



NAIR DA FRANÇA E ARAÚJO: FIRST WOMAN, IN BAHIA, TO OBTAIN A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CHEMISTRY

*Bárbara Carine Soares Pinho*¹

Abstract: Professor Nair de França e Araujo was born in 1931 in the city of Maragogipe, inland Bahia. Daughter of housewife Victorina da França e Araújo, and joiner Elpidio Cyrilo de Araújo, she was the first woman to graduate, in Bahia, with a bachelor's degree in Chemistry in 1954, when the Course still worked at the College of Philosophy of the University of Bahia, today UFBA. In 1959, she attended a Specialization Course in Organic Chemistry at the University of São Paulo (USP) and, in 1976, defended her master's dissertation in Organic Chemistry by developing a research on the synthesis of nitriles starting from aldehydes in organic compounds, in partnership with the Local Petrochemical Pole.

Keywords: Organic Chemistry; Dean; Researcher

NAIR DA FRANÇA E ARAÚJO: PRIMEIRA MULHER A SE GRADUAR, NA BAHIA, EM BACHARELADO EM QUÍMICA

Resumo: A professora Nair da França e Araujo nasceu em 1931 na cidade de Maragogipe, interior da Bahia. Filha da dona de casa Victorina da França e Araújo, e do marceneiro Elpidio Cyrilo de Araújo, foi a primeira mulher a se graduar, na Bahia, em bacharelado em Química no ano de 1954, quando o Curso ainda funcionava na Faculdade de Filosofia da Universidade da Bahia, hoje UFBA. Coursou em 1959, a Especialização em Química Orgânica na Universidade de São Paulo (USP) e, em 1976, defendeu a sua dissertação de mestrado em Química Orgânica desenvolvendo uma pesquisa de síntese de nitrilas partindo de aldeídos em compostos orgânicos, em parceria com o Pólo Petroquímico local.

Palavras-Chave: Química orgânica; Decana; Pesquisadora

¹ She is a professor at the Federal University of Bahia. She works at PIBID / QUÍMICA / UFBA as area coordinator. She holds a Master's and Doctorate degree in Chemistry Teaching from the postgraduate program in Teaching, Philosophy and History of Sciences at UFBA / UEFS. She has experience in the area of Education, with an emphasis on Teaching Methods and Techniques, acting mainly on the following themes: Training of science teachers in the critical-dialectic perspective and Diversity in Science Teaching. Nowadays she is a full member of the Academic Teaching Council (CAE) of UFBA, member of the Higher Education Council Research and Extension of UFBA (CONSEPE), alternate member of the UFBA Board of Trustees, member of the permanent faculty of the graduate program in Teaching, Philosophy and History of Sciences at UFBA / UEFS. E-mail: bcarine@ufba.br



NAIR DE FRANÇA Y ARAÚJO: PRIMERA MUJER EN GRADUARSE, EN BAHIA, EN BACHILLERATO EN QUÍMICA

Resumen: El profesor Nair de França e Araujo nació en 1931 en la ciudad de Maragogipe, en el interior de Bahía. Hija del ama de casa Victorina da França e Araújo, y carpintero Elpidio Cyrilo de Araújo, fue la primera mujer en graduarse, en Bahía, con una licenciatura en Química en 1954, cuando el Curso aún funcionaba en la Facultad de Filosofía de la Universidad. de Bahía, hoy UFBA. Estudió en 1959 la Especialización en Química Orgánica en la Universidad de São Paulo (USP) y, en 1976, defendió su disertación de maestría en Química Orgánica desarrollando una investigación sobre la síntesis de nitrilos a partir de aldehídos en compuestos orgánicos, en alianza con el Polo. Petroquímica local.

Palabras-clave: Química Orgánica; Decano; Investigador

NAIR DA FRANÇA E ARAÚJO: PREMIÈRE FEMME Á OBTENIR UN DIPLÔME, À BAHIA, EN LICENCE EN CHIMIE

Résumé: La professeur Nair da França e Araújo et née en 1931 à Maragogipe, intérieur de Bahia. Fille de Victorina da França e Araújo, femme au foyer, et Elpidio Cyrilo de Araújo, menuisier. Elle a été la première femme a obtenir un diplôme, à Bahia, en licence en Chimie dans les années de 1954, quand le Cours se déroulait encore à la Faculté de Philosophie de l'Université de Bahia, actuelle UFBA. Elle a fait en 1959, le Spécialisation en Chimie Organique dans l'Université de São Paulo (USP) et en 1976 a soutenu sa dissertation de master avec le même sujet, en développant une recherche de synthèse de nitrilas à partir d'aldéhydes en composés organiques en partenariat avec le Pôle Pétrochimique local.

Mots-clés: Chimie Organique; Doyenne; Chercheuse

INTRODUCTION

Professor Nair da França e Araújo was born in 1931 in the city of Maragogipe, in the countryside of Bahia. Daughter of Victorina da França and Araújo, a housewife, and Elpidio Cyrilo de Araújo, a woodworker, went to Salvador to carry out her primary studies at Colégio Nossa Senhora da Soledade, as well as the later elementary school and the scientific general high school, nomenclatures of that time, at the Bahia State School.

The grand master reports that she had excellent performance in school subjects in her youth, mainly mathematics. However, she recalls that, even though the school director was black like her, she only rewarded white students from wealthy families. Nair always had an exemplary academic performance: she was the first woman to graduate, in Bahia,

with a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry in 1954, when the Course was still working at the College of Philosophy of the University of Bahia, today UFBA.

In the following year, she obtained her Licentiate Degree in Chemistry and joined the higher teaching in the Chemistry Course at the University of Bahia, in that same year, on August 3, becoming also the first woman to teach in the aforementioned Course of the Institution. She attended, in 1959, a Specialization Course in Organic Chemistry at the University of São Paulo (USP). In 1976, she defended her master's dissertation in Organic Chemistry by developing a research on the synthesis of nitriles starting from aldehydes in organic compounds, in partnership with the Local Petrochemical Pole.

Master Nair started to carry out her doctoral studies at USP, but they had to be interrupted due to the request for return by her work unit, due to the lack of teachers. A pioneer, not only in Organic Chemistry, but in Bahia's science, Nair da França e Araújo coordinated a huge laboratory at the University and mentored countless students, carrying out several researches in organic synthesis area. Acting in the construction of science in the State, the teacher here in question strongly assisted in the training of many students. Nowadays, they are all professors at the Chemistry Institute of UFBA. As a Dean, she was the founder of this institution. She also founded the Chemistry Technician courses at the Federal Technical School of Bahia and Colégio Estadual da Bahia. An example for all of us.

Professor Nair passed away on September 20, 2018, at the age of 87. She was a pioneer in Organic Chemistry and Science, helping countless students.

Figure 1: Nair da França.



Source: Webpage of UFBA. Available in: < https://ufba.br/ufba_em_pauta/ufba-lamenta-falecimento-da-professora-nair-da-fran%C3%A7a-e-araujo > Accessed in: 03/07/2020.

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