

The Finnish side is keenly interested in using waste wood. Chips and sawdust will put an end to the expensive, heavy filters that engineers have experienced in sand, gravel and synthetic materials. Finnish farmers are eagerly anticipating chipping machinery that will allow them to convert wood directly on the spot.

... Alongside a sandpile rises a huge mountain of chips delivered here specially from the Gatchina Furniture Plant for the Soviet-Finnish research. A cubic metre, or more exactly a compact cubic metre, of this material is not cheap either, costing from 9 to 12 roubles. But then these are the so-called quality chips, while chips of any kind are suitable for backfill. We need only introduce more and better chippers so that we can make 100% use of the timber and brushwood left after forest improvement work.

Our newspaper has already written about the hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of wood that is destroyed, and we would recall that in Leningrad Oblast alone, workers every year destroy from 300,000 to half a million cubic metres of wood cleared from forest tracts after improvement operations. Now, a real opportunity has appeared for using this "worthless" timber to meet the needs of land reclamation specialists themselves.

"Wood conversion by land improvement engineers is highly important," said Mr. Kovalchuk. "Granted, right now we don't have enough reliable or efficient chipping equipment. But the authorities are already taking steps in this direction, and that means we'll soon be able to use the wood for our own needs."