

Reading...

By Dan McNamara, HHH Horticultural

TREES OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE. Roger Phillips. 1978 New York, Random House. 224pp. \$15.00, hardback; \$9.00, paper.

This color photographic guide to over 500 species and varieties of trees, primarily ornamentals, is the answer to many a prayer for help in identification.

Rather than a verbal key, the book is based on a 50-page "Leaf Index" where 512 leaves and foliage samples have been grouped according to shape. These include practically all of the most common and important trees found in the temperate climatic zones. Each leaf is labeled with its Latin botanical name, its common name(s), and the page number for its place in the main text.

Trees in the large main section are arranged alphabetically by botanical name. Each entry in this section illustrates three aspects of the tree: a photograph of the flowers; a photograph of the fruit; and a line drawing of the adult tree form. In the drawings, deciduous trees are shown leafless, semi-evergreens have a partial covering of leaves, and evergreens are shown in full canopy.

Concise descriptions give origins, mature heights, flowering times, and additional notes on flowers, leaves and bark to better assure accurate identification.

In addition to these two primary sections of the book there are two spreads of Autumn leaves (which landscape designers might well bear in mind) and three more of bark details. An index of common names tops off the volume.

While the **TREE IDENTIFICATION BOOK** by George W.D. Symonds has a similar "visual key" approach — even more complete than the current book in that it shows bud, twig, bark, berry and leaf details — it is limited to American natives and illustrated by black and white photos. The difference that color makes in identification is great.

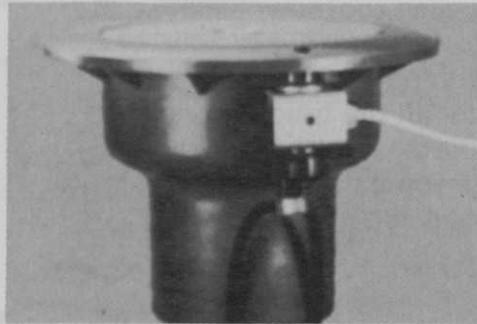
TREES OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE is worthy of a permanent place on the reference shelf of every grounds manager. It has already had enthusiastic reception at many trade shows across the country, from golf course designers, course managers, extension personnel and nurserymen. If there is a fault to find, it can only be with the choices of common names; those used are not always the most popular in American usage. It's an excellent book, well produced, and priced right.

Product literature

Winter opportunity

Trak Incorporated has a nine-page brochure introducing their winter cross-country skiing method of increasing golf course revenues. In the brochure, Trak tells how to get started with their program through use of their consultant service and on-going assistance in establishing a touring center operation.

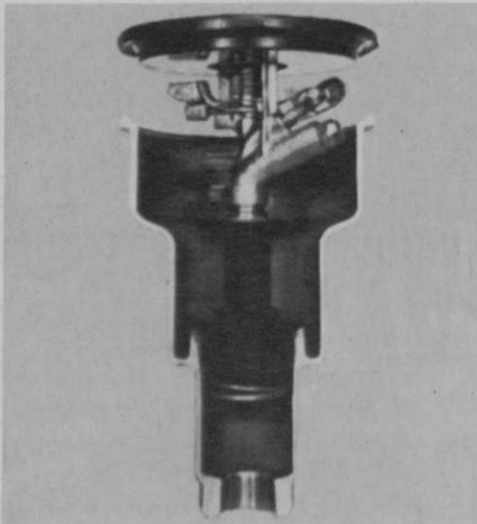
Circle 221 on free information card



Valve-in-head sprinklers

Johns-Manville offers literature describing their electric, hydraulic, and Stop-Flo-Matic models of Buckner rotary pop-up, valve-in-head sprinklers. The information includes construction details, dimension drawings, and a description of available models. A flow characteristic chart details pressure at sprinkler base, flow rate, effective radius of coverage, maximum triangular spacing and precipitation per hour.

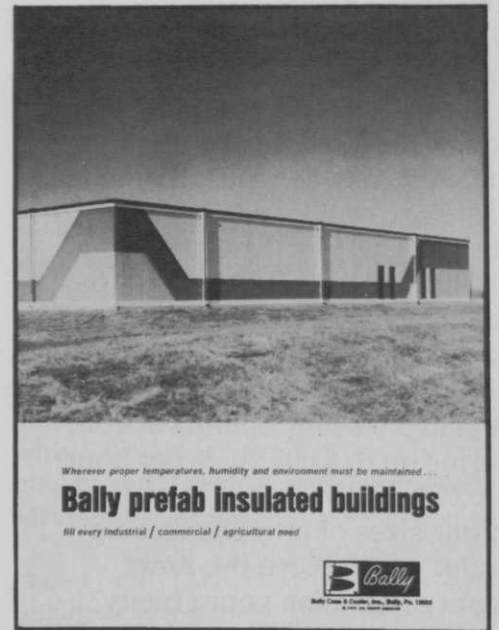
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Impact sprinkler

A new data sheet from Johns-Manville details special design features of the 8200 series Buckner Impact Sprinkler. The sheet presents pressure at sprinkler base, flow rate, effective radius of coverage, maximum triangular spacing and precipitation per hour for each of six models.

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Metal buildings

An eight-page color brochure available from Bally Case & Cooler outlines the design and construction features of prefabricated metal buildings. Accompanying the brochure is a description form designed to help prospects in planning their metal buildings utilizing Bally's free design and engineering service.

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Soil amendment

A technical service bulletin from industrial Minerals Division of IMC Chemical Group describes Turface, a calcined mineral aggregate designed to provide a constantly friable soil. The bulletin describes how to use the soil amendment, and with photos, describes what it will do.

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Backhoe loader

Massey-Ferguson has a brochure available describing the performance features and operating capabilities of their new 68-hp backhoe loader, the MF60. The 24-page, illustrated brochure highlights to MF60's load-sensing, variable-pressure, variable-flow hydraulic system. Optional features covered in the booklet include a factory-installed extendable dipper to increase digging depth up to four feet, a ROPS mounted cab, an automatic return to dig, hydraulic boom lockout, and additional loader and backhoe buckets for special applications.

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