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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NR # 20060406-1

April 6, 2006

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Forest Products Lab Researcher Receives Highest Honor from Wood Preservation Group

MADISON, Wis.— Jerrold E. Winandy, Ph.D., a research project leader at the USDA Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wis., has been named to receive the 2006 Award of Merit from the American Wood Preservers' Association (AWPA).

The award, to be presented at the association's annual meeting in Austin, Texas, Monday, April 10, recognizes Dr. Winandy's long-time contributions to the association and his role in developing standards for treated wood.

The AWPA develops and maintains standards for wood preservatives, treatment, testing methods, quality control and inspection of treated wood products in order to help ensure satisfactory performance. The standards are recognized and used by specifiers of treated wood including electrical utilities and marine, road and building construction industries as well as by local, state and federal governments.

At the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL), Winandy is project leader of the Engineered Biocomposites Science unit, whose members develop new and improved composite materials made from wood and other fibers. His own research focuses on enhancing the durability and service-life of wood-based and other biocomposites and modeling the effects of chemical, thermal and biological agents on the engineering properties of wood and wood composites.

He has chaired technical subcommittees for the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the AWPA, and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations.

Winandy was elected a Fellow by the International Academy of Wood Science in 2004. Author or co-author of more than 120 technical papers, he is also an adjunct professor in the Department of Bio-based Products at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul.

Winandy holds a Ph.D. degree from the Department of Wood Science and Engineering at the Oregon State University at Corvallis. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees from Purdue University in Forestry and Natural Resources. A native of Merrillville, Indiana, he resides in Mazomanie, Wis.

The AWPA, an international, non-profit, technical society, was founded in 1904, to provide a forum for exchanging technical information among industry, researchers and users of treated wood.

The USDA Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory was established in 1910 in Madison, Wis., with the mission to conserve and extend the country's wood resources. Today, FPL's research scientists work with academic and industrial researchers and other government agencies in exploring ways to promote healthy forests and clean water, and improve papermaking and recycling processes. FPL's researchers are pioneering the application of nanotechnology to forest products and the conversion of forest biomass to fuels and other chemicals. Through FPL's Advanced Housing Research Center, researchers also work to improve homebuilding technologies and materials. Information is available at FPL's Web site: www.fpl.fs.fed.us.

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NOTE to editors: A photograph of Dr. Winandy is available. Contact George Couch at gcouch@fs.fed.us or (608)231-9295. Specify color or B&W.