

# Comments

## *Tree Planters' Notes*

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**Cover:** Aspen meadow in Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison National Forests, Colorado (photograph by R.E. Grossman, USDA Forest Service, Collbran, CO).

## Our New Editorial Policy Is Working!

We have now completed almost 2 years of publishing under our new format and editorial policy. From all accounts it has been a resounding success. We greatly appreciate your favorable comments and support throughout the transition process. I'd like to offer a few comments in retrospect.

The goal of the new editorial policy of peer-reviewing (by referees) some of the articles was to improve the manuscripts and increase the reputation of TPN. This has been achieved, I believe. Numerous comments from the nursery profession have reinforced this. Although some of our readers were not even aware or quite sure of our refereed status, the change-over has been a delicate balancing act. We are still focused intensely on practical "how-to" and equipment articles. These remain the bread and butter of TPN, and although they are not currently peer reviewed, they are reviewed closely by the editorial board consisting of myself, Tom Landis, Clark Lantz, Ron Overton, and Bob Karrfalt, as well as Rebecca Nisley, the managing editor. We are, in fact, helping authors to write articles for the journal. Many nursery managers are taking the time to write up "administrative studies," but we could always use more. We also hope the handsome new format will serve as an enticement for potential authors to take the time to submit manuscripts to us. We certainly do not want the peer-review process to restrict anyone from submitting practical articles.


I am also pleased to say that we are receiving manuscripts from new sources, including international organizations and previously unpublished authors in the reforestation community. We really appreciate your interest in the journal.

In addition to new sources of manuscripts, we are getting manuscripts regarding species that have not been the subject of many published articles. For example, in this issue we present an article on blue oak by McCreary and Tecklin, on hackberry by Anderson and Tauer, and on shortleaf pine by Barnett. Shifting the focus from the everpopular loblolly pine and Douglas-fir is, in my mind, a positive thing.

Our new "Comments" section has stirred up some interest-but it could be more effective I believe. We would like to hear from you. This section of the journal can be a valuable sounding board for airing important issues.

Our special features on the America the Beautiful National Tree Planting Program and on tropical reforestation have been instrumental in presenting a group of articles about current topics in reforestation.

Continuation



We plan to continue to present special features in response to arising needs. Some topics of interest for future issues include reforestation of wetlands, urban forestry phasing techniques, and possibly, more international reforestation features.

We appreciate your continued support and encourage you to send in your manuscripts.

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