The readers write...

Readers. I just love ‘em.

Especially the readers of WEEDS TREES & TURF. Why? Because you know what kind of information you need from your trade magazines, and you’re not afraid to speak up.

In the past 12 months, we’ve received hundreds of Reader Feedback Cards, which help us plan our editorial calendar.

For instance, Mike Hein of Inshalla Country Club in Tomahawk, Wis., and vegetation management officer Rene Roddick of Vancouver, British Columbia, both had the same idea. They want information on cultural weed management alternatives to herbicide application. In this age of chemical sensitivity, that’s not a bad idea.

Bill Kreiger of Larimore Golf Club, Larimore, N.D., tells us, “I’d like to see more articles on blankets to protect greens over winter in the north country.” Not long ago, this was the topic of a speech given by Dr. John Roberts of the University of New Hampshire at the Ohio Turfgrass Conference. And it’s a fascinating subject, one which our magazine will doubtless deal with this fall.

J. Garfinkle of Great Neck, N.Y., suggests “more photos for insect and weed species, accurately and clearly defining parts, and an article detailing control for those species.” Mike Martin of Water Oak Golf Course, Eustis, Fla., says “I’d like to see more articles on small engine trouble-shooting, golf cart maintenance, and trouble-shooting.” Not bad ideas.

“Sometimes after I have read some of your more technical articles,” writes Mike Breeden of Mercer County Elks Golf Course, Celina, Ohio, “I wonder how much of it I understood or remembered. I would like to see an occasional quiz to test my retention of the material.” That would be a radical departure for WEEDS TREES & TURF, but it’s something the editors can discuss.

Unfortunately, we can’t follow up on some ideas—even terrific ones. Robert Presgrave, a lawn care operator in Fairfax, Va., has a good one that we’d love to try. But it would be too expensive to implement. “I’d like to see more test-report articles on tractors, mowers, and chain saws,” Presgrave writes. “Over the years, I’ve read articles in car magazines where they would run tests on a certain car and then report their results. I feel this may prove interesting with various equipment attachments and tractors.”

We at WT&T like to think we’re responsive to our readers’ needs. So keep those cards and letters rolling in.

Ah, readers. I just love ‘em.

Jerry Roche, editor

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