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NEWSLETTER MAILBAG

I recently received a letter from Richard Malpass, member of the Executive Committee of GCSAA in which Dick told me of a serious power shortage of electricity they are enduring along with the worst drought they have encountered in 94 years.

As Dick put it:

"Along with you, this has been a trying year. We have suffered the worst drought in 94 years. We are quite dependent upon hydroelectric power and it appears that we may very well have to cut our useage of electricity as much as 30% this Winter. With an all-electric home, this gives one some cause for concern. Even now half of the freeway lighting has been shut off, all advertising signs turned off, and nearly half of the lighting in stores, public buildings, offices, etc. Thermostats are turned lower, air conditioning comes on at higher temperatures. Hot water faucet handles have been removed in many public buildings to save hot water heated by electricity. All of this in a portion of the United States enjoying the lowest electrical power rates and in an area more highly electrified than any other area in the nation. It now appears also, that there will be a shortage of natural gas to add to the shortage of gasoline and heating oils. This should be an interesting winter.

"Unfortunately the power situation affects Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Western Montana, part of Wyoming, and part of British Columbia. So there will be a lot of us in the same boat if we have a severe winter.

"Well, that should be enough for our problems. We hope to see many of you in Anaheim for the 1974 Conference and Show. The Southern California superintendents are going all out to make this a memorable visit."

We, in the Mid-Atlantic, often assume our problems surpass those of any other geographical area - but it looks like nobody escaped the year of 1973 - without going a step backward.

BAGWORMS

If you had bagworm problems this summer make sure you pick off all bags before next spring. A portion of the bags that hang on shrubs over winter contain eggs which would initiate next spring's infestation.

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