

TO OUR READERS

This week marks my first anniversary as editor of WEEDS TREES & TURF. It has been a most enlightening and enjoyable year, thanks, in large measure, to you.

I have been most fortunate to meet many of you at conventions and conferences and through letters and telephone calls as well as through story assignments. And Assistant Editor Ron Morris and I plan even more travelling in the months ahead.

Morris has just returned from St. Paul and the Sod Producers Association annual meeting. Full coverage will appear in next month's issue. "After the three-day meeting, I felt like I knew a little about the sod business and that the people who knew a lot had learned even more," he says. What more can we say about the success of this record attendance convention.

The Pennsylvania Allied Nursery Trade Show in Hershey was a similar success. We had the pleasure of introducing our new publication, LAWN CARE INDUSTRY, there, which was received most enthusiastically. Many of those who attended from all over the country were regular WEEDS TREES & TURF readers.

On page 12 you'll find the results of another conference in "Conserving water with Purr-Wick." Morris, who wrote the story, met Don Parsons, the enthusiastic and articulate superintendent of Knollwood Golf Course, who has had very successful results with this system following Parsons' presentation at the Turfgrass Sprinkler Irrigation Conference at Lake Arrowhead, Calif. last month. But read the story for yourself.

Drought and what to do about it, was the theme of the meeting. A report of other highlights appears on page 34.



Parsons at Lake Arrowhead

Art Spomer, associate professor of plant pathology in horticulture at the University of Illinois, updates the principles of soil physical amendments on page 26.

Special thanks go out this month to the four men who are assisting us in the selection of winners in the WEEDS TREES & TURF First Annual Outstanding Achievement Awards to be announced next month. They are: Dr. Ray Freeborg, research agronomist at Purdue University; Dr. Henry Indyk, extension specialist in turfgrass management at the College of Agriculture and Environmental Science, Rutgers University; Dr. Fred Grau, executive director, emeritus, of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, and Dr. David Martin, extension agronomist and assistant professor at Ohio State University. For more about these prominent men in the turfgrass field and more about the awards, please see page 16.

Next we head for Philadelphia for the International Society of Arboriculture Annual Convention, incidentally, covering this convention last year in St. Louis, was my first assignment for WEEDS TREES & TURF. I look forward to seeing many of the friends I met in St. Louis again. If you plan to attend, please stop by the WEEDS TREES & TURF booth. We appreciate your comments.

Gail D. Hogan