Well Received

I want to thank you for reviewing my booklet, HOME LAWN CARE, in the August issue of your magazine. Several orders have already been received and many many lead to big sales in the future ... Melvin J. Robey, West Lafayette, Indiana.

As Good As Done

As Park Superintendent for the City of New Richmond, I find the material presented in your magazine WEEDS TREES AND TURF very helpful in development and maintenance of our park systems. However since I must go to the library to read each issue, I sometimes miss a month's copy. Therefore I would like to have my name added to your list.

I was very surprised to find myself pictured on a front cover of a recent issue. The cover showed several of us standing around an elm tree in Eau Claire, being shown how to use the chemical called Benlate. This summer I used Benlate a great deal in New Richmond to help stop the spread of Dutch Elm Disease ... Curt Gerken, River Falls, Wisconsin.

Trees Suffer Stress

Plants Pathologist Says

Stress.

You've heard of it. You know humans and animals suffer from it. But did you know trees also suffer stress?

Today, many trees that line urban streets and communities are showing signs of stress, says Donald H. Scott, Purdue University extension plant pathologist.

Weather conditions of recent years and tree location figure prominently as cause of this stress, he adds.

While maples are the most severely affected, damage is also apparent among pin oak, ash, locust and other street planted trees.

One symptom of stress is thin foliage.

Another stress symptom, known as leaf scorch, appears on trees in late summer and early fall. Leaf scorch is evident in the browning and dying of leaves at the margins and progressing toward the mid vein.

Shortly, still another symptom of stress may appear, warns Scott. This is premature fall coloration and defoliation of leaves. Many affected trees already have started to die back from the top or have individual limbs that have died.

Open winters, extreme and rapid changes in winter temperatures and drought are all weather conditions that have affected trees in the last three or four years, the plant pathologist adds. Besides weather conditions street planted trees sustain stress from root systems restricted by sidewalks, streets and building.

Futhermore, the root systems of these trees are often damaged by digging, by continuous compacting of the soil or by a buildup of salt concentrations in the soil from de-icing operations. Then, too, trunks of such trees are often scarred by lawn mowers, automobiles or other mechanical devices.

Symptoms of stress often resemble symptoms of an infectious disease. For the most part, however, plant pathologists at Purdue have been unable to isolate any infectious disease agent from a majority of the trees studied.

Symptoms of stress generally become progressive, notes Scott. Affected trees sometimes die unless the stress factors are removed. Removing stress is difficult and often impossible, he realizes, especially with trees planted along streets.

Proper fertilization, pruning and watering of trees, however, will prolong their useful life, he concludes.

A Real Weed Problem

How do you get rid of tules. We have two kinds that give us trouble. I really don't know the correct names but one is the round tule and the other is a flat tule. On a dry year, we can disc and disc and chop them back in good order but this is not always the case. Is there any good material that will go down and kill the roots? I have tried Ureabor which does well on everything but does not seem to affect tules ... Jim B. Nielsen, Watsonville, California.

ANSWER: We don't know what tules really are. We'd suggest contacting an area extension weed specialist or send a sample of the weed to your local Land Grant University.

Strong Hunter Reaction

I have enjoyed reading your magazine and its many informative articles but a recent article just didn't seem fair.

The article was concerned with expelled shot laying around lake bottoms and other wildlife habitat.

First of all it used estimates of either two or three million. Now there is a great deal of difference between the two.

It referred to the wildlife as our feathered friends.

Many people who do not hunt or are against hunting and guns really take these articles seriously. They think all sportsmen are either insane or have some kind of mental problem.

All articles like yours that misprint the facts or guess at estimates only do harm to a sport enjoyed by a great many people.

If it were not for sportsmen paying tax on shells and guns and purchasing licenses there would be a great deal less of any kind of wildlife. There is very little money spent by people like the person who must have written this article to support our wildlife.

I am a grounds superintendent, and am very much concerned in the out of doors in all aspects.

Please remember no sportsman wishes to deplete our wildlife resources. We only wish to keep them plentiful so we can continue our sport ... Ronald E. Fulked, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Golf Course Builders Prepare Membership Directory

A special membership directory of the nation's golf course contractors and suppliers is being prepared by the Golf Course Builders of America.

Harry J. Lambeth, executive director of the Washington-based organization, says the booklet will be pocket-sized and feature a full page for each Builder member. Associate or supplier members will be given a half-page. The publication will be sent at no charge to golf course architects and to persons planning golf courses.

The Golf Course Builders of America, now two years old, has a membership of 35 firms stretching from British Columbia and California to Florida and Massachusetts. Pennsylvania and Ohio lead the states in members. Pennsylvania has six members and Ohio five. There are three from Texas.