

## CTL harvesting methods under hilly conditions in north Japan

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### Abstract

Increasing forest growing stock has raised concerns about productivities and sustainability of timber production in Japan. Forest sectors are putting efforts to improve productivity of wood harvesting for the realization of the “Forest and Forestry Revitalization Plan”, which launched in 2009 as a part of the “Japanese Government New Economic Development Strategy”. In that circumstances, the mechanized CTL method, that is considered the best harvesting technique in terms of productivity, workload, and safety, is been spreading in hilly forests in northern Japan. We explored the method by examining some CTL harvesting sites using excavator base harvesters and a purposed built harvester in productivity, safety, and harvesting impacts in Hokkaido, northern island of Japan

### Keywords

CTL harvesting method, Harvesters, Productivity, Harvesting impacts