algae stock from the Romanian marine area;
- The establishing of the methods for combating the fixation of the *Balanus* crustacean populations on the fishing gears (sau purse);
- The establishing of the possibilities of introducing of the directed marine fish farming in the Sinoe lagoon.

In the same year, after taking the exam she was promoted to the position of senior scientist, after four years she becoming principal senior scientist degree III.

In this quality, Reveica Ioniță conducted the research programme "The growing of the euryhaline fish in mono- and polyculture", during the period 1972-1974. For this purpose, she had to mount a few experiments on mullet and flounder, obtaining not only the indicative technological indicators in the growth of the two species but also in their directed reproduction.

In order to improve her skills in this field, Reveica Ioniță was delegated to work in some institutes with a similar profile from Italy, in 1973 and 1975-1976, under the coordination of the illustrious Gino Ravagnan, one of the founders of modern marine aquaculture.

After 19 years of working and performing multiple research, Reveica Ioniță was able to prepare her PhD thesis to be admitted within the *University* from Galați (newly established in 1974 by merging the *Polytechnic Institute* with the *Pedagogical Institute*), having as coordinator the eminent Prof. Dr. Dumitru Bogatu.

In this new quality, during the period 1981-1985, within the *Romanian Marine Research Institute* from Constanța, Reveica Ioniță coordinates the programme regarding "The research on the growth of rainbow trout in Pontic seawater", some of the results being included in her PhD thesis, presented in 1984.

In 1983 she was appointed head of the laboratory "Research for the cultivation and valorification of marine organisms through cultivation and acclimatization", position she held until 1986.

As a conclusion, we could say that his professional path was influenced by the numerous decisions and policies regarding the development of the Romanian fishing sector after the war: the transformation of natural wetlands into fish culture facilities, the use of all areas with fishing potential for intensive fish farming, acclimatization of new species with high potential, the development of marine aquaculture and the exploitation of living marine resources.

Regrettably, despite her desire to continue her work, in 1987, our dear one Reveica Ioniță had to retire due to her loss of work capacity. Although she suffered from a congenital heart malformation, she never complained and lived her whole life with discretion and without making her colleagues aware of the health problems she had.

However, Reveica Ioniță keeps continued to be in touch with her former colleagues, she took part in the life of the Institute, taking part in all the scientific sessions, seminars or anniversary meetings.

Besides, all her friends, older or younger, were always welcomed in her house, where she treated them with the same affection and love that she had shown when she was active, so that she was present in our lives until the last moment of her life.

Beyond the professional aspects, we have to say that Reveica Ioniță was a wife, a caring and dedicated mother and grandmother, and last but not least, a trusted friend, always with those when needed.

18 years, from 1958 till 1976, Reveica Ioniță was married to eng. Petre Dinu. Although the doctors advised her not to have a child, due to her congenital heart disease, Reveica was stubborn to give birth a child, so that, in 1963, her daughter Ileana was born. Although in 1976 she broke up with her husband, in order to ensure her daughter a beautiful life and education, Reveica will maintain civilized, even friendly, relationships with her daughter's father.

For us, her close friends, Reveica remains an altogether good man, unconditional, with an optimistic, cheerful nature, despite the trials to which life subjected her. We never heard her complaining or wailing. Despite of her suffering, Reveica was optimistic in person, and the only one person we knew who never say something bad about someone else. She was the shoulder on which you could get rid of troubles, having an absolutely particular way of encouraging you: "*please, do not cry my girly, you can't, you have to fight with yourself, girly!*".

For everything she achieved on this Earth, for a life lived with dedication for the destiny of Romanian marine research, but also for her beloved family and friends, we asked God to rest the soul of the one who was Reveica Ioniță in peace and spiritual tranquility.