

USE OF FIRE IN NATIONAL PRACTICE IN RUSSIA: EXPERIENCE

Valentin V. Furyaev

Sukachev Institute of Forests, Russian Academy of Sciences, Siberian Branch, Krasnoyarsk, Russia

ABSTRACT

The questions concerning the use of prescription fires in Russian agriculture and forestry attracted the attention of researchers long ago. Different regions of the country have diverse experiences in this respect. As to the use of fires in forestry, there are different points of view conditioned by the specific features of the regions. Prescribed burning in Russia has been carried out as experiments. As equals to the foreign foresters in firefighting, we evidently lag behind them in using prescription fire in forestry. But let's hope that in due course our foresters will overcome their fear of fire, which is a peculiar psychological barrier. There are serious grounds for such hopes. Students at university forestry programs have started to study the forest pyrology, and scientists are gradually creating a theoretical basis for the practical use of fire in forestry. Prescribed burning is very complex work, since the weather conditions, the season, and the time of the burn must be chosen in such a way as to gain the maximum benefit and the minimum damage for the forest growing on a particular area.

Citation: Furyaev, Valentin V. 1998. Use of fire in national practice in Russia: experience. Page 403 in Teresa L. Pruden and Leonard A. Brennan (eds.). Fire in ecosystem management: shifting the paradigm from suppression to prescription. Tall Timbers Fire Ecology Conference Proceedings, No. 20. Tall Timbers Research Station, Tallahassee, FL.