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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, this season is no different than others. Mother Nature has shown us again that what ever preparations you make you can not always win. This spring is no exception. I am sure we were all relaxed coming out of winter with all the snow cover, only to find the lingering cold creating difficult problems. After our last meeting at Woodridge Country Club, it seemed very evident that all clubs experienced varied amounts of damage. Fortunately for us, we had in attendance that day a representative of the Chicago District Golf Association to hear that our problems were wide spread. Also, I followed up with a letter to the Chicago District Association relating comments made at our meeting and from letters received from some of our members. I hope they will in turn get the information out to their membership.

The Midwest Association has received a very nice letter of appreciation due to the flower show in Chicago. They wish to thank everyone for the time and effort put into our booth. Also, they hope we will continue to participate in future years.

Joe Grenko

#### OAK WILT DISEASE

Resistance to the oak wilt disease has been found in red oak seedlings in Wisconsin. From more than a thousand seedlings tested, Agricultural Research Service and University of Wisconsin scientists screened out 17 resistant seedlings.

These seedlings developed no oak wilt symptoms after we used a hypodermic needle to inoculate them with the fungal disease-causing organism in 3 successive years, according to Dr. Richard D. Durbin, University of Wisconsin plant pathologist. Further research is being conducted to find out whether the seedlings may still succumb to infections by natural agents such as beetles.

"If the promising results of our screening are further confirmed, resistant red oaks could be multiplied in sufficient numbers for the nursery trade within a few years," says Dr. Durbin.

Oak wilt has spread alarmingly during the past three decades in Eastern and Central States where oaks are the leading hardwood timber species and also important as shade trees. Some researchers have predicted that within the next 30 years about half of the Nation's oak trees may be afflicted.