

The Acceleration of Scientific and Technical Progress

Although the scientific and technical potential of the USSR State Committee on Forestry (Goskomles) is quite substantial, the results of scientific research have been of little value. In order to increase the effectiveness of science and establish closer links with production, the setting up of scientific-production associations is envisaged. The study of problems relating to the organization and management of the industry in mountainous forests (these amount to 40 per cent of the area of all of the forests put together) will be concentrated at an All-Union Research Institute of Mountainous Forests, to be based at the existing Institute of Mountain Sylviculture. Forest experimental stations will be organized in regions bordering the Aral Sea, in Western Siberia and in zones situated near the Baikal-Amur Trunk Railway.

The status of the experimental stations will be more precisely defined, and they will be converted into scientific-production sub-units engaged primarily in the growing of planting material, including Pinus sibirica, with the emphasis on breeding, and in the introduction of new production technologies.

End results will form the basis on which the work of the research institutes will be assessed. Of special importance is the rapid restructuring of the research institutes and major repair depots in the industrial mechanisation field.

The main shortcomings of scientific research in the mechanisation area are the extended deadlines for development of new machinery, since these lead to only slight increases being achieved in labour productivity. The working up of new ideas continues to be of low quality and there is a lack of interest on the part of scientists in achieving superior end results.

In view of this it is intended to transfer to profit-and-loss accounting and self-financing all of the scientific institutes conducting research on the mechanisation of the industry, and to introduce a system whereby payment for work done at the institutes will be dependent on the