



85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN POLAND

MARTA PIWOWARSKA, IBL

On 17–18 June, 2015 the Forest Research Institute (IBL) in Poland celebrated its 85th anniversary. A jubilee party was held for staff, friends and well-wishers of the Institute.

IBL is one of the founding member organizations of EFI and has closely cooperated with EFI since the beginning, having its staff engaged in EFI Board and Regional Office activities.

The history of the Institute extends back to the year 1930, when the Experimental Department of the State Forests was organized. Four years later it was transformed into the Research Institute of the State Forests and after World War II the organization was reformed into the Forest Research Institute.

From the beginning, the Institute has consistently implemented its scientific mission to develop research programs that provide us with the necessary tools and knowledge required for managing forest resources. The Institute is also a place where past connects with present and science with practice, for the good of Polish forests. It has 6 scientific departments and 3 laboratories that carry out scientific research and developmental work in a range of: forest afforestations and reforestations, tending, utilization and protection, ecology, nature conservation, genetics, forest economics, policy and remote sensing.

The 85th anniversary provided the opportunity to summarize and reflect, draw up plans for the future and to set ambitious goals for the development of forest science.

During the celebrations, EFI's members from Poland expressed gratitude and recognition for accomplishments of Prof. Dr. Risto Päivinen, the former EFI Director. They particularly stressed his creative, generous and effective work while holding that position.

The event included an honorary session of the Scientific Board, as well as the international conference. "Challenges and opportunities of forestry in the 21st century" Dr. Marc Palahi, EFI's current Director, attended the celebrations and delivered a speech during the conference: "European forest research, basis for the bioeconomy".

More information about the Jubilee can be found at <http://www.jubileusz.ibles.pl>.