

- The exploitation of forestry resources in cold and temperate climates can be made with four methods: total cut, with father trees, with successive or protection cuts (dividing the total area and rotating the zones exploited), and with selective cuts (cutting only certain trees within the whole area). Which one is used will depend on the characteristics of the land and forest and on the integral management studies;
- The exploitation of tropical forests needs to be complemented by improvement measures such as cutting old and malformed trees, reforestation with high value species, cleaning and sanitary cuts;
- Exploitation permit holders are responsible for the regeneration of the vegetation in the exploited area;
- SARH grants all permits for the exploitation of forestry resources, change in the use of land, and collection for scientific, educational and other purposes.
- A technical study is necessary to obtain exploitation permits;
- SARH or a concessionaire of SARH will provide technical services to each region such as the preparation of the integral management studies, providing training and education in forestry related matters, supervising the application of the management studies, preparing production and distribution programs for raw materials, preparing infrastructure programs, providing information, coordinating the management studies with infrastructure requirements, production, industrial development and sector programs, and marking the trees and vegetation to be cut;
- The creation of roads, production and distribution, warehousing, as well as industrial plants require certain permits and are subject to specific regulations in order to be allowed to operate;
- The transportation of lumber and raw materials extracted from forests requires special permits to supervise the conformity with exploitation permits for the area.

In general terms, it can be said that the regulations are very limiting. Every aspect of forestry exploitation is subject to permits, studies and a myriad of requirements. This has made exploitation difficult and also costly, reason for which imported products are very competitive in Mexico.

6. MARKET ACCESS

As a result of Mexico's accession to GATT, the Mexican government has gradually opened the economy to international markets. Tariffs have been lowered from a maximum 100% in 1983, to 20% since December, 1988. The official price system has been totally eliminated and import permits are required on only 198 of the total 11,812 items in the Mexican Harmonized Tariff System.

The import climate for forestry and woodworking equipment improved as a result of this commercial liberalization.