



ROOTDRINKER MAGAZINE's growth has been as slow as a tree, but as persistent as a pesky weed. The first issue appeared in the fall of 1975 and, since that time, we have published eleven issues. This current one will be the first of 5,000 copies.

Long-time readers will recognize a growing professionalism in design and layout. In the tradition of small press publications, ROOTDRINKER is a do-it-yourself operation, with hundreds of unpaid hours going into the preparation of each issue. While we don't like crooked lines, messy pages, missed deadlines, or irregular appearances on the newstands, we haven't yet figured out how to get rid of these problems completely. Yet, again in the tradition of the small press, we keep trying.

There are some good things about small presses and small publications. We like to think we're closer to the people we write for. It's not all surveys and market analysis and product-oriented hardsell for us and, although the hours are long, we believe in what we're doing.

The articles, photography, and artwork that have appeared in the pages of ROOTDRINKER so far speak highly of the talents and efforts of many different North Country people. As an outlet for these and the many more to come, ROOTDRINKER is here to stay. There's no lack of subject matter. Outside is a region of mountains and rivers, farms and village communities, cities and factories. There's a native soil and the knowledge of tools and materials that fit our locality. It's no easy task, but we'd like to report on them all—"from cirrus clouds to leaf mold," as Gary Snyder has put it.

