



# NEWS RELEASE

USDA FOREST SERVICE • FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY

One Gifford Pinchot Drive • Madison, WI 53726-2398 • Website: [www.fpl.fs.fed.us](http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Rebecca Wallace, (608) 231-9275  
E-mail: [rwallace@fs.fed.us](mailto:rwallace@fs.fed.us)

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### FPL RESEARCHER HONORED BY INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MADISON, Wis.— Theodore H. Wegner, Assistant Director for Wood, Fiber, and Composites Research at the U.S. Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory (FPL), has been named Fellow by the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI).

“Ted is a visionary and a real leader in the fields of pulp and paper research, nanotechnology, and biorefining,” says FPL Director Chris Risbrudt. “His efforts to expand scientific knowledge, as well as partner with industry, universities and other organizations, are recognized internationally.”

Wegner currently leads the cellulosic ethanol and other forest biorefinery efforts at FPL and has been heavily involved in helping define the research needs for nanotechnology in the U.S. forest products industry. Under his leadership, FPL successfully collaborated with industry partners to make major recycling advances. Wegner also made significant contributions to the development of the Biopulping Research Consortium.

Wegner holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and both an MS and PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Illinois. Wegner joined the Forest Service in 1977 and has held his current position as Assistant Director at FPL since 1989.

“I am very honored to be selected as TAPPI Fellow,” says Wegner. “I greatly appreciate and thank the many dedicated colleagues within the forest products industry, TAPPI, and the Forest Service who have worked with me and helped me during my career. I am especially grateful for the opportunities that TAPPI has provided and continues to provide in allowing myself and others to make contributions and interact with peers within this great industry.”

Wegner’s fellowship will be officially announced at TAPPI’s Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony during a conference held March 11-15, 2007, in Jacksonville, Florida.

The U.S. 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. 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](http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us).

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