



NEWS RELEASE

USDA FOREST SERVICE • FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY

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Forest Service scientist awarded Fellow position by key international organization dedicated to global science advancement

MADISON, Wis.— A U.S. Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory scientist was recently elected by her peers as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). This appointment recognizes scientists whose “efforts on behalf of the advancement of science or its applications are scientifically or socially distinguished.”

According to the AAAS, Dr. Barbara Illman was elected for outstanding research in applied forestry with a focus on the chemistry of wood biodeterioration. Dr. Illman, who has worked at the laboratory for 20 years, also studies long-term ecological research of fungal-beetle interaction in boreal forests, preventing the introduction of invasive species during global trade, and bioremediation of waste wood treated with environmentally toxic chemicals.

Founded in 1848 as a nonprofit organization, the AAAS members advance science and innovation around the globe as advocates, educators, leaders, and spokespersons. Dr. Illman will be inducted as a new Fellow on Feb. 17 at the association’s annual meeting in San Francisco.

“Considering only a small percentage of scientists are ever elected AAAS Fellows by their peers, this appointment shows the significance and quality of Forest Service research,” said Ann Bartuska, deputy chief for Forest Service Research & Development.

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. Information is available at FPL’s Web site: www.fpl.fs.fed.us. Through FPL’s Advanced Housing Research Center, researchers also work to improve homebuilding technologies and materials.

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