

"We are working with colleagues from the Tatar Experimental Forestry Station to find a way to reconstruct the damaged stands. A problem-solving team led by A.I. Murzov, Candidate of Agricultural Sciences, is developing an oak restoration system, differentiated according to their present-day state. In some places we will have to carry out clear cutting operations and then plant the oak after, but most often we will fill the stands out with birch, spruce, larch and pine. These are the very species which commonly grow under an oak canopy."

Lesnaya promyshlennost'

26 April 1988

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Ant Colonies Involved in Fight Against Forest Pests

A unique anthill reserve has been set up in the village of Akst, not far from the university town of Tartu. Some of the hills are one-and-a-half metres high and some are very old - up to 150 years old.

The bright sun has already revived the ants. Tree experts, biologists and zoologists have started to arrive to study them. The careful study of the insects' habits will make it possible to select the most active varieties for reproduction. A methodology for determining the most viable of the ant colonies has been developed. Suitable site preparations for the transplanting operation are being prepared.

A mass resettlement of the ant colonies is planned for the near future. The ants have proven to be energetic fighters against forest pests. At the