

1 cubic metre of boards used in building projects economizes 2 cubic metres of lumber.

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The Timber Deficit - Improved Resource Management the Key

Despite the fact that enormous felling volumes are being achieved in our green ocean of taiga, our country is continually experiencing a timber deficit of approximately 25 million cubic metres. In this year alone, under optimal conditions the economy could obtain an additional 10 million cubic metres of forest products, and our foreign trading partners - a minimum of 7 million. Even at the forest sector's own enterprises the requisite stocks of sawlogs and pulpwood are lacking and the requirement for packaging material remains unsatisfied.

What course should the timber industry steer to ensure that the State is supplied with all of the timber and forest products it needs? Dramatically increase fellings? Speed up the construction of new enterprises? Intensively exhaust the forest wealth of Siberia and the Far East?

There is one other approach which happens to be the most correct: introduce resource-saving technologies on a wide scale and make fuller and more efficient use of secondary ligneous raw materials. For at present, even by the most modest estimates, some 12 million cubic metres of wood wastes obtained