

Eighty years for Lithuanian forest inventory and management planning

The celebration of eighty years of Lithuanian forest inventory and management planning took place at the Lithuanian Forest Inventory and Management Institute on November 29, 2002. The reports on the achievements of the Lithuanian forest management was made by the Lithuanian Minister of Environment Mr. Arūnas Kundrotas, Lithuanian Forest Inventory and Management Institute director prof. Andrius Kuliešis. Many representatives from the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Government of the Republic of Lithuania, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, from the different organizations, which collaborate with the organization of forest inventory and management planning, foresters took part in this celebration.

The traces of forest inventory in Lithuania date back to the middle of the 16th century when Grigorij Volovich wrote a report on “The inspection of woods and game crossing tracks...” in which he described state forest tracts of those times. In the 19th century forest inventory on the territory of Lithuania was irregular and carried out by Russian, Polish and German specialists. National forest inventory and management planning service was established in 1992 under the Department of Forestry at the Ministry of Agriculture. It employed 25- 30 specialists. Primary inven-

tory of state forests was completed by the year 1937. After WWII forest inventory renewed its functioning at the end of 1944.

In 1995- 1957 for the first time were inventoried all the forests of collective farms and other stockholders. Thus, in the second half of the 20th century all the forests of the republic were inventoried. Repeated forest inventories took place in: 1958-1963, 1966-1977, 1978-1987, 1988-2001.

In 2002 a sixth forest inventory and management in all Lithuanian forests was started. From the 1995 forest inventory, mapping is fulfilled on the GIS basis.

During 80 years the Lithuanian surveyors- takers are inventoried and worked out the projects in the area of 10.5 mill. ha in Lithuania and almost in the area of 6 mill. ha in Russia, Cuba and Laos.

Editorial board – (Brukas A., Jakubonis S., Kuliešis A. (editor in chief), Rutkauskas A.) prepared and published the book “Lithuanian Forest inventory and management planning and its development” (“Lietuvos miškotvarka ir jos raida”, Kaunas, 188p.).

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