

## LETTERS

**Change of seasons**

Mr. Chapman must be using some arcane calendar because he claims midsummer is anywhere from late May to early July. My calendar, and those of most other of your readers, shows June 21st and 22 as the end of spring and the beginning of summer. Thus your article should have been titled late spring and early summer, for midsummer does not even begin until after all these trees have finished blooming.

I would have included the Japanese Tree Lilac which is a shrub that can be pruned into a single or multiple trunked tree form as a better recommendation. It is reliably hardy in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, and to my mind is much more showy than those listed.

Tree Hydrangias come closest to midsummer August blooming and Hercules' Club (*Aralia Spinosa*) too but neither gets to be truly far up over head so as to be tree-formed.

It seems an oddity that right when the weather is usually the very finest for

being out, few if any of trees or shrubs are in full bloom. Even the perennials seem to take a break about then with only a few phlox and plantain lilies and hardy amaryllis blooming. But if one is into native prairie plants one can have a wealth of bloom in mid- to late summer with cone flowers, sun flowers, black-eyed susans, asters and more.

But really now, lets not again mislead the readers by calling spring midsummer.

Alyn Hess  
Landscape Architect

**Useful magazine**

Please convey my appreciation to Douglas Chapman for his excellent series on trees. It expands our vision once again beyond the "old reliables" we repeatedly use.

In future issues, we would be interested in articles which dealt with topsoil: what is the accepted norm, typical specifications, modifications to improve, interpreting test lab reports, etc. Even among the "experts," we have

found a great range of opinions on all these items.

I know you continually do articles on grasses, but some get rather technical and don't always deal with the practicalities of specifying and using. We would like to see articles in the Doug Chapman vein, which dealt with bluegrasses, fescues, ryes, clovers, etc; what are the best types, new introductions which are proving successful and are available.

Dean A. Johnson, ASLA  
Johnson and Dee

**More foreman needed**

I read with great interest your article in the August, 1981 issue of *Weeds Trees & Turf* on co-op landscape students. Being relatively familiar with the program at Mississippi and most of the employers interviewed, I found the comments most interesting. One in particular struck a nerve, that of Wally SaBell's, regarding the need for more two-year programs rather than four-year programs. We employ graduates in supervisory and management levels, but find a great void at the working foreman and crew leader level. It would be appreciated if you would consider doing an article on two-year Vo-Tech landscape schools or should you have a list of associates degree colleges with landscape criterias, I would appreciate your sending me a copy or steering me to a source of this information.

Thank you very much for your assistance and I'll appreciate any help you'll give me along these lines.

Marshall Muginer, President  
Lafayette Nursery Sales  
Lafayette, LA


**Gypsy Moth Eggs**

I enjoy reading *Weeds, Trees and Turf* as it helps me keep up-to-date on new endeavors, materials and ideas in the tree industry. However, when I see articles about subjects that I am familiar with and find misleading information, I have to question other articles. I am referring to your "Gypsy Moth" article. Gypsy moths don't lay eggs in April and May (Pages 28 and 34). Also, the paragraph on page 104 implies that the male deposits the eggs. I believe you were referring to a successful mating and the resultant eggs from that mating.

Robert Partyka  
Director of Horticulture, Chemscape

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