

After five or six years a forest will have grown at this site, whereupon the specialists will opt for a secondary selective felling. This time they take the dominant species in the plot (spruce, birch or lime), which results in a further 30 to 40 cubic metres being skidded along the previously formed tracks to the collecting sites. And following the third visit - in five to six years - a hectare of regrown forest yields a further 20 to 30 cubic metres of good quality timber. During a complete cycle of selective fellings the enterprise obtains about 100 cubic metres of merchantable timber.

The selective felling process, however, does not end here. This is because the forest is continuing to mature in the felling areas. Selections of mature trees belonging to the dominant species are made during three visits. Once again 30 to 40 cubic metres are removed from a hectare. But next to receive attention is the alternation of species, which will require similar fellings. In short, a full species alternation occurs over a 45-year period during selective fellings, and since in an average year the foresters pick up 2.8 cubic metres from a hectare, and the increment here during the same period will be 5 to 6, by the time the whole cycle of selective shelterwood fellings is completed, a growing stock of 200 cubic metres per hectare will have been created. This is one and a half times greater than during the initial fellings.

Everyone voted in favour of the highly progressive felling technology in the mixed, unevenly aged forests of the Sabinka lespromkhoz: the foresters, fellers and woodworkers. For several years now they have not experienced any problems in supplying the enterprise's processing shops with raw material. From year to year the output of timber-based products is increasing. During the next couple of years they are bent on achieving a sales and production figure of up to six million roubles. This is three times more than what was achieved prior to the introduction of non-clear fellings. Moreover, the necessity of doing tree planting over large areas has fallen off.