

Not so long ago, this paper published an article about the shortage of charcoal.* We are willing to take on the production of an extra 18,000 tonnes of high-quality charcoal. This is quite a paradox. We cannot get permission to do this. Does this mean that it is cheaper to buy charcoal substitutes abroad than to invest in installing additional retorts in our plant?

Now, when all the enterprises are converting to a self-financing and self-reimbursement system, we essentially find ourselves beyond the pale of perestroyka. The "Kirovlesprom" Association blames the administration of the pulp and paper and wood chemistry industry, under whose jurisdiction we would appear to fall, and the administration in turn blames the "Kirovlesprom" Association, which also runs our operations ...

I sit in my office and dread the next phone call from the sanitary and epidemiological station. Previously I could at least answer them with a clear conscience, but now?

Lesnaya promyshlennost

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* See "Charcoal Production: Low Volumes and Inferior Quality," -- Extracts from the Soviet Press on USSR Forestry and Forestry-Related Industries, June 1987, pp. 2-7.