

For pioneer work and successful dissemination of knowledge and information about factors affecting the development of mould in wooden materials and to make it accessible and useful to the building trade. (För pionjärbete och framgångsrik spridning av kunskap och information om faktorer som påverkar utvecklingen av mögel i trämaterial och gjort informationen tillgänglig och användbar för hela byggbranschen).

This year's winner is Dr Hannu Viitanen who is a researcher from VTT, that defended his PhD-thesis at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in 1996, and today is a retired scientist with more than 80 publications or conference papers where mould and moisture is in focus.

During his successful career Dr Viitanen has carried out numerous of experiments and investigations in the laboratory, investigating how different combinations of humidity, temperature and exposure time affects the development of mould and rot decay in different wooden material and wooden structures. Dr. Hannu Viitanen has also been involved in developing models concerning mould growth that have been used both by him and numerous other researchers in the field of building physics. He has also been an inspiration to other researchers in designing new experimental set ups and other mathematical models in the field.

We find it very important that the work carried out by Dr Viitanen will be followed by more research to help us to even better understand the detailed mechanisms behind mould growth and how it is connected to climate variations, material, structures, time of exposure etc.

It is our hope that this prize will stimulate to continue the work for better building quality and avoiding of moisture problems.