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Check those dates!

When we first learned that the Weed Society of America and the Aquatic Weed Control Society were holding their annual meetings during the same week next year, we were dismayed, because there are so many industrialmen who wish to attend both sessions.

It is heartening that the two groups have agreed to hold joint sessions for people who have a stake in both fields (W&T, Oct., pg. W-34). Material presented at conferences such as these, which go on all over the country, all year long, is invaluable to applicators who want to keep up with what's new in the industry... it's a shame when conflicting dates make it necessary to choose between one important seminar and another.

We suggest that the heads of the various regional weed conferences, turf associations, applicator organizations, and similar groups get together when they draw up plans for future meetings, so that duplication of dates can be avoided. Perhaps this is already done to a certain degree by some of the long-established societies; it should be done by all.

Readers have written us that they appreciate Weeds and Turf because it is a clearinghouse of news about such conferences and because we try to report in detail what goes on, so that those who have to miss the session will still get some of the benefit. While we rejoice in this reader appreciation, we must nevertheless insist that there's nothing so valuable as actual attendance.

We will continue (and expand) our policy of detailed reporting of as many meetings as we can, and we will continue to urge our readers to attend these industry confabs. We hope the associations will help themselves by making sure a scheduled get-together does not have to vie with another conference slated for the same dates.