QUALITY MANAGEMENT, STANDARDIZATION, AND CERTIFICATION OF FORESTS IN UKRAINE

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The article deals with issues of quality management, standardization and certification of forestry in Ukraine. The state of affairs in the field of forest certification in Ukraine is analyzed. The procedure for certification of forest management is considered on the example of SE “Krolevets forestry farming enterprise”.

Forest certification – assessment of the compliance of the forest management system with the established international requirements for forest management and forest management on the basis of sustainable development. The purpose of forest certification is to provide economically, ecologically and socially balanced forest management through the implementation of relevant generally accepted and credible standards.

The state of affairs in the field of forest certification in Ukraine, which has more than 10 years of experience, has been analyzed. As of January 1, 2015, the area of certified forests reached 2.787 million hectares, accounting for 26.8% of the country’s forest fund. Certified forests are unevenly located and are concentrated mainly in the western and northern regions of the country.

The world’s most famous are the three international organizations involved in the environmental certification of forests: Forest Guard Board (FSC); International Organization for Standardization (ISO); Pan-European Forest Certification (PEFC).

Certification of forest management in Ukraine is carried out by three accredited certification bodies. In particular, SGS South Africa has issued 16 certificates covering 48% of certified forests; NEPKon company has issued 6 certificates covering 50% of all certified forests; Lesna Certification company has issued 2 certificates covering 2% of certified forests.

The certification of forest management in Ukraine is considered on the example of SE “Krolevets forestry farming enterprise”, which is located in the northwestern part of the Sumy region in the territory of Krolevets, Glukhov and Putivl administrative districts, with a total area of 21267 hectares. The certification procedure for forest management consists of the following steps: client’s application, application for a diagnostic audit; diagnostic (preliminary) client audit; registration and examination of the application for certification; conclusion of a forest certification agreement; evaluation of the completed questionnaire by the client; evaluation of client documents; conclusions on the evaluation of documents; certification verification; certification report; registration and issue of certificates of conformity; signing an agreement on the supervision of certified forest; supervision (periodic inspections of certified forest, repeated (renewal) certification (every 5 years).