

FORESTS AND FORESTRY IN UKRAINE

According to data from the State forest resources agency of Ukraine*

Information about forests and forestry management in Ukraine was provided by the State Forest Resources Agency of Ukraine; An emphasis was placed on the main problems and priority directions of forestry development in Ukrainian realities. Forests of Ukraine, which grow in three natural zones in the forest, forest-steppe, steppe and in the mountainous regions of the Carpathians and the Crimea, perform mainly ecological functions and have a limited operational significance. Forestation (forest ratio) in Ukraine is 15.9 % are the lowest among European countries. However, in terms of forest area (10.4 million ha), Ukraine ranks ninth, with wood stocks (2.1 billion m³) – sixth. The total average stock change reaches 35 million m³ a year; the average stock of forest stands in the forest fund of the State Forest Agency of Ukraine over the last decade has increased from 229 m³/ha to 251 m³/ha. The annual growth rate is around 60 %, which is lower than in many forested countries in Europe. The average age of forests is about 60 years; the middle-aged stands have the largest share – 45 %. In Ukraine, there are more than 30 species of tree stands, among which the largest share is common pine (33 %) and common oak (24 %). The average of annual volume of forest plantations reproduction is more than 50 thousand hectares, which exceeds the area of clear cuttings. The most widespread in Ukraine are clear-cuttings. They produce about 85 % of the area of the forest cuttings and 89 % of the wood stock. Wood is the main type of forest resources harvested by forest enterprises. The total volume of liquid wood in Ukraine from all cuttings is about 20 million m³, including 8 to 9 million m³ of main cutting use, which does not exceed the planned forest cutting area. The main problems of forestry development in Ukraine is the imbalance of financial support of the industry, deteriorating of the sanitary condition of forests, the presence of large areas of derivatives and artificial even-aged stands, increasing of areas and forest stands stocks which are excluded from the calculation of the harvest cutting, drying in large volumes of spruce forests in Ukrainian Carpathians and common pine in plain conditions, large area of radioactive contaminated forests, low density of roads in forests, enforcement of forest legislation and the legal framework for forestry management etc. The main priorities of forestry management in Ukraine are increasing forested area (up to 20 %), increasing productivity and biotic resistance of forest stands, preserving biodiversity, using forest resources on the basis of the ecological economics, building forest roads, and introducing selective, close to nature forestry.

Keywords: forest cover of Ukraine; ecological functions of forests; reproduction of forest plantations; clear cutting; liquid wood; forestry enterprises; imbalance of financial security; deterioration of the sanitary state of forests.

Introduction

The forests of Ukraine, according to their purpose and location, perform mainly ecological functions (water protection, conservation, sanitary-hygienic, sanative, etc.), have limited operational value and grow in three natural zones – forest (Polissya), forest steppe, steppe, as well as in the Carpathians and mountainous regions Crimea. The area covered with forest vegetation is 9.6 million hectares in the total forest fund area of 10.4 million hectares (Gensiruk, 2002; Forest, 2017; Directory, 2012; Forestry management, 2009, 2016; Tkach, 2012).

The vast majority of forests (about 87 %) are state-owned. 1.3 million hectares (about 13 %) of forestry land plots are attributed to communal property. They are in constant use by communal enterprises subordinated to local self-governing bodies. The share of forests in private property is less than 0.1 % of the total forest area.

In Ukraine, historically, consolidation of state forests under the numerous permanent forest users has been formed. In terms of forest management, forests are provided to the permanent use of enterprises, institutions and organizations of several dozens of ministries and departments. By departmental subordination, the largest area of forest lands (about 73 %) is in the use of forest enterprises of the Forest Resources State Agency of Ukraine, 13 % – of local self-governing bodies, 7 % – of state-owned lands, not provided for use and allocated to reserved lands, 2 % – Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Ukraine, 5 % – other ministries and departments.

Current Research

The modern forest cover in Ukraine is radically transformed by man both in quantitative and qualitative dimensions. Forestation in Ukraine is only 15.9 % and is one of the lowest among European countries. But despite

this, Ukraine ranks 9th in Europe in terms of forest area and 6th in terms of wood stock.

The forest vegetation conditions in Ukraine are extremely heterogeneous, and therefore forests are very unevenly distributed. Forest territory varies from 3.7 % (Zaporizhia region) to 51.4 % (Transcarpathian region) – Fig. 1.

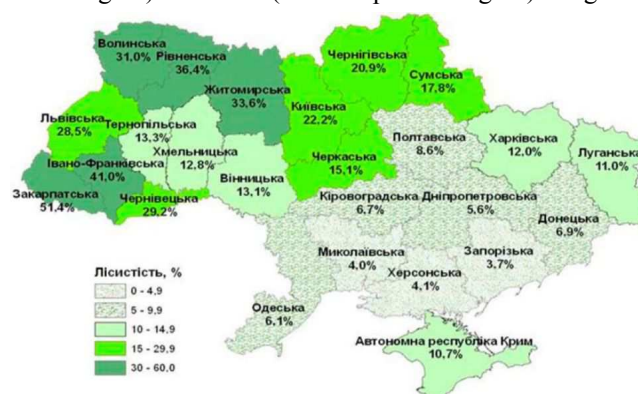


Figure 1. Regional forest cover in Ukraine

Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia, Volyn, Rivne, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Chernivtsi, Zhytomyr, Vinnytsia, Kyiv, Cherkasy, Kirovohrad, Mykolaiv, Odessa, Chernihiv, Sumy, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, Kharkiv, Zaporizhia, Donetsk, Luhansk, Autonomous Republic of Crimea / Crimea.

Most forests are concentrated in the forest natural zone (Polissya) and in the Ukrainian Carpathians (Fig. 2). To achieve the optimal level of forestation (20 %), it is necessary to increase the forest area by at least 2-2.5 million hectares. Forestation would achieve a significant positive impact on the climate, soil cover, water resources, increase resistance to erosion processes, provide the required amount of timber for industry and household needs (Gensiruk, 2002; Forestry management, 2009; Tkach, 2012).

* Edited by: Krynytskyi H. T., Lakyda I. P., Marchuk Yu. M., Tkach V. P., Polyakova L. V.

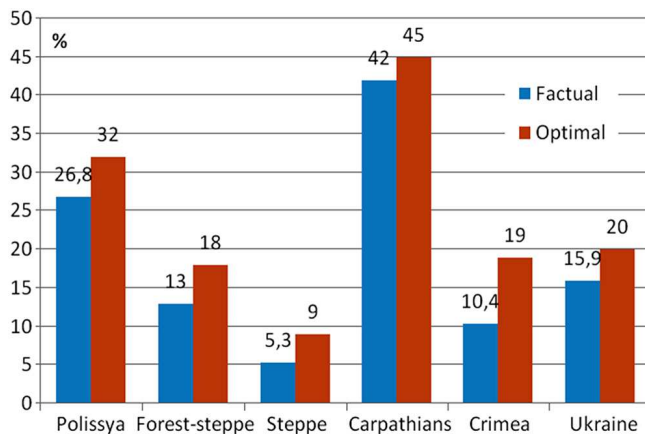


Figure 2. Forest cover of Ukraine and its natural zones, %

According to the ecological and socioeconomic values and depending on the main performed functions, Ukrainian forests are divided into four categories: protective (32.9 %), recreational and aesthetic (15.3 %), nature conservation, scientific, historical and cultural purposes (13.9 %), merchantable / exploitation (37.9 %) – Fig. 3.

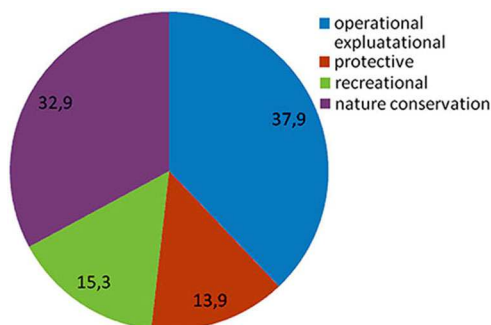


Figure 3. Distribution of forest area of Ukraine by categories, depending on their functions, %

The wood stock in the forests is estimated at 2.1 billion m^3 . The total annual average stock change reaches 35 million m^3 . The average annual change of stock per one hectare in the forests of the State Forest Agency is 3.9 m^3/ha and ranges from 5.0 m^3/ha in the Carpathians to 2.5 m^3/ha in the steppe zone. There is observed a gradual increase in the wood stock, which indicates a significant economic and environmental potential of Ukraine (Table 1).

Table 1. Dynamics of average wood stocks in the forests of the State Forest Agency of Ukraine, m^3/ha

Age groups of forest stands	Years of state records				
	1983	1988	1996	2002	2011
Young / Fledlinds	32,5	56	106	105	
Middle aged	208	216	240	257	267
Premature	266	267	282	301	312
Mature and overmature	270	264	267	254	257
In average	164	171	212	229	251

Following the Tabl. 1, the average stock of forest stands in the forest fund of the State Forestry Agency of Ukraine for the last decade has increased from 229 m^3/ha to 251 m^3/ha . In general, in Ukraine this indicator is lower and is 218 m^3/ha (9th place in Europe) due to, first of all, forests of agricultural enterprises, which are liquefied and to a large extent affected by phytodeceises and effected by entomo pests. At the same time, Ukraine's forestry conditions allow growing forest plantations with significantly higher productivity (nearly 400 m^3/ha , sometimes even 1200 m^3/ha) (Gensiruk, 2002; Krynytskyi, & Chernyavskyi, 2014; Tkach, 2012).

In general, the potential reserves and opportunities of Ukrainian forests are large and, according to specialists and international experts, are not fully utilized. The use of annual growth is within 60 %. And in many European countries this data is 70-80 %. In Ukraine, only 0.9 % of the stock is cut down during the year, whereas in Switzerland the annual felling amounts is 1.9 %, the Czech Republic – 2.4 %, Finland – 2.8 %, the United Kingdom and Belgium – 3.0 and 3.1 %, respectively. Due to the increase in the area of mature and over-matured plantations in Ukraine in the coming years, the objective is to increase the volume of wood harvesting.

The forests age structure has historically developed under the influence of afforestation of large areas of cutting areas after the Second World War, the creation of new forests on large areas in the 50-70 years of the last century. The average age of forests is about 60 years. The greatest specific weight have middleaged stands – 45 %, and matured and overmatured – make up only 17 %.

In the forest of Ukraine grows over 30 species of tree plants. Coniferous plantations occupy 44 % of the lands covered with forest vegetation, and hardwood – 43 %. According to the prevailing species, the forests of Ukraine are represented as follows: % of forest covered area pine – 33, oak – 24, spruce – 8, beech – 7, birch – 6, alder – 6, acacia, gledichia – 5, gum – 3, hornbeam – 2, fir – 1, maple – 1, poplar, willow – 1, other breeds – 3.

One of the priorities of forestry management in Ukraine is the continuous reproduction of forests. At the enterprises of forestry there are about two thousand nurseries, where annually grow up to 300 million pcs. of standard planting material. In recent years, the average annual volume of reproduction of forest plantations is about 52 thousand hectares, which exceeds the area of clear cuttings. In particular, in 2016, the reproduction of forests was carried out on an area of 52.6 thousand hectares, of which 31.8 thousand hectares – the area planted with seedlings of seedlings or seeding on forestry lands, 2.6 thousand hectares – the area of new forests, created on land transferred to state-owned enterprises for afforestation, 18.2 thousand hectares – areas planted naturally.

The forests of Ukraine have established a large forest-based base: plus plantations amount to 2.1 thousand hectares, genetic reserves – 22.0 thousand hectares, permanent forest seedlings – 15.6 thousand hectares, plantations of silvicultural plantations – 1.1 thousand hectares. In forest plantations allocated 4.5 thousand plus trees. Virgin forests, which occupy an area of more than 59 thousand hectares, are valuable in forestry and breeding.

The density of the road network in the forests of Ukraine is 7.3 km per one thousand hectares. During 2007-2014, 3948 km of forest roads were built in Ukraine. In particular, there was significant road infrastructure built in the mountains of the Carpathians – more than 1398 km. At the same time, there are conditions that allow for the implementation of forestry operations with the use of environmentally safe technologies and rapid access to fire extinguishing facilities.

About 35 % of the forests grow in a zone of radioactive contamination of varying intensity. Some of them are completely excluded from forest management, which should be taken into account while improving the forest management and forest management system in the country. After the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant (1986) more than 30 years have passed and in the last period in the

forests there are processes of rehabilitation. This allows part of the contaminated areas to resume economic activity. At the same time, in all enterprises operating in the zone of radiation pollution, strict radiation control and certification of manufactured products are carried out.

The most widespread remains still clear cut logging, which harvests about 85 % of the forest's area and 89 % of the wood stock. The share of gradual and selective cutting is gradually increasing, but in general in Ukraine, it remains low and only in the Carpathian region has it reached up to 50 % in area. Due to the excessive use of clear cutting, half of Ukraine's forests are artificially created and require intensive care.

In the structure of the nature reserve fund of Ukraine, forest landscapes are a priority. In forests that belong to the sphere of management in the State Agency of Forestry of Ukraine, almost 3.3 thousand territories and objects of the Nature Reserve Fund (NRF) with the total area of about 1.3 million hectares, have been created. The reservation of forest which subordinate to the State Forest Agency of Ukraine is 16.1 %. Practically in all regions the reservation in the forests is higher than the national one, which is 6.15 %.

Since 1991, the area of the natural reserve fund in the forests of the State Forest Agency of Ukraine has almost doubled. Its area of management includes 13 nature protection institutions among which: six nature reserves, six national natural parks and one dendrological park. The protection and maintenance of these institutions is provided by special administrations at the expense of the state budget. In the rest of the territories of the NRF (preserves, reserves, etc.), the protection and preservation of natural complexes relies on the enterprises under their jurisdiction.

In order to ensure the implementation of ecological, social and economic functions of forests on the basis of sustainable development in Ukraine, forest certification of forestry management is successfully conducted. Currently, more than 3.3 million hectares (32 %) of forests have been certified in Ukraine under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) international scheme.

Wood is the main type of forest resources that are harvested by forest enterprises. Total volumes of liquid wood in Ukraine from all cuttings are about 20 million m³, including from the harvest cutting – 8-9 million m³, which does not exceed the estimated forest area and provides ecologically balanced forest management. Forest harvesting is the basis for the creation of own funds of enterprises for the expanded reproduction of forests and sustainable forestry development. In this technological process more than 70 % of the main means of production of forest enterprises are involved. During recent years, modern high-performance mechanisms and ecologically safe technologies are being implemented.

The main use of wood is to supply the domestic market to meet the needs of domestic processing industry, enterprises of construction, agroindustrial and coal mining complex (Figure 4).

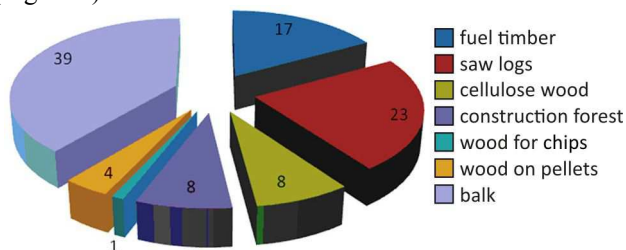


Figure 4. Sorting structure of wood harvesting, %

In recent years, with the development of the domestic wood industry, forest enterprises have sharply reduced the volume of wood processing and directed the released wood resources to meet the needs of the domestic market. At the same time, there are almost 200 small processing units operating in the state forestry enterprises, which annually recycles about 1.4 million m³ of low-quality wood.

The production of primary wood processing products, consumer goods, wooden souvenirs, carpentry and timber products for building industry increased. The proceeds from the sale of products are used to finance forestry production, the development of material resources, and the implementation of social programs. The financing mechanism and fiscal policy in the forestry sector are aimed at stimulating the economic activity of enterprises on the basis of a combination of methods of state regulation and market economy.

Activity is intensified regarding the attraction of wood and its waste to the energy balance of the country is intensifying in Ukraine. In the energy balances of many states of the European Union, the biofuel component is 12-15 % and increases annually. According to preliminary estimates, the total resource of unwrought wood in Ukraine that can be used for energy needs is about 3.5 million m³.

In recent years, much attention has been paid to the game/hunting management in Ukraine. The area of game grounds in Ukraine is 37.5 thousand hectares, of which 4.4 million hectares (11.9 %) were allocated to the state game and forestry farms, 23.5 million hectares of the Ukrainian Society of Hunters and Fishermen (62,8 %), users of other forms of ownership – 9.5 million hectares (25.3 %).

In the hunting industry, 6.3 thousand people are involved, including 0.5 thousand hunters and 4.7 thousand regular yager. In total, 783,000 hunters are registered in Ukraine, of which more than 300,000 are hunted annually.

One of the main priorities of the development of game management in the coming years is the reproduction, protection and rational use of hunting fauna, which involves investing considerable funds in the implementation of a complex of biotechnical measures, the fight against poaching and predators. artificial breeding of animals in semi-free conditions with subsequent release in the area, carrying out qualitative records of game animals.

The total cost of gaming in Ukraine is almost twice as high as income from gaming. The cost of guarding and recreating game animals in Ukraine is on average more than three thousand hryvnias per one thousand hectares of game grounds.

Proceeding from the current stage of society development and economic relations, large public game organizations are expected to carry out reforms to acquire their structural unit status of legal entities users of game grounds. These structural units should be optimal in terms of both the biological needs of a particular species of game and the financial capabilities of the user.

The carrying out of biotechnical and protective measures at a new higher level will allow gradually to increase the number of main types of game animals.

The main research in the forestry field is carried out by: Ukrainian Research Institute of Forestry and Agroforestry (Kharkiv), Ukrainian Research Institute of Mountain Forestry (Ivano-Frankivsk city). National Forestry University of Ukraine (Lviv), National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv), Institute of Carpathian

Ecology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Lviv).

The research network of research institutes and universities covers all the natural and climatic zones of Ukraine, as well as unique objects of forestry science, many of which were created more than 150 years ago. In total, over 1,100 research facilities with a total area of about two thousand hectares have been created.

In addition, a number of research and training forestry enterprises with a total area of about 70,000 hectares have been created, which are used as research and experimental basis for research and implementation of its results.

Scientific research is currently being carried out in the following directions: development and improvement of forest management systems; forestry close-to-nature; structural and functional features of virgin forests, reforestation and forest expansion; preservation and protection of the forest; forest selection, study and conservation of genetic potential of forests of Ukraine, their biodiversity; forest ecology and monitoring of forest ecosystems; agroforestry melioration and forest recultivation; forest radiology; sustainable forest management in the context of global climate change; carbon-bearing forest productivity; gaming; economics, organization and management of forestry; information technologies in forestry, and environmentally sound forest resource management.

Despite the generally positive trend of forestry development in Ukraine, there are many problems in its management and forest management, the main of which are (Gensiruk, 2002; Krynytskyi, Chernyavskyy, & Krynytska, 2016; Round table, 2015; Forestry management, 2009; Krynytskyi, & Chernyavskyy, 2014; Tkach, 2012):

- imbalance of financial support of the industry;
- low forestation level in territory;
- deterioration of the sanitary state of forests. Annually more than 600 thousand hectares of forest plantations are damaged by entomopests and phyto diseases;
- the presence of large areas of derivatives and artificially created monoaged stands, caused by excessive application of clear cuttings;
- accumulation of areas and stocks of ripe and overriped forest stands which are excluded from the calculation of harvesting cuttings;
- unjustified increasing the areas of the reserved territories mainly due to forests;
- drying in large quantities of both the derivatives and the aborigen fir forests in the Ukrainian Carpathians (36 thousand hectares with a wood stock more than 11 million m³), and recently also common pine in the plain conditions of Ukraine;
- large area of radioactive contaminated forests;
- low density of road network in forests;
- the existing practice of fixing forest by many forest users;
- not fully adequate institutional structure;
- enforcement of forest legislation and improving the legal framework for forestry management;
- a high degree of poaching and inefficient gaming/hunting;
- insufficient reliability of information on forest inventory and imperfection of the state forest cadastre.

Proceeding from the current state of forests, the prospects for forestry development and the requirements of the current forest legislation, the main priorities of forestry in Ukraine are (Gensiruk, 2002; Forest, 2017; Krynytskyi, Chernyavskyy, & Krynytska, 2016; Lakyda, & Lakyda, 2016; Krynytskyi, & Chernyavskyy, 2014; Synyakevych, et al., 2008; Tkach, & Torosov, 2005; Tkach, 2012; Tunytsya,

2002, 2010; Chernyavskyy, Krynytskyi, & Parpan, 2011; Shvydenko, et al., 2014):

- increase of forestation on the territory of Ukraine up to 20 %;
- increase of productivity and improvement of quality composition of forest plantations;
- preservation of biodiversity in forest ecosystems;
- increase of biotic resistance of forest plantations to negative environmental factors – climate change, increasing anthropogenic loading, forest fires, phytopathology and entomopests;
- elaboration of methods and technologies of rational use of forest resources on the principles of environmental economics, which ensures the sustainable development and self-reproduction of natural conditions and natural resources;
- strengthening the socio-economic role of forests on the principles of multifunctional forest management;
- construction of forest roads – preconditions for the wide introduction of environmentally safe technologies and sustainable forest management;
- the introduction of close-to-nature forestry, first of all in the Carpathian region of Ukraine, which foresee the transition from the prevailing now clear cutting forest-based management system to selective – the cultivation of mixed-age and mixed-species forest stands with a multi-level vertical and horizontal closed structure based on a natural seed renewing.

The transition to a selective, close-to-nature forest management system in Ukraine, due to its high environmental, social and economic efficiency, is particularly attractive. In today's world, climate change has become exacerbated by anthropogenic activities intensely reaching critical values. Therefore, the focus on the restoration of forest stands, mainly by natural seed, and the cultivation of mixed ages and species, has become a necessity.

Conclusions

The forestry sector of Ukraine is experiencing change, a transition to a new thinking, new theoretical generalizations, and new effective forms of forest management. Various ways of reforming forest management and forestry industry in Ukraine are being developed, which are evaluated by the experts, representatives of government structures and public organizations. The international experiences in solving problem issues in forestry is being studied. Gradually, by conducting a broad public discussion, modern forestry policy of Ukraine is being formed, forestry principles of forest management are being developed and implemented, on which it is possible to grow biotically stable, highly productive forest stands, the continuous existence of forest cover, preservation of biotic diversity, reproduction of the structure of natural mixed-age forests, permanent implementation of forest ecosystem, protective, recreational and other functions, as well as increase of economic efficiency of management basing on principles greening forestry management.

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ЛІСИ І ЛІСОВЕ ГОСПОДАРСТВО УКРАЇНИ за матеріалами Державного агентства лісових ресурсів України

Подано інформацію про ліси і лісове господарство України, акцентовано увагу на основних проблемах і пріоритетних напрямках розвитку лісівництва в українських реаліях. Ліси України, які ростуть у трьох природних зонах – лісовій, лісостеповій, степовій та в гірських районах Карпат і Криму, виконують переважно екологічні функції і мають обмежене експлуатаційне значення. Лісистість України (15,9 %) є однією з найнижчих серед європейських країн. Однак за площею лісів (10,4 млн га) Україна посідає дев'яте місце, за запасами деревини (2,1 млрд м³) – шосте. Загальна середня зміна запасу сягає 35 млн м³ на рік, середній запас деревостанів у лісовому фонді Держлісагенства України за останнє десятиліття зріс від 229 м³/га до 251 м³/га. Використання щорічного приросту становить близько 60 %, що нижче ніж у багатьох лісистих країнах Європи. Середній вік лісів – близько 60 років, найбільшу питому вагу мають середньовікові деревостани – 45 %. У лісах України росте понад 30 видів деревних рослин, серед яких найбільшу частку становлять сосна звичайна (33 %) і дуб звичайний (24 %). Середні щорічні обсяги відтворення лісових насаджень становлять понад 50 тис. га, що перевищує площу суцільних зрубів. Найпоширенішими в Україні є суцільно-лісосічні рубки, внаслідок яких заготовляють близько 85 % за площею лісосік і 89 % – за запасом деревини. Деревина є основним видом лісових ресурсів, які заготовляють лісгосподарські підприємства. Загальні обсяги ліквідної деревини в Україні від усіх рубок становлять близько 20 млн м³, зокрема від рубок головного користування – 8-9 млн м³, що не перевищує розрахункову лісосіку. Основними проблемами розвитку лісового господарства України є: дисбаланс фінансового забезпечення галузі; погіршення санітарного стану лісів; наявність значних площ похідних і штучно створених одновікових деревостанів; збільшення площ і запасів деревостанів, вилучених з розрахунку рубок головного користування; всихання у великих розмірах ялиників Українських Карпат і сосни звичайної у рівнинних умовах; велика площа радіоактивно забруднених лісів; низька густина доріг у лісових масивах; недосконалість лісового законодавства і нормативно-правової бази ведення лісового господарства та інші. Основними пріоритетами ведення лісового господарства в Україні є збільшення лісистості території (до 20 %), підвищення продуктивності та біотичної стійкості лісових насаджень, збереження біологічного різноманіття, використання лісових ресурсів на засадах екологічної економіки, будівництво лісових доріг, запровадження вибіркового, наближеного до природи лісівництва.

Ключові слова: лісистість України; екологічні функції лісів; відтворення лісових насаджень; суцільно-лісосічні рубки; ліквідна деревина; лісгосподарські підприємства; дисбаланс фінансового забезпечення; погіршення санітарного стану лісів.

ЛЕСА И ЛЕСНОЕ ХОЗЯЙСТВО УКРАИНЫ по данным Государственного агентства лесных ресурсов Украины

Подана інформація о лесах и лесном хозяйстве Украины, акцентировано внимание на основных проблемах и пріоритетных направлениях развития лесоводства в украинских реалиях. Леса Украины, которые растут в трех естественных зонах – лесной, лесостепной, степной и в горных районах Карпат и Крыма, выполняют преимущественно экологические функции и имеют ограниченное эксплуатационное значение. Лесистость Украины (15,9 %) является одной из самых низких среди европейских стран. Однако по площади лесов (10,4 млн га) Украина занимает девятое место, за запасами древесины (2,1 млрд м³) – шестое. Общее среднее изменение запаса достигает 35 млн м³ в год, средний запас древостоев в лесном фонде Гослесагенства Украины за последнее десятилетие вырос от 229 м³/га к 251 м³/га. Использование ежегодного прироста составляет около 60 %, что ниже, чем во многих лесистых странах Европы. Средний возраст лесов – около 60 лет, наибольший удельный вес имеют средневозрастные древостои – 45 %. В лесах Украины растет свыше 30 видов древесных растений, среди которых наибольшую часть составляют сосна обыкновенная (33 %) и дуб обыкновенный (24 %). Средние ежегодные объемы восстановления лесных насаждений составляют свыше 50 тыс. га, что превышает площадь сплошных рубок. Наиболее распространенными в Украине являются сплошнолесосечные рубки. Ими заготавливается около 85 % по пло-

щади лесосек и 89 % по запасу древесины. Древесина является основным видом лесных ресурсов, которые заготавливаются лесохозяйственными предприятиями. Общие объемы ликвидной древесины в Украине от всех рубок составляют около 20 млн м³, в том числе от рубок главного пользования – 8-9 млн м³, что не превышает расчетную лесосеку. Основными проблемами развития лесного хозяйства Украины являются: дисбаланс финансового обеспечения отрасли; ухудшение санитарного состояния лесов; наличие значительных площадей производных искусственно созданных одновозрастных древостоев; увеличение площадей и запасов древостоев; исключенных из расчета рубок главного пользования; усыхание в больших размерах ельников Украинских Карпат и сосны обыкновенной в равнинных условиях; большая площадь радиоактивно загрязненных лесов; низкая густота дорог в лесных массивах, несовершенство лесного законодательства и нормативно-правовой базы ведения лесного хозяйства и другие. Основными приоритетами ведения лесного хозяйства в Украине являются увеличение лесистости территории (до 20 %), повышение производительности и биотической стойкости лесных насаждений, сохранение биологического биоразнообразия, использование лесных ресурсов на принципах экологической экономики, строительство лесных дорог, внедрение выборочного, приближенного к природе, лесоводства.

Ключевые слова: лесистость Украины; экологические функции лесов; воспроизводство лесных насаждений; сплошные лесосечные рубки; ликвидная древесина; лесохозяйственные предприятия; дисбаланс финансового обеспечения; ухудшение санитарного состояния лесов.