

# Letter from the Editor

Dear TPN Reader,

This year marks the 75th anniversary of *Tree Planters' Notes*. The release of the very first issue in 1950 featured a list of forest tree (and a few other) nurseries and their production in the fiscal year. Back then, the purpose of the publication was being a platform for the nursery industry to share practical information, best practices, and the latest research. Today, the purpose remains steadfast in these core values so managers can produce the best plants for their intended purposes with the best chance for success. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service is proud to support a periodical that offers a forum for plant growers everywhere to share their knowledge. The agency continues to support free access to this publication in both hard copy and electronic formats to help meet the Forest Service mission of conserving forests for current and future generations.

*Tree Planters' Notes* reflects a humbleness and long-term mindset of the nursery industry and the greater reforestation and restoration space. Practitioners are always learning how plants grow and respond to their environments, and learning is a worthy investment. Research trials, particularly involving trees, require multiple collaborators across years—or even decades. In “Conifers’ Responses to Stock Types After 11 and 12 Years in Northern Idaho,” Hsu and Nelson report results from a study made possible through a partnership between private industry and the University of Idaho.

Another value of *Tree Planters' Notes* is that its longevity connects the present to the past. As Tom Landis shares in “Stories and Lessons Learned From a Career in Reforestation and Restoration Nurseries,” there is value in “consult[ing] published literature—even sometimes going way back—and the answer just might be there.”

And lastly, with the larger societal focus on making businesses efficient and profitable, we cannot overlook that nurseries, even nonprofit nurseries, are businesses too, accountable to employees, funders, customers, and accountants. However, there are future outcomes nurseries produce that have no line item on a balance sheet. The reforestation efforts described in Vradenburg’s article, “Reforestation of Nonindustrial Private Forest Lands Following Two Oregon Wildfires,” will grow trees that provide wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and generate future income for landowners in south-central Oregon. Starting a native plant nursery in a public school, as described by Vanderwal in “Incorporating Native Plant Restoration Nurseries into Public School Programs,” will produce future nursery employees and citizens aware of why supporting nurseries is a worthwhile investment.



Growing plants makes a difference,

Andrea Watts

*Tree Planters' Notes* (TPN) is published by the Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The purpose of *Tree Planters' Notes* is to benefit the nursery community by sharing information and raising awareness of issues related to nursery production and outplanting of trees, shrubs, and native plants for reforestation, conservation, and restoration.

TPN welcomes unsolicited manuscripts from readers on any subject related to nursery production. For editorial questions or to contribute an article, contact Editor Andrea Watts at [andrea.watts@rngr.net](mailto:andrea.watts@rngr.net). *Tree Planters' Notes* is available online (<https://rngr.net/publications/tpn>).

TPN accepts both technical and research articles; each is reviewed by the editor. Please see the guidelines for authors for details about editorial policy, formatting, style, and submission ([www.rngr.net/publications/tpn/author\\_guidelines](http://www.rngr.net/publications/tpn/author_guidelines)).