

What it comes down to is that we need to use a renewable supply of unprocessed wood (and as we know it doesn't renew itself without considerable effort being expended, and waiting while the timber is growing) if continuously operating enterprises producing goods derived from the thorough processing of wood are to be established - enterprises that could become reliable and efficient sources of currency earnings, operating on a larger scale than presently and which are less detrimental to the forest resources of the country.

The potential outcome of improving our timber exports is quite considerable. In comparison with Sweden and Finland we are losing more in exports than we are earning. If the receipts per unit of raw material consumed were brought to the level of our Scandinavian competitors, then given the same expenditures of raw material and a small increase in the number of persons employed in export production, along with small volumes of transportation activity, the currency earned from timber exports could be doubled, and the earnings would be mainly in hard currency.

Lesnaya promyshlennost'  
27 September 1988  
Pages 1 and 2 (slightly  
abridged)