

Last year state inspectors rejected 5,000 tonnes of production from the No. 2 mill of the Bratsk Timber Industry Complex. More than 30,000 tonnes were reregistered as lower grades. For each of these tonnes, the mill, and this means the Association, lost from 100 to 300 roubles. It failed to receive more than 300 roubles because of the downgrading of such indicators as dirt content. This is the legacy that the Bratsk workers brought with them as they changed to the profit and loss accounting system. To hope for a rapid increase in profits under such conditions is, of course, unthinkable.

The situation should be clear to everyone: most of the raw material is shipped in to the combine from suppliers and the reason why it is dirty is that it travels in dirty railcars. This means that there has to be a rigorous initial inspection process to prevent stones and other foreign material from getting in, and, at the same time, to determine who the unconscientious suppliers are, and to fine them.

One can't really accuse the state inspection officials at the Bratsk Timber Industry Complex of doing nothing. Last year they visited the supplier enterprises several times, determined who the main transgressors were and set up an entrance check. They met with some measure of success. Over the year more than 70,000 tonnes of the supplied chip was downgraded to a lesser category, to be used just in hydrolysis or board production. Part of this amount was simply dumped. The "Irkutsklesprom" and "Krasnoyarsklesprom" suppliers paid out approximately 300,000 roubles in fines. The flow of poor quality and dirty raw materials let up for a while. In January 1987 more than 20% of the supplied material was dumped whereas by the end of the year less than 10% was rejected. So what is the problem?