

On the following morning, the participants in the seminar were familiarised with the latest type of self-propelled cable skidder, the universal ML-59, which was undergoing bench tests on the range. Being equipped with a telescopic mast, it will operate automatically without the use of a tractor and will be remotely controlled, either from a panel or by radio. It is difficult to estimate how much interest was generated by the demonstration, as the onlookers kept their impressions to themselves. Evidently, some people had been placing all their hopes on imported models, which were much admired. But since everyone knows that they are not to be had (a great deal of hard currency would be needed), only one way out suggested itself: let the ecology suffer until better times. But others spoke straight from the shoulder: "if we don't manage the mountain forests efficiently, they won't remain intact for our successors". There was no question in the minds of the participants that the domestic models were inferior to the foreign made ones.

Now, however, we are in a position to state that our country does in fact, have environment-sparing machinery. For those who would like to acquire it, here is a brief description of some of the models:

1. The LL-26B skids assortments weighing 3.2 tonnes by the overhead method over a distance of 1,000 metres. A variant of it - the LL-30 - skids tree-length logs (3.2 tonnes) for hoisting and lowering by the overhead method over the same distance. Both are widely used in the Carpathians.

2. Their "sister", the ML-50, skids tree-length logs (6.3 tonnes) for hoisting by the overhead method over a distance of 1,000 metres.