

Jubilee of Professor Ryszard Babicki



Professor Dr. hab. Ryszard Babicki

The present issue of *Folia Forestalia Polonica* is devoted to the Jubilee of Professor Ryszard Babicki who will be 80 years old on June 1, 2007 and who is a meritorious scientist in the field of wood science and technology in Poland.

He was born in Baranowicze in 1927. He completed his wood technology studies at the Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań, the Faculty of Forestry. He completed his doctoral thesis and in 1960 was awarded the degree of Ph.D. in forest sciences at the Agricultural University of Poznań. His habilitation took place in 1966 at the Agricultural University of Warsaw and he obtained the scientific degree of habilitated D.Sc. in the field of technical sciences. He was awarded the degree of an associate professor in 1972 while in 1978 he became a full professor. He was chosen a corresponding member in 1983, and full member of the Polish Academy of Sciences in 1994.

Professional activity of Professor is connected mainly with the Institute of Wood Technology in Poznań, where he was firstly, the Head of the Unit of Chemical Technology, secondly, Vice-director responsible for the scientific research activity and since July 1970 he held the post of the managing director for 20 years. Presently, he is the Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Institute, significantly involved in the current activity of the institution. He focused basically on the problems of wood hydrolysis and thermolysis, processing of resin and other

chemical products, as well as their modification and application in industry. He published about 200 scientific papers, many of them published or cited in widely recognized both Polish and foreign periodicals. He took part in numerous conferences and symposia both abroad and at home. For over 20 years he occupied the position of the Chairman of the Committee of Wood Technology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was also a member of various numerous scientific and state committees. At present, he is the Honorary Chairman of the Committee of Wood Technology of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

He was also fruitfully active in the field of didactics and education of young scientists. He was the supervisor of two doctoral and the tutor of three habilitation dissertations. His scientific Unit of the Institute of Wood Technology was proud to have 9-Ph.D., 9-D.Sc. and 2 professors promoted. He was the reviewer of numerous doctoral and habilitation dissertations, as well as applications for the professor degree and post.

He was awarded numerous merits both scientific and state for his scientific, didactic and organizational activity. In 2000 he was distinguished by the Polish Academy of Sciences with the Michał Oczapowski Medal for his outstanding contribution into the development of both forest and agricultural sciences. The Senate of the August Cieszkowski Agricultural University of Poznań, as well as the Council of the Faculty of Wood Technology awarded him with the honourable degree of Doctor Honoris Causa in 2004.

Professor Ryszard Babicki has outstandingly contributed to the development of the wood science and technology research discipline, especially in the area of initiatives and signposting the investigations, development of the scientific staff and introducing the scientific achievements into production.

The members of the Committee of Wood Technology of the Polish Academy of Sciences extend their sincere and very best wishes for the future fruitful scientific activity, as well as good health and every possible prosperity on the occasion of the great Jubilee.

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