

Obituary

Professor Dr. hab. Kazimierz Lutomski



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Professor was born on January 31, 1929 in Zbąszyń. Having completed his primary school he continued his secret secondary education in the conditions of the German occupied Poland. Year 1944 found him deported to Germany as a forced labourer. His secondary education was finished after the war.

Professor Lutomski was entirely devoted and connected with the Agricultural University of Poznań both in the area of science and education. He was a student of the Faculty of Forestry in the period of 1949-1953 which he graduated from to continue his scientific career and be honoured with scientific degrees. His doctorate thesis was completed under the supervision of Professor Stanisław Prosiński. He was awarded the degree of a habilitated doctor (Dr. hab.) in the field of technical sciences in 1976. He became an associate professor in the same field in 1986 and in 1993 he was nominated to the post of full professor in the Faculty of Wood Technology by the Minister of Education.

He was the head of the Unit of Wood Preservation from 1963 till 1980 and in 1981-2000 he was in charge of the Unit of Wood Protection and Preservation. He became the deputy director of the Institute of Chemical Wood Technology the responsibility he was occupied with till 1978. He was the Vice-dean of the Faculty in 1981-1982. He returned to his post in the Institute in June of 1992.

He was the professor conferring the doctor honoris causa degree which was awarded to Prof. Walter Liese from the Hamburg University. Professor Liese is the creator of the modern school of wood protection being one of few specialists in the field in the world.

Professor Lutomski was a member of the prestige scientific organization IAWS (International Academy of Wood Science). Professor Lutomski was distinguished with the Agricultural University Rector's numerous honours and awards, as well as individual honours of the Minister of Education. Moreover, he was awarded distinctions of: Złoty Krzyż Zasługi (Gold Cross of Merit), Krzyż Kawalerski Odrodzenia Polski (Cross of the Restitution of Poland), Srebrna Honorowa Odznaka Inżynierów i Techników (Silver Honorary Distinction of the Society of Polish Engineers and Technicians of Forestry), Odznaka Zasłużony dla Leśnictwa i Przemysłu Drzewnego (Distinction for the Meritorious for the Forestry and Wood Industry), Złota Odznaka Polskiego Stowarzyszenia Mykologów Budownictwa (Gold Distinction of The Polish Association of Construction Industry Mycologists).

He was a member of the Committee of Forestry and Wood Science of the Poznań section of the Polish Academy of Sciences, as well as the Faculty of Technical Sciences of Poznańskie Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Nauki (the Poznań Society of Science Friends), Committee of Endurance of Constructions of the Union of Polish Civil Engineers and Technicians, an honorary member of: the Committee of Wood Technology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, International Research Group on Wood Protection, and the Polish Association of Construction Industry Mycologists. He was also the secretary of the editing staff of *Folia Forestalia Polonica* Series B "Wood Science" in the period from 1985 till 1995. He held the position of the editor in chief of the edition since 1995 till 2001.

The leading direction of the scientific activity of Professor Lutomski were both protection and preservation of wood, comprising both preparation and chemical investigations of wood protection compounds, as well as technologies of their application. He was a scientist-practitioner and his activity should be described as utilitarian. The Polish industry owes him a lot and among others patents of technological solutions concerning broadly meant wood protection, and especially preparation of wood protection compounds. Professor published over 200 dissertations and scientific papers in respectable local and foreign journals. His last publications covered the issues which are current presently being realized within the frames of European research programmes focusing on new technologies concentrated on the problem of expanding the toughness of timber.

Professor Lutomski passed away on October 6, 2005 in Poznań.

Dr. Bartłomiej Mazela