

The Development of Technology and Machines when Thinning the Forest in Finland and Sweden

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Haper highlights key issues of earlier thinning through analysis of foreign information sources.

The following issues are covered:

- Key thinning features (pre-commercial and commercial) in forest management including felling shares in timber harvest, mechanized timber harvest costs;
- recycling of small-sized tress and logging residue into wood chips, production volumes, cost subsidy;
- key areas of earlier thinning mechanization\minimization to cut high costs due to small-sized trees and low growing stock per ha;
- applied technology, machinery and working equipment including specialized harvester and accumulator-type felling heads;
- various type harvester performance indicators in comparative testing and customary operation;
- accumulator type felling head impacts on harvester performance;
- application of super-light machinery (harvesters, forwarders, harwarders) performance indicators including conditions of the Belarus republic and Latvia;
- application of modified agricultural tractors with modular fixed mounts.

The analysis findings may be used in development of thinning mechanization policy.