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Tammo Steenhuis wins 2005 Henry Darcy Medal for contributions to water research

[By Susan S. Lang](#)

ITHACA, N.Y. -- Tammo Steenhuis, professor of biological and environmental engineering at Cornell University, is the recipient of the 2005 Henry Darcy Medal from the European Geophysical Society.

Steenhuis, a soil and water engineering expert, was cited "for his outstanding contributions to understanding the processes that govern contaminant movement in rural watersheds. ... An important part of his legacy is the large number (more than 60) of graduate students who passed through 'his' soil and water laboratory." He also was cited for the encouragement he gives to graduate students, for instilling in them "a clear sense of the complementarity of theoretical and experimental innovations," for his involvement in process-oriented research on the hydrological behavior of tropical watersheds and wetlands in many developing countries and for introducing "junior students to the fun and frustration of hands-on experimentation. ... Tammo Steenhuis shows the research community that the study of issues relevant to society can be scientifically exciting and rewarding."

Steenhuis, with more than 150 academic publications to his credit, studies pollutant movement through rural watersheds. A member of the Cornell faculty since 1977, Steenhuis earned a B.S. degree (1969) and M.S. degree (1972) in irrigation and drainage at the Agricultural University of the Netherlands and a second M.S. (1975) and his Ph.D. (1977) in soil and water management at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

The Henry Darcy Medal was established in 1998 by the European Geophysical Society's section on hydrological sciences to recognize the scientific achievements of hydrologist Henry Darcy and other individuals in recognition of their outstanding scientific contributions in water resources research and water resources engineering and management.

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