

State Forest Inventory in Russia

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Lecture content

1. Introduction
2. History of statistical inventory in Russia
3. State forest inventory sampling design overview
4. State Forest Inventory: first results, main problems and perspectives
5. Discussion and Conclusions.

Introduction

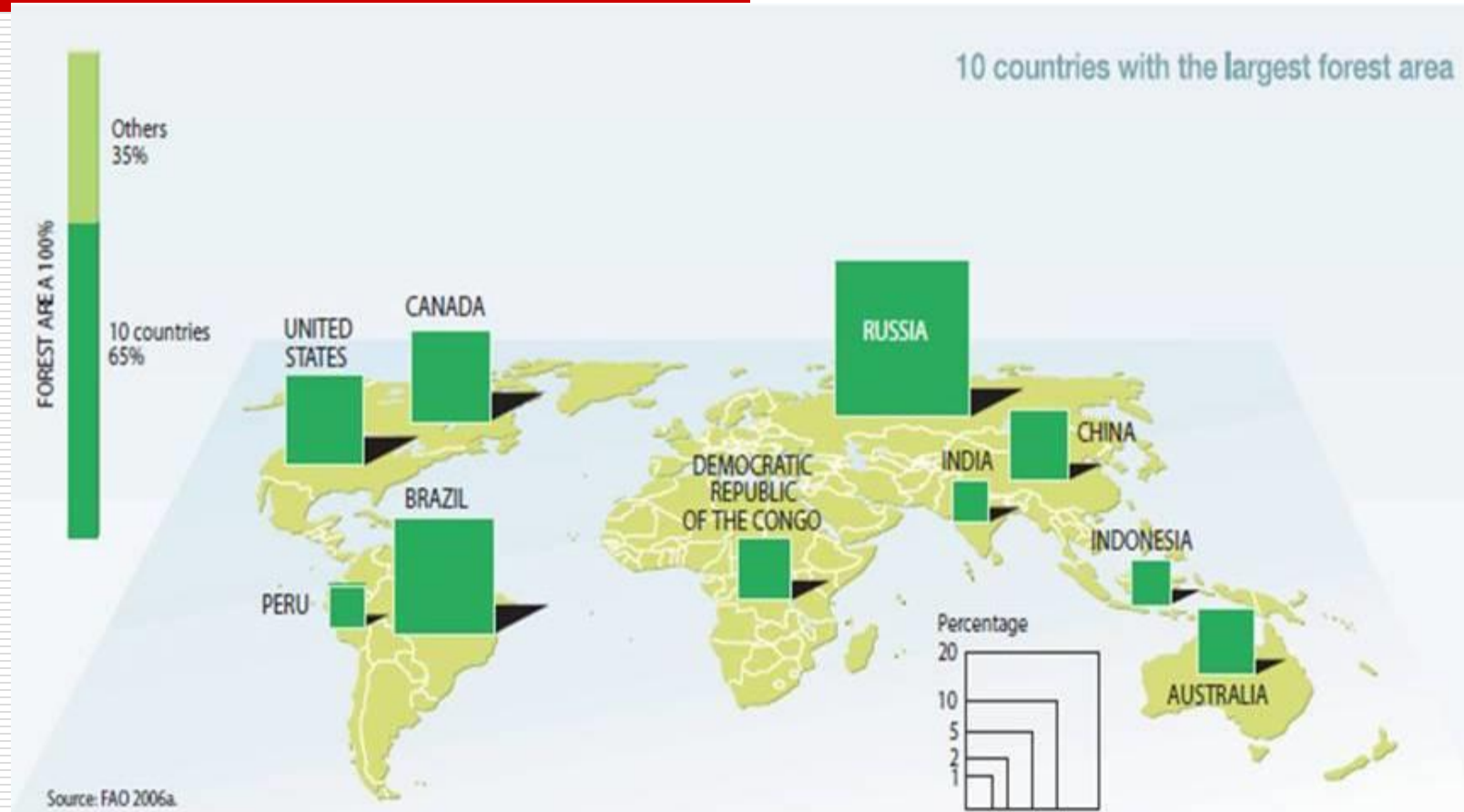
Some general figures about Russian forests

- Total area of Russia accounts for 1709 824,6 thousands of hectares
- Total area of the forests is 1 183 385,3 thousands of hectares or 69,2 % of total area
- Covered by forest area is as much as 795 257,2 thousands of hectares
- According the officially published figures, Russia hosts about 22% of the world forest area.
- For comparison, the next largest forest countries own: Brazil – 16%, Canada – 7% and USA – 6% of the world's forest cover.
- Total growing stock – 83,0 billions (10^9) of cubic meters
- Mean annual gain of wood – 1019.6 millions of cubic meters or 1,32 cubic meter per hectare of lands covered by forests
- Mean growing stock per hectare for lands covered by forest – 105.0 m³, in mature and over mature forests – 129.7 m³.
- Growing stock per capita is 600 m³ second in world after Canada – 900.1 m³, in Finland – 328.1 m³, in Sweden – 272.7 m³.

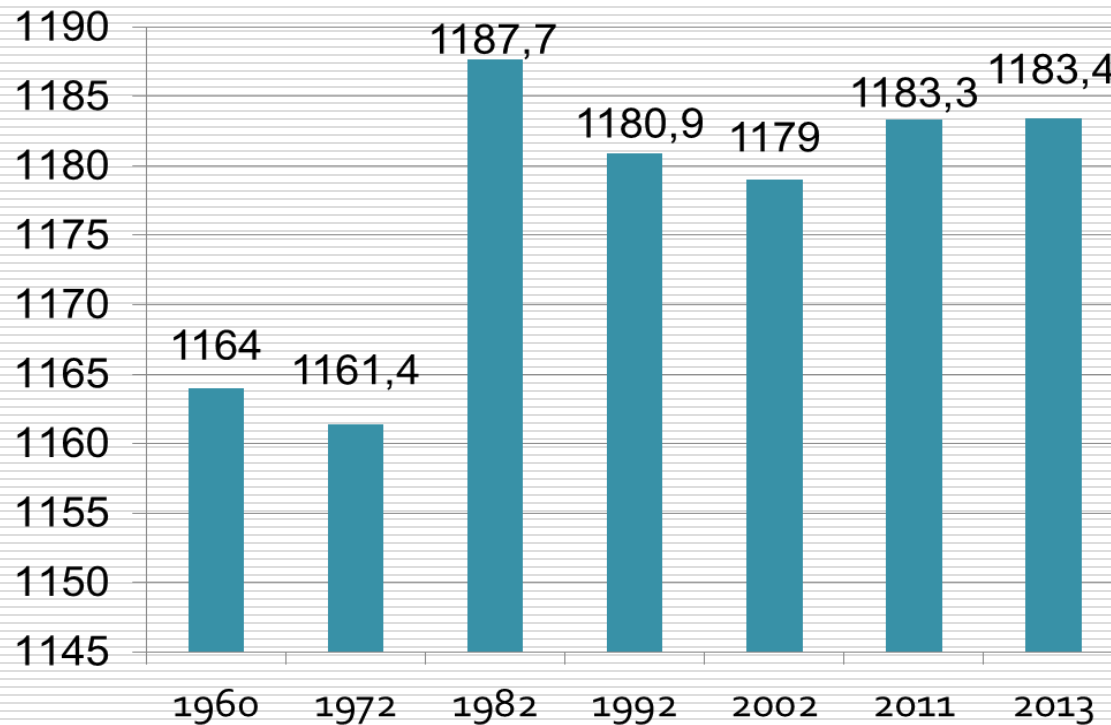
Main part of Russian forests – boreal (88%)



10 countries with the largest forest area



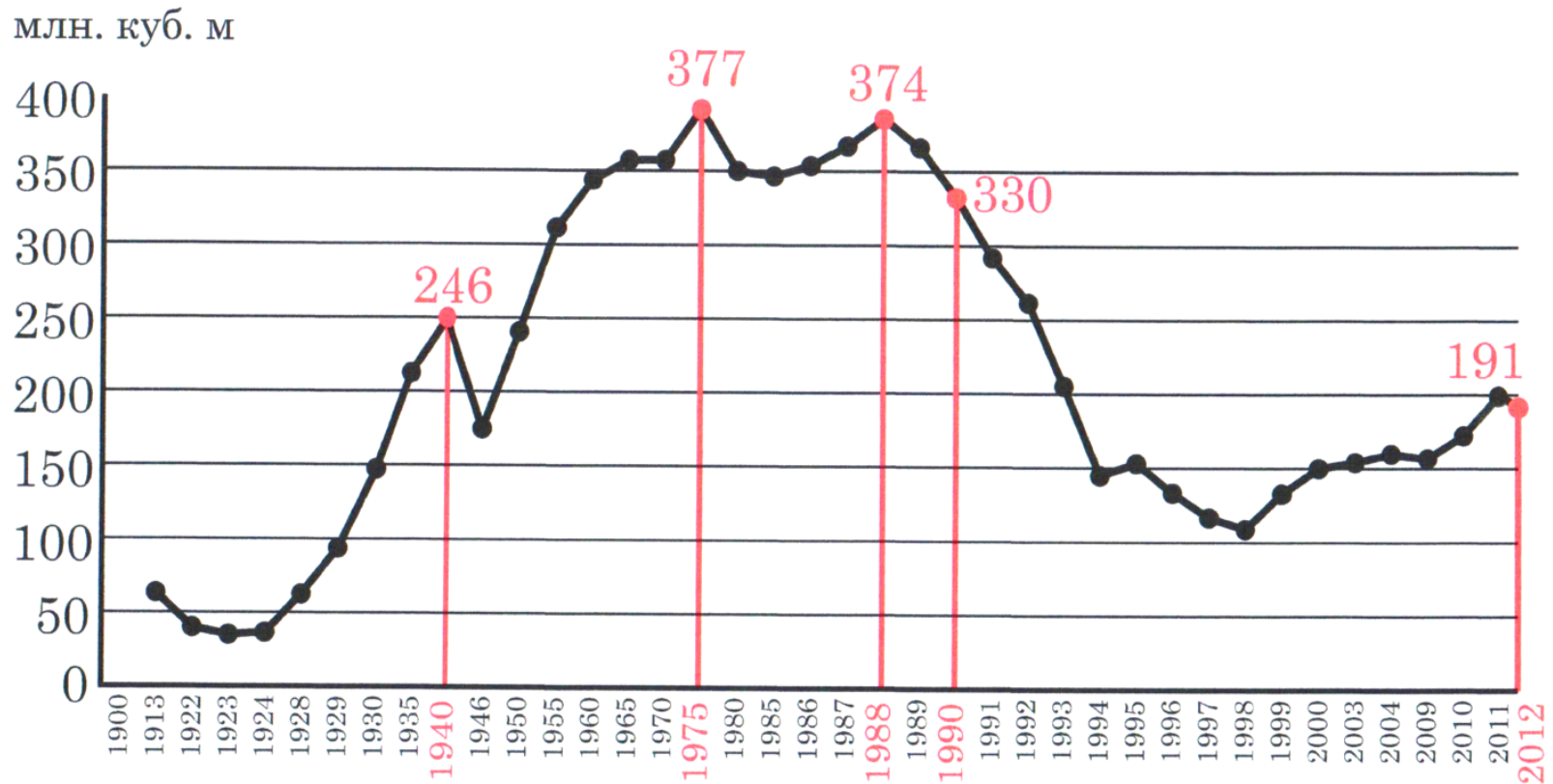
Total forest area (10^6 ha) dynamics



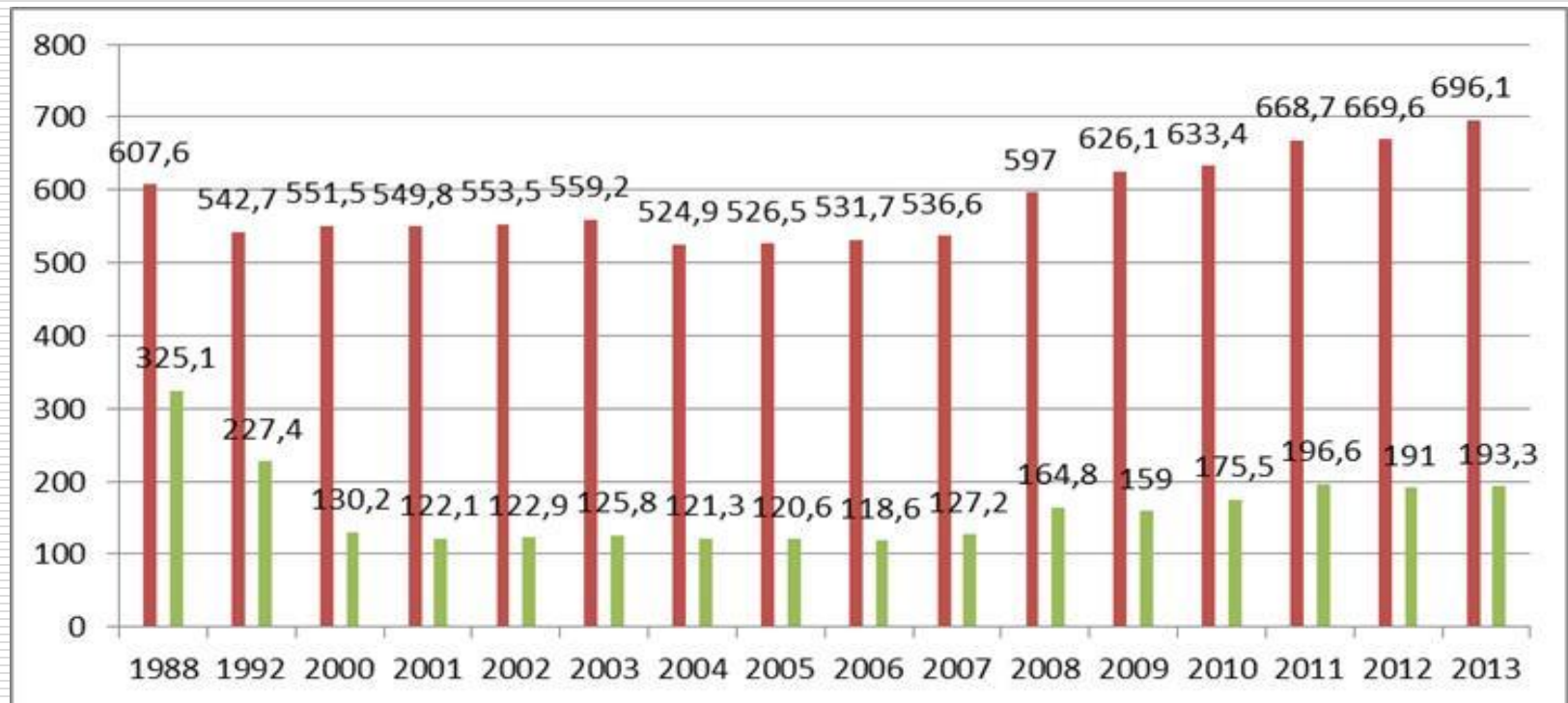
European forests and forests of European and Asian parts of Russia

	Area, 10^6 ha/%	Growing stock, 10^9 m ³ /%	Annual increment, 10^6 m ³ /%
Europe	233.7/20.8	26.8/24.3	903.9/47.6
European Russia	174.4/15.5	22.9/20.8	377.2/19.9
Asian Russia	717.5/63.7	60.6/54.9	616.6/32.5

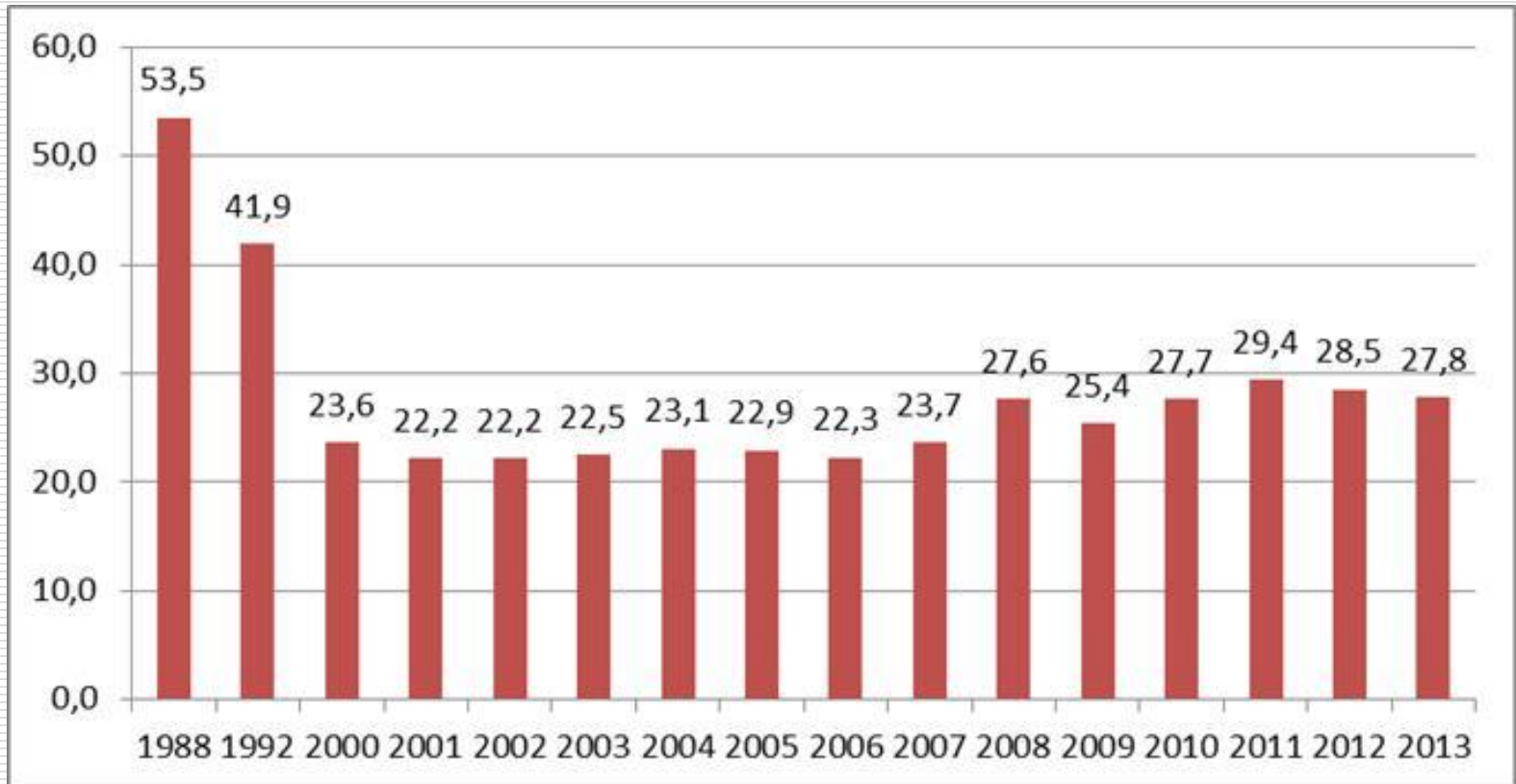
Wood harvest history ($10^6 m^3$). In 2013 – 193,3



Allowable (red) and real cuttings dynamics ($10^6 m^3$)



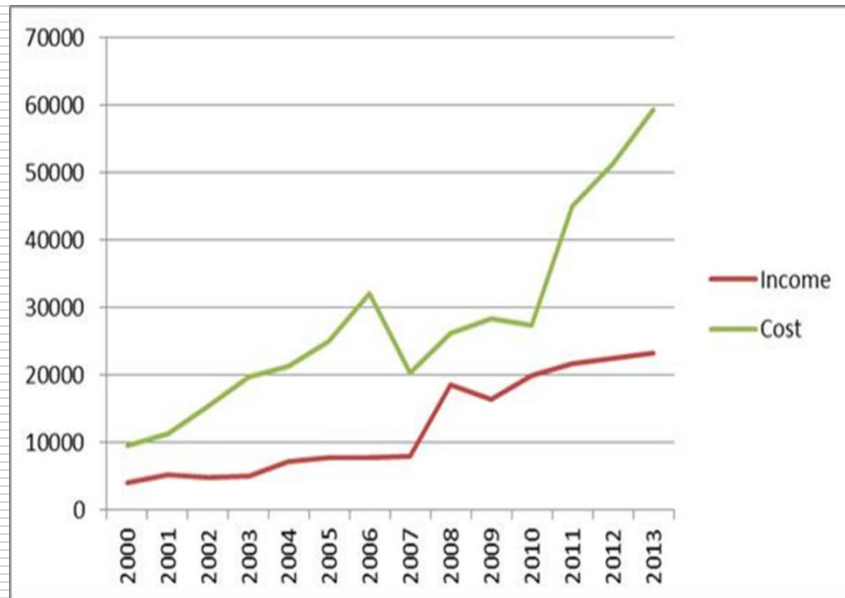
Share of real cutting from allowable (%)



Some non wood forest resources

- Mushrooms – producing area 81,8 millions of hectares, capacity 4,3 millions tons.
- Hunting animals (10^3 individuals):
 - Bears - 150-160
 - Lynx – 20-22
 - Elk – 500-600
 - Boar – 250-350
 - Roe – 800-850
 - Marten – 200-230
 - Sable – 1200 – 1500
 - Hare – 4500 – 5000
- Hunting birds (10^3 individuals)
 - capercaillie – 3800-4000
 - blackcock – 10000-11000
- Forage (10^6 ha)
 - hay fields – 1,8
 - forest pastures – 11,6
 - north deer pastures – 300
- Fruits (10^3 ton) – 1632
- Nuts (10^3 ton) – 3520
- Berries (10^3 ton) - 8260
- Medical plants – 3000 species

Ownership, Income and Cost in Forestry (green – cost, red – income), 10^6 RUR



□ 100% of forests are publicly (state) owned

History of statistical inventory in Russia

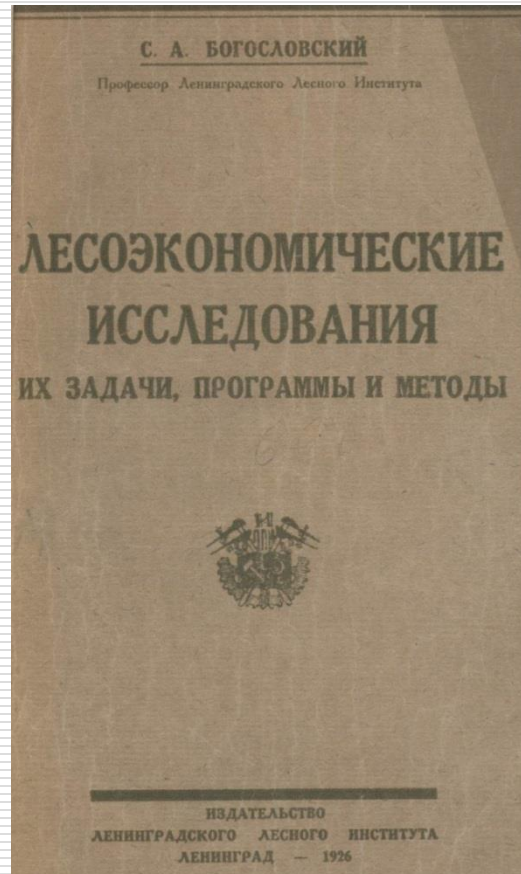
Periodization of forest inventory by statistical method

- Conditionally may be distinguished 3 periods in statistical method of forest inventory development:
 1. 1920-30 years
 2. 1960-80 years
 3. Modern period after Forest Code 2006 adoption.
- So, approximately each 30 years there is some intensification of the interest to statistical method of forest inventory.

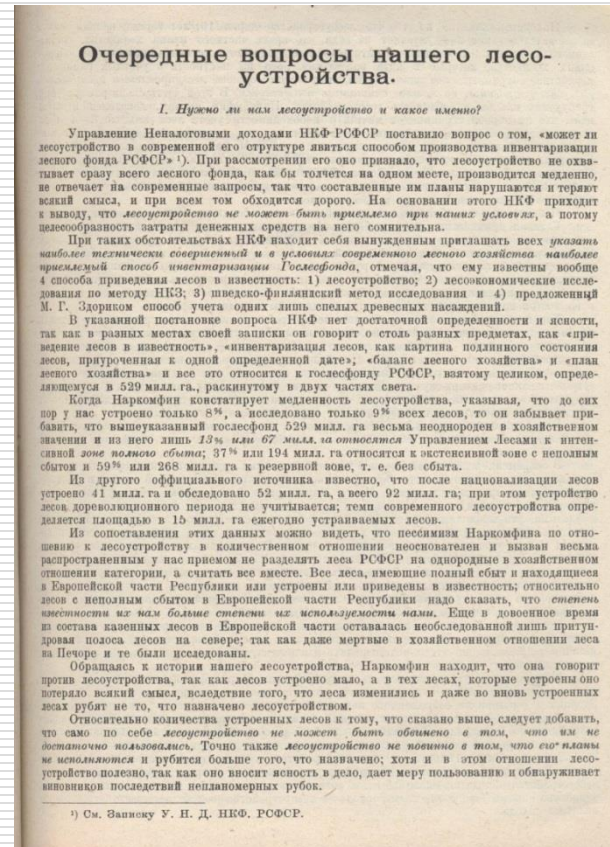
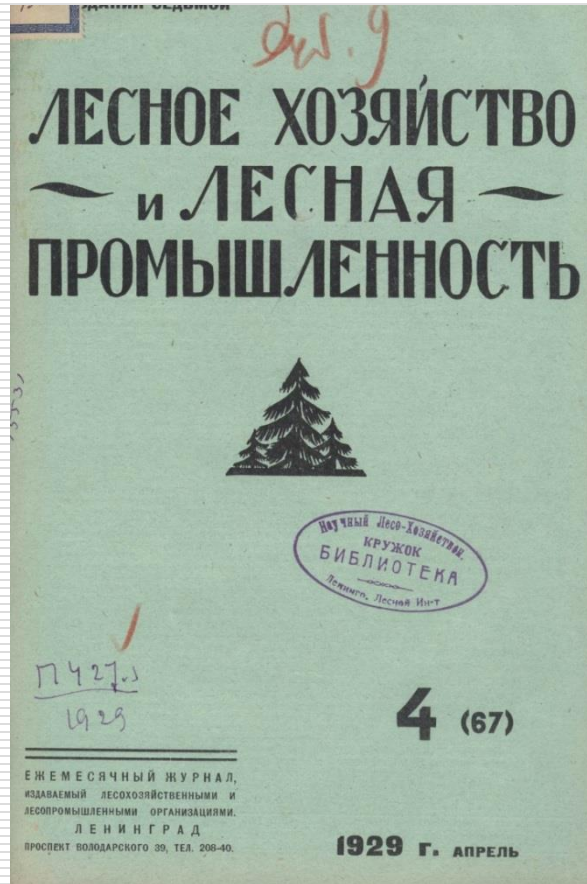
Former experience in forest inventory by statistical approach

Year	Region of Russia (or former Soviet Union)	area covered (ha)
1925	Floatable district of the river Luga, Leningrad region	241,438
1928-1929	Karelia Republic and Kola Peninsula	8 million
1930	Floatable district of river Mezen, Komi Republic	10 million
1931	Floatable district of river Pechora, Komi Republic	21 million
1930's	Floatable district of river Angara, Irkutsk region	10 million
1960's	Siberian exploitable forests	20 million
1967	Ivanovo region	area not known
1970's	Lithuanian 18 forest enterprises	area not known
1980's	Photo statistical inventory of Siberian and Far Eastern forests	area not known
1990's	Siberian and Far Eastern forests inventory by key plots method	area not known
2007	State forest inventory for the whole country	in progress

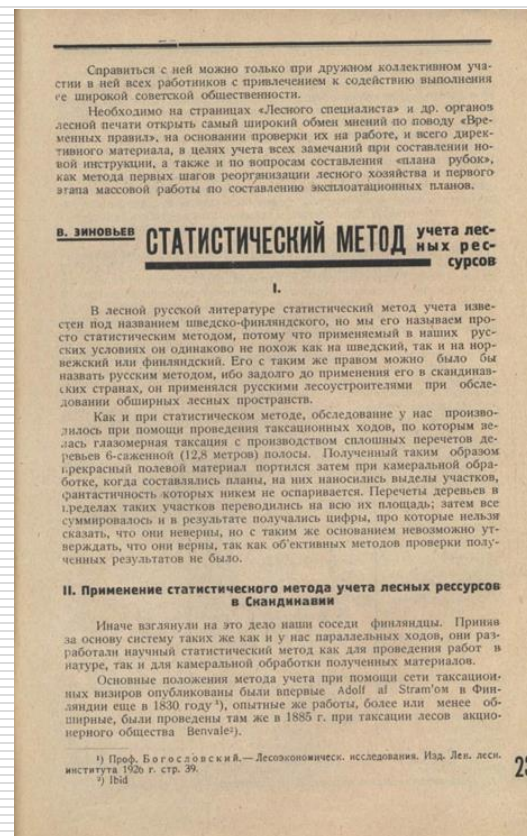
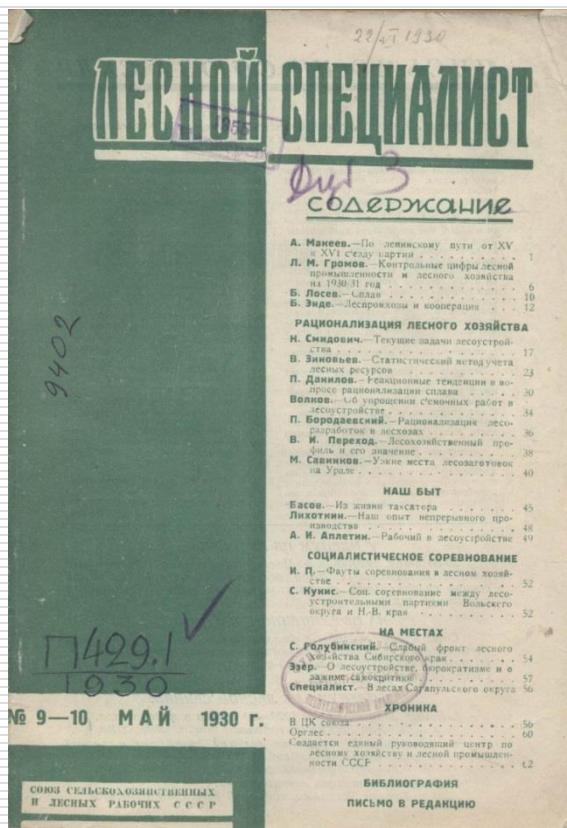
S.A. Bogoslovsky monograph issued in 1926



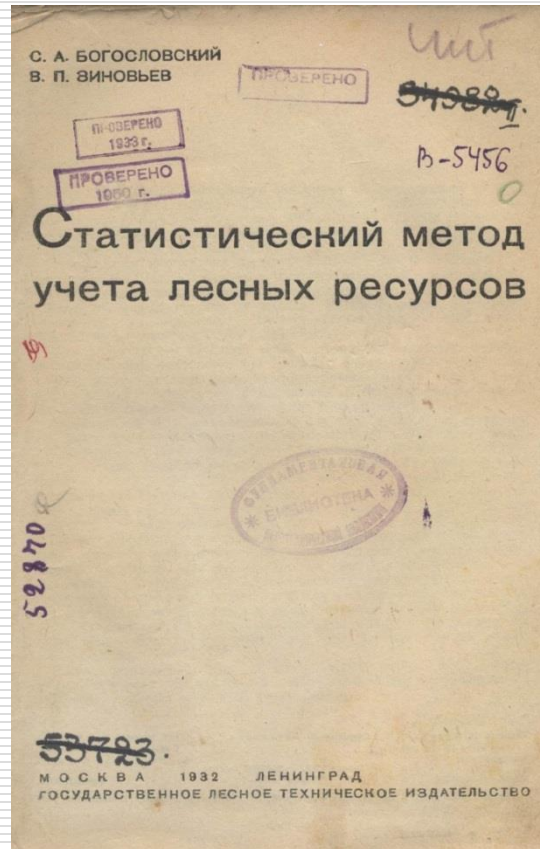
Paper of M.M. Orlov published in 1929



Article of V.P. Zinoviev in «Forest Specialist» magazine issued in 1930



Monograph of S.A. Bogoslovsky and V.P. Zinoviev on statistical method of forest inventory published in 1932



National forest inventories in the world

- The first national forest inventories were established to assess the quantities of available wood.
- Finland, Sweden, Norway and New Zealand were the first countries to introduce an NFI between 1919 and 1923.
- The United States followed in 1930,
- India and several European countries during the 1980's.
- In the Asia region, China and the Republic of Korea have used a NFI since middle of 70's, Japan since 1999.
- More recently, Brazil (2005) and Canada (2006) established NFI's.
- FAO continues to develop sampling based inventories and monitoring programs in many Latin American and African countries

Canada – Russia similarity in NFI aspects

- Conditions in Russia and Canada are rather similar regarding environmental conditions and the large scale that needs to be covered.
- The land area of Canada is estimated to cover 9 984 670 km² or 58.4% of that of the Russian Federation with 17 098 246 km².
- In Russia 8 forest growing zones are distinguished. At least three of these, parts of tundra and low density taiga, taiga and conifer-broadleaved forest zones are also present in Canada.
- Some of 15 Canadian terrestrial ecozones partly coincide with some of the 34 forest regions in the Russian Federation.



State forest inventory (SFI) sampling design overview

Two kinds of forest inventory

In Russia now works two inventory systems:

1. National (State) forest inventory.
Based on statistical sampling, basic unit – sample plot
2. Forest inventory for management.
Based on area field inspection, basic unit – compartment (more or less homogeneous)

National forest inventory goals

- National forest inventory introduced by article 90 of the Forest Code and has 3 main goals:
 1. Revealing and prognosis of negative effect on forests
 2. Estimations on how success are forest protection and regeneration
 3. Information support of forest management and administration at Federal level, as well as state forest control and supervision.

Main principles of State Forest Inventory (SFI)

Index	Finding of the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of forests
Objects of SFI	Forest regions
Planning principles	According to the Russian state programme «Forestry development» for 2013-2020
Methodological basis	Landscape-ecological approach– works in forest regions Combination of remote and ground methods
Technical basis	Documents of forest management, of state database obtained as a result of land planning Earth remote sensing data with spatial resolution better than 5 m
Reporting	After the completion of work on the object of SFI– forest region Interim reports - Annual

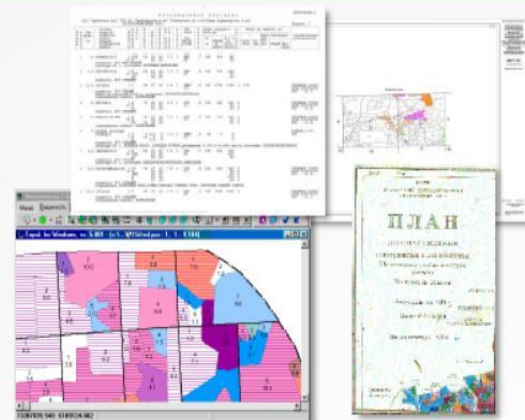
Basic data for SFI

- ✓ Documents of forest management
(updated forest management boards,
plans of forest stands,
thematic forest maps).



- ✓ Topographic maps.

- ✓ Data of State forest register.



Характеристики лесов по категориям назначения		по состоянию на 01.01.2017 г.									
Наименование субъекта Российской Федерации		по состоянию на 01.01.2017 г.									
Наименование субъекта Российской Федерации		площадь, тыс. га	лесная площадь, тыс. га	лесостепная площадь, тыс. га	площадь, занятая лесом, тыс. га	площадь, занятая лесом, тыс. га	площадь, занятая лесом, тыс. га	площадь, занятая лесом, тыс. га	площадь, занятая лесом, тыс. га	площадь, занятая лесом, тыс. га	площадь, занятая лесом, тыс. га
Республика Адыгея		15,5	15,5	15,5	15,5	15,5	15,5	15,5	15,5	15,5	15,5
Республика Башкортостан		143,1	143,1	143,1	143,1	143,1	143,1	143,1	143,1	143,1	143,1
Республика Бурятия		370,1	370,1	370,1	370,1	370,1	370,1	370,1	370,1	370,1	370,1
Республика Дагестан		50,1	50,1	50,1	50,1	50,1	50,1	50,1	50,1	50,1	50,1
Республика Ингушетия		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Калмыкия		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Карачаево-Черкесия		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Коми		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Крым		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Марий Эл		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Мордовия		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Саха (Якутия)		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Северная Осетия-Алания		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Татарстан		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Тыва		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Хакасия		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Чечня		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Чувашия		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Эльбурская		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1
Республика Ямало-Ненецкий автономный округ		1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1

Basic data for SFI - 2

- ✓ **Cartographic documents of state database, from land management.**



- ✓ **ERS data (digital satellite images of optical range with spatial resolution better than 5 m).**

- ✓ **Standard reporting about use, protection, security and renovation of forest.**

A screenshot of a forest management reporting form. The form contains various fields for data entry, including sections for 'Forest management', 'Forest protection', and 'Forest renovation'. It also includes a table for 'Forest management' with columns for 'Forest type', 'Forest area', 'Forest volume', and 'Forest value'. The form is titled 'Forest management reporting form' and has a header section with 'Forest management' and 'Forest protection'.

List of preparatory works before field inspection

- ✓ Calculation of necessary number of permanent sample plots according to forest regions in the Russian Federation.
- ✓ Creation of digital cartographic basis by using materials of forest management, state forest register, ERS data and maps.
- ✓ Stratification of digital basis, generalization to the stratum-level.
- ✓ Obtaining information on changes in forests, their quantitative and qualitative characteristics from the forest management documents, state forest register, standard reporting about use, protection, security, renovation of forest since the last forest management.
- ✓ Registration of changes caused by economic activity and natural factors (felling, fire, flood, windfall, damage by pests, etc.) in stratified digital cartographic basis.
- ✓ Creation of up-to-date schematic maps of SFI forest stratum.
- ✓ Laying out the permanent sample plots in the object of SFI annual work according to the stratification scheme in proportion to the area of stratum. Finding the position of the permanent sample plots' centers.

Stratification of forest fund lands

Stratum– sections of forest where some taxation plots with similar taxation characteristics are combined.

Stratification– grouping of forest stands in the uniform groups (strata), where reserve variability is less, than in total.

Stratification necessity:

Reducing the number of sample plots within the forest region by decrease of reserve variability

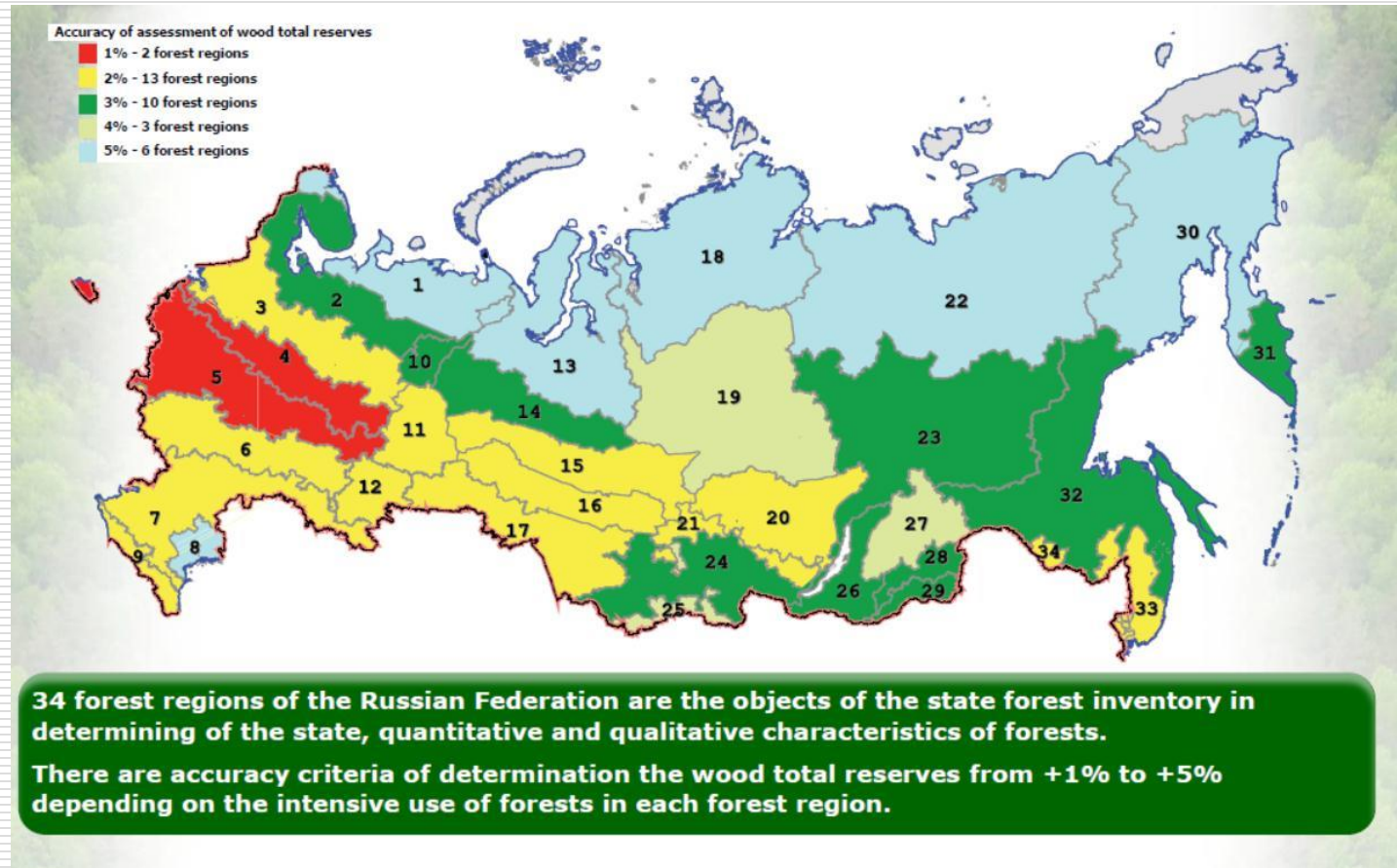
Stratification scheme:

Unified scheme of forest stratification in the Russian Federation

Stratification basis:

Documents of forest management of different years, ERS data

Forest regions and accuracy of wood stock assessments (red -1%, yellow-2%, green – 3%, grey – 4%, blue -5%)



Stratification scheme

STRATIFICATION PARAMETRES:

- **I level – forest regions:**
 - 34 forest regions;
- **II level – taxation indicators:**
 - number of strata – 49.

AGE CLASS:

- 1-2
- 3-4
- 5
- 6 and older

YIELD CLASS:

- Ia, Ib, I-II
- III-V
- Va-Vb

STRATIFICATION PARAMETRES:

GROUPS OF TREE SPECIES AND LAND CATEGORIES:

- SPARSE FOREST, NATURAL OPEN STANDS, FUND OF FOREST RENOVATION
- YOUNG NATURAL STANDS;
- YOUNG PLANTED STANDS;
- SOFTWOODS (pine, larch, cedar);
- HARDWOODS (spruce, fir);
- VALUABLE TREE SPECIES (oak, beech, hornbeam, ash, maple, elm, stone birch);
- SOFT TREE SPECIES (aspen, grey alder, poplar, willow);
- PARVIFOLIATE TREE SPECIES (birch, black alder, linden).

- ❖ Nominal division into age groups, yield groups, species groups in names of strata for finding the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of forest during state forest inventory, without reference to classification in the forest management
- ❖ Duration of age class for cedar – 40 years; oak, beech, hornbeam, ash, maple, elm, stone birch, pine, larch, spruce, pine – 20 years; birch, fir, linden, aspen, grey alder, poplar, willow – 10 years.

Final map of strata - example



List of field works on sample plots of SFI

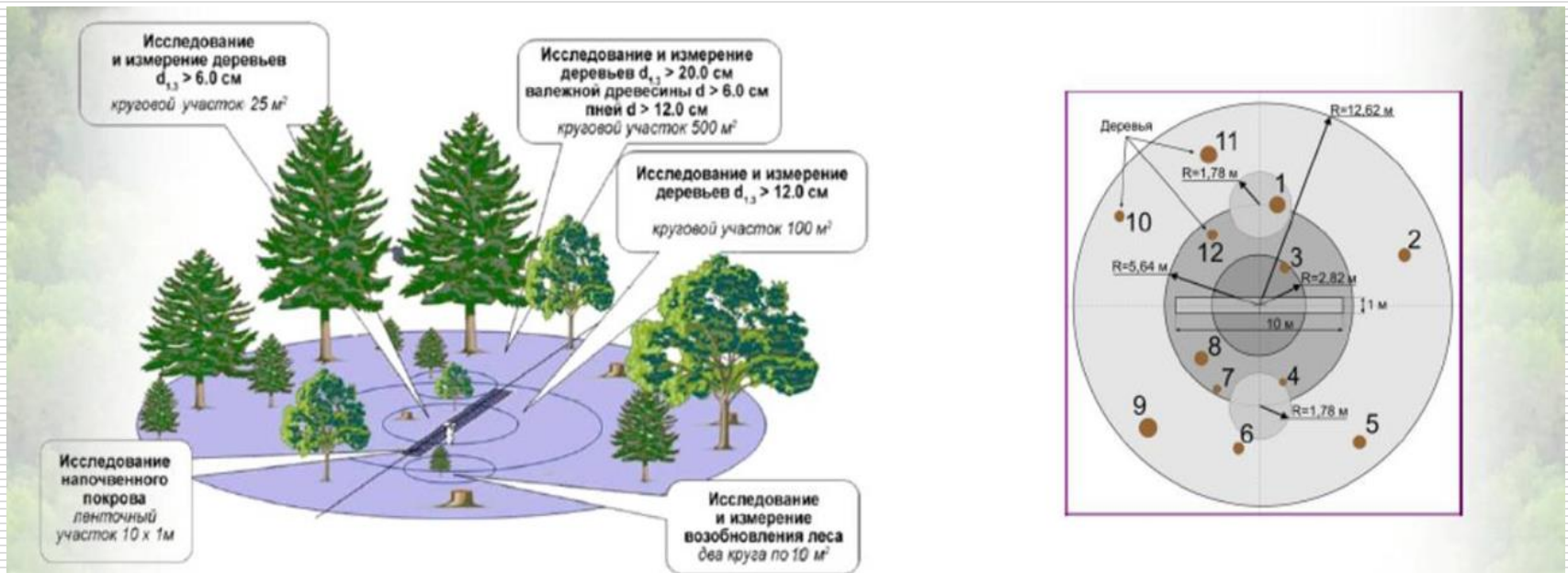
- ✓ **Making positions of sample plots centers to the landscape using geodetic and geopositional tools.**
- ✓ **Finding the trees' parameters on the sample plot.**
- ✓ **Measuring required indicators on the sample plots.**
- ✓ **Control over the completeness of collected information on the sample plots.**
- ✓ **Input of the data (received while laying out sample plots) into the statistical processing programmes and updating the reference information.**
- ✓ **Processing of data on permanent sample plots.**

List of field works on sample plots of SFI - 1

1. Locating of the sample plot center and reference points on the landscape.
2. Fixation of the sample plot center.
3. Description of the sample plot.
4. Description of live ground vegetation.
5. Description of forest undergrowth and non-tree species.
6. Description and mapping the trees.
7. Description forms of trunks and wood quality (assortment).
8. Assessment and description of biodiversity of forest stand.
9. Description of forest renovation.
10. Description detritus (brushwood, stumps, windfall).
11. Control over the database before leaving permanent sample plot (PSP).
12. Export PSP data in central database.

Field works are done by field teams, equipped by program-measuring systems (PMS SFI) for collecting data. Information of sample plots coordinates is not public and confidential.

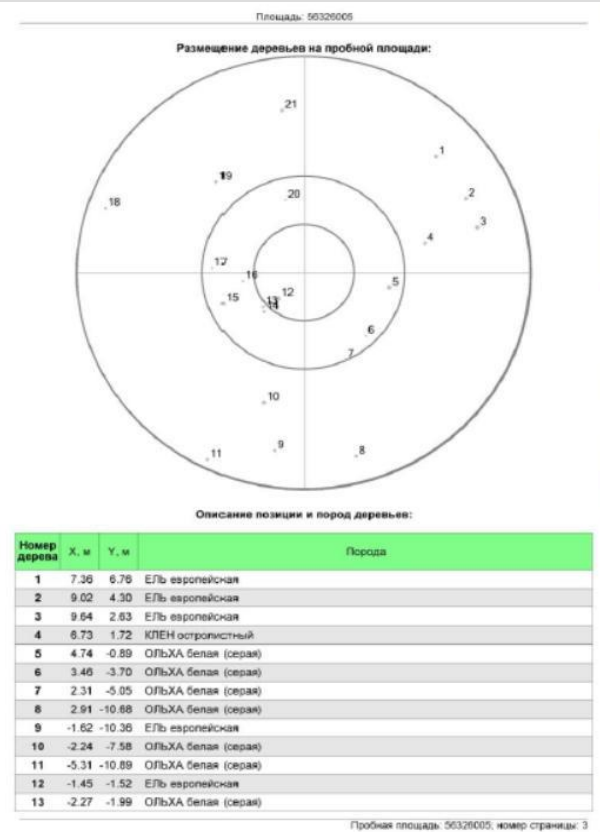
Sample plot of SFI



Measurements on sample plot of SFI

Circle diameter, m	Area, m ²	Measured objects
12,62	500	Trees with DBH >20cm, dead wood with diameter > 6 cm, stamps with diameter > 12 cm
5,64	100	Trees with DBH>12 cm
2,82	25	Trees with DBH>6 cm
1,78 (two)	20	Natural and artificial regeneration with H>0,2 m and DBH<5,9 cm, undergrowth,
Belt (10*1 m)	10	Ground vegetation

Sample plot establishment - example



Measurements on sample plots



Measurements on sample plots - 1

- Total number of parameters 117 grouped in 8 blocks:
 1. Landscape, soils, tree stand description
 2. Tree data including dead trees
 3. Ground vegetation
 4. Unger growth and under canopy vegetation
 5. Stamps and dead wood
 6. Regeneration
 7. Biodiversity
 8. Model trees parameters

Office processing of field data

Stages of office processing	Types of work
Original data inspection	– Checking database integrity – Checking project structure – Automatic monitoring of the data following the methodological instructions for carrying out the SFI RF
Preparation for statistical processing	– Updating field projects with software updates – Adding field project to the central database – Preparatory calculations – Filling areas by strata – Classification – Data rearrangement(reclassification) – Additional dimension classes of small trees – Preparation of guide tasks – Calculation of carbon stock
Consideration of tasks for statistical processing	– Consideration of tasks (if calculation of individual tasks is necessary)
Achievement of the results of statistical processing	Setting necessary print parameters and launch of all tasks

Main points of criticism of ongoing SFI

- ❑ Stratification based on old forest inventory data actualized by remote sensing data
- ❑ Random sampling design and clamping of sample plots
- ❑ Single sample plot instead of clusters (tracts)
- ❑ All sample plots are permanent
- ❑ Big number of measured parameters (117) – one sample plot per day of work instead of cluster
- ❑ Low intensity of SFI – in 10 years covered 44% of needed area
- ❑ Non focused only on quantitative forest parameters estimation, have a number of other targets - monitorings
- ❑ Deal with only forest lands

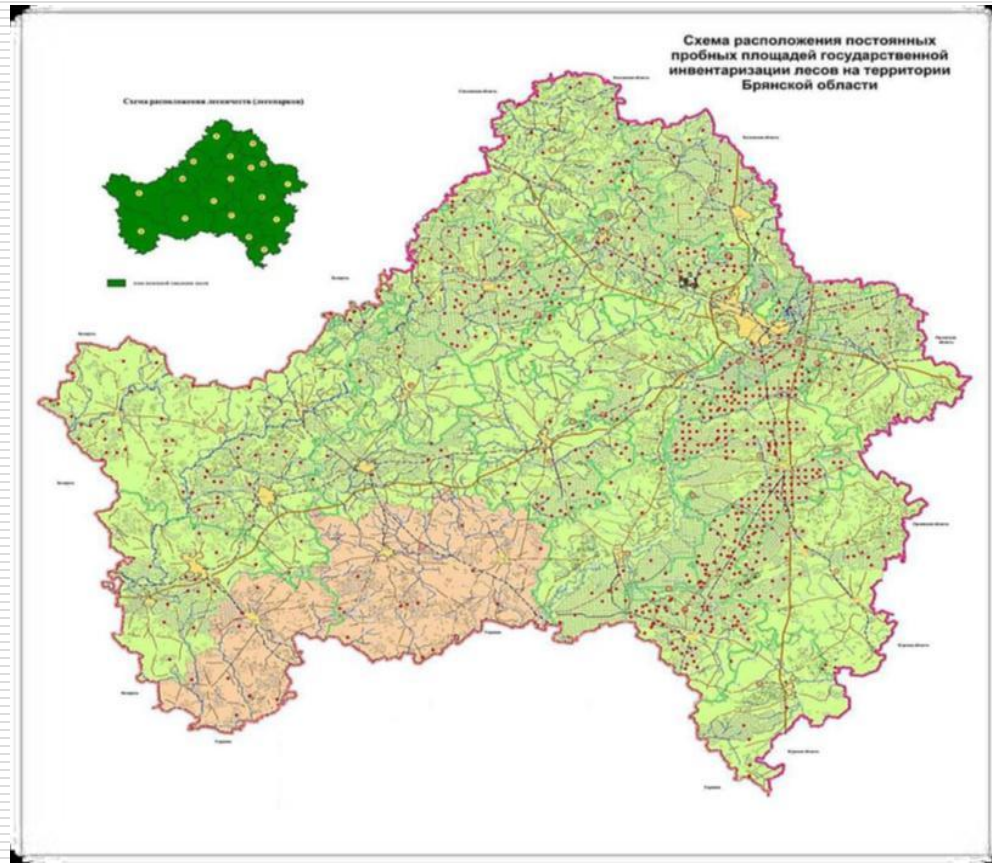
The main reason why sample plots may fall not in prescribed strata

- ❑ The reason why a sample plots may not be located in the target stratum are mainly related with the heterogeneity of forest compartments which are the basic units for the determination of a stratum.
- ❑ Even compartments with a minimum area of 3 hectares may be heterogeneous regarding species composition, age, yield and density class. A sample plot with an area of 500 m² or 1.7% of 3 hectares may easily fall into a part that belongs to a stratum which differs from the target stratum, which is more likely to happen in large compartments.

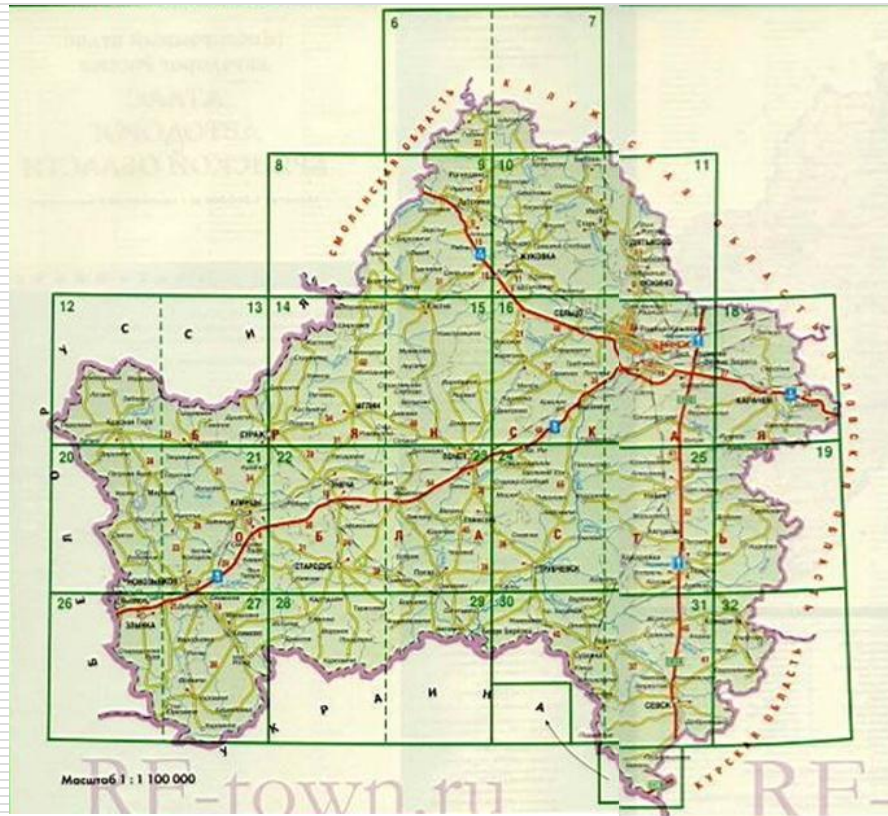
Example - strata uncovered by forest lands appears to be covered by forest on 80% by a number of tree species

Преобл. порода	Страта / Площадь		
	Не покрытые лесной растительностью земли		
	га	($\alpha = 0.05$)	%
СОСНА обыкновенная	66,302.9	(36,385.6 - 83,220.2)	25.0
ЕЛЬ сибирская	4,420.2	(0.0 - 13,265.2)	1.7
ПИХТА сибирская	4,420.2	(0.0 - 13,265.2)	1.7
ЛИСТВЕННИЦА сибирская	13,260.6	(0.0 - 28,318.6)	5.0
КЕДР сибирский	-	-	-
КЛЕН ясенелистный	-	-	-
БЕРЕЗА бородавчатая	70,723.1	(40,169.9 - 101,276.3)	26.5
ОСИНА	39,781.7	(15,111.3 - 64,452.2)	15.0
ТОПОЛЬ бальзамический	-	-	-
ТОПОЛЬ белый	-	-	-
ТОПОЛЬ черный	-	-	-
ИВА (древовидная) белая	4,420.2	(0.0 - 13,265.2)	1.7
ИВА (древовидная) ломкая	4,420.2	(0.0 - 13,265.2)	1.7
РЯБИНА обыкновенная	-	-	-
ЧЕРЕМУХА кистевая	-	-	-
ИВА (тальники) козья	-	-	-
ИВА (тальники) остролистная	-	-	-
Сухостойный лес	4,420.2	(0.0 - 13,265.2)	1.7
Не покрытые лесом земли	53,042.3	(25,405.9 - 80,678.7)	20.0
Итого	285,211.6		100.0

Example of random sampling design for Bryansk region – clustering of sample plots



Road map of Bryansk region



SFI activity dynamics

Years	Number of sample plots	Covered area, millions ha
2008	9810	26,1
2009	6033	23,0
2010	4926	40,5
2011	4549	38,3
2012	6585	61,6
2013	2428	21,7
2014	4800	42,0
2015	1869	19,8
Total	41000	273,0

SFI plans according to State program of forestry development

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Coverage of forest area by SFI, %	21	29	39	44	52	63	71	80

SFI extent (violet – finished, green – ongoing)



Thank you for attention!