## Masahiro Mii (PhD)

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Masahiro Mii received BSc in Agriculture from Chiba University in 1970, and MSc and PhD degree in Agriculture from Nagoya University in 1972 and 1977, respectively. He started his academic career at Faculty of Agriculture, Nagoya University in 1975 and moved to Faculty of Horticulture, Chiba University in 1977, where he stayed till his retirement in 2013. Presently, he has a small laboratory at the same university as a Professor Emeritus and a researcher. His main concern has been to evaluate each technology of plant biotechnologies such as tissue culture, somatic hybridization and genetic transformation as the means for plant breeding. By targeting mainly on ornamental plants, he has shown the

usefulness of plant biotechnologies through developing suitable methods for each species by clarifying species-specific requirements. Especially, by utilizing genetic transformation technologies, he succeeded to produce blue phalaenopsis and dahlia, which have not been achieved by conventional breeding methods. He has published more than 200 papers mostly in international journals. To his scientific contributions in this field, he received Scientific Award from Japanese Society of Plant Cell and Molecular Biology in 2002 and Scientific Award from Japanese Society of Breeding in 2013, respectively. In 2017, he also received Memorial Award of Konosuke Matsushita from The Foundation of Konosuke Matsushita Memorial Foundation. He is currently working on the application of plant biotechnology for breeding of medicinal plants and other useful crops.