

In general, the fulfillment of the assortment program is so far moving along the old, well-travelled track. This is again evident in the Ministry's reports for the 11 months just ended. Hauling out and cross-cutting into lengths are proceeding well. The production of round timber is also well in hand. But the commercial timber production assignment has been fulfilled by only 98%. Chips, sleepers, wood particle board, plywood, and sawn timber are also listed with a minus sign. But if there are no cherished hundred percents in the production totals, it would be naive to look for them in deliveries. What is the problem here? Is it that the plans are unbalanced again?

This, of course, cannot be ruled out. In order to make 260,000 sleepers for government orders, the Nizhneingashsk logging enterprise of "Krasnoyarsklesprom" must have a minimum of 60,000 cubic metres of sleeper timber in the forest land resource. But there are barely 45,000 there. So that in just half a year, the logging enterprise will pay out 35,000 roubles in fines for failing to meet deliveries. To the collective's credit, they are seeking a way out here: they are trying to organize secondary conversion of the timber. But the help of the "Kanskii timber industry complex" is needed: cement is required to produce wood-concrete bricks (worth 80 kopecks each). If they had such a shop - the logging enterprise, just from waste, without cutting a single tree, could produce valuable building materials for 10 years. There are other interesting ideas, but instead of tangible help from above, all they get is advice. And the Nizhneingashskys are right a thousand times over: what good is the production combine if it is just there to skim off its profit?

So we see, the imbalance in the plans is by no means the main problem. People have already got the message. The resulting gap must be corrected by a creative search for progressive technologies, and by thorough utilization of so-called waste. The very word "waste" is becoming increasingly rare in the loggers' vocabulary.

The more quickly the timber from the "new harvest" is cross-cut the greater will be the profit. This is precisely what V. Zhukova, the economist of the Argat-Yul'sk logging enterprise (Tomsk Oblast) tells the cross-cutting crews. An appropriate incentive has been provided here: the crews are not paid per cross-cut cubic metre, but for marketable