

## LETTERS

**Tree injection rebuttal**

Dr. Funk's reply to "Pennsylvania" (WTT, June, 1981) reflected a narrow, misleading, uninformed view of Mauguet injections. None of the "data" Davey refers to has been published, has it?

1. Mauguet has advocated for the past two years in the N.E. the use of a *predrilled injection site* (11/64" diameter 3/8" deep into the xylem) as preferred to the insertion tool method of injection as demonstrated by published data (J. of Arbor. 6 (8) 1980).

2. Mauguet for the past three (3) years had *NOT* advocated "trunk injection" but rather *Rootflare Micro-injection* sites. There is a vast difference. These data have been published (J. of Arbor. 6 (8) 1980).

3. The "distribution and uptake" of chemical by 40 psi method is *not* advocated by many scientists. We do *not* require more than 6-8 psi in the Mauguet system to achieve very satisfactory "distribution and uptake."

4. Mauguet has had EPA label expansion for the use of Inject-A-Cide B to effectively manage the Bronze Birch Borer in Birch in the N.E. since 1978. Its continuing studies with dogwood borer are most encouraging as are studies with scales. They anticipate label clearance for both of these pests.

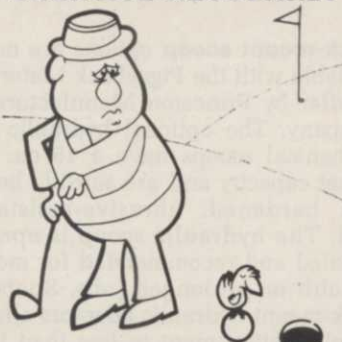
5. Dr. Funk failed to respond to the reader's question concerning "convenience" and "expense." There is no more "convenient," safe, labor efficient technology than the Mauguet method. Relative to costs — my results with the Mauguet Stemix-Hi Volume fertilizer via rootflare micro-injection average one third (1/3) *LESS* than conventional "soil fertilizing." Biological efficacy obtained is superior to conventional fertilizing especially with urban trees.

In Davey's "continuing research" on "trunk injections" I would strongly urge them to evaluate the Mauguet technology modified to use a drill and making injection sites in the root-flare of the tree. Davey has the opportunity to

refute the above statements or at the very least to move into a fuller understanding of the changing world of "tree injection" to allow better balanced answers to your readers.

Sincerely yours,  
Arthur C. Costonis, Ph.D.  
Systemics, Inc.  
Westwood, Mass.

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