

## ION BORCEA

(1879 – 1936)



Ion Borcea was born on 13 January 1879 at Buhoci, Bacau County. He studied biology at the Science Faculty of the "Al. I. Cuza" University, in Iași. Later he specialized at Sorbona University, in Paris, and in 1905 he became doctor of biology with the thesis entitled "*Research on the urogenital system on Elasmobranchi*". He was professor at the Iasi University (1912 - 1936), where he founded the Zoology Laboratory.

Ion Borcea is known as the founder of Romanian oceanology. He also founded Agigea Maritime Research Institute. Committed evolutionist, Ion Borcea also initiated the applied entomology school in Romania and made the first step in the process of biological control of pests in agriculture, giving in this way an early start for the modern ecology in our country. Ion Borcea published over 100 scientific articles that cover several biology domains as: morphology, entomology and the fauna of fishes from the Black Sea, marine fauna and ponto-caspic relicts from the sides and the Razelm Complex.

He was director of the Natural History Museum of Iași (1912-1936), the founder and director of the Agigea Zoological Marine Station (1926 – 1936), Dean of Science Faculty of Iasi University, Minister of Cults and Public Instructions (1919-1920), head of the "Scientific Annals of the Iasi University" and "V. Adamachi" Scientific Journal. Ion Borcea was corresponding member of the Romanian Academy, *doctor honoris causa* (1936) of the Montpellier University from France, member (1904) and president of Zoological Society from France (1932), corresponding member of the Natural History Museum from Paris (1909) and correspondent member of the Natural History Museum from New York (1935). He passed away on July the 30<sup>th</sup> 1936 at Agigea (Constanța County).