RichText() Sample Report Summary

NOTE: This report includes an automated table of contents. If you are using MS-Word, you can create the table of contents via the Insert\Indexes and Tables... option. Be sure to tell 'MS-Word' to generate the table from 'table entries', rather than from 'styles'.

This report is a demonstration of some of the capabilities of the RichText() class Xbase++, Version 1.0, rewritten by Paul C. Laney, and based on the Clipper & Fivewin version written by Tom Marchione.   This is the free version, which contains a basic feature set (please review the README file for certain minor usage restrictions). If you have any comments or questions, feel free to send an E-Mail to pclaney@compuserve.com.

RichText() lets you generate reports to RTF files, like this one.   RTF files can be read by most word processors, so this is a way to move fully-formatted information into word processor format, without lots of extra spaces and carriage returns.   The class can form the basis of a true database publishing system.

RichText() is not meant to be a front-line report engine in its current form, in the sense that database programmers expect report generators to have certain standard features.   Nevertheless, it can be very useful for meeting specialized, custom reporting requirements, particularly if you need to edit or manipulate the output.

In its current form, the system is fairly quirky.   The good news is that, generally, you can get exactly what you want in one or two code iterations.   I plan to address various usability issues in future versions.

The pages that follow contain some examples of the types of things that can be done with RichText().   Remember, RichText() is designed to link to a word processor, so its capabilities focus on standard word processing features, rather than the kinds of things that are important in a standard report generator.   Hope you find it useful!

Also Highbit characters are supported like ë =chr(137), è =chr(138), ï =chr(139), î =chr(140), ì =chr(141)

Sample Table Derived From VEGGIES.dbf

NAME	WEATHER	SEEDSIZE	TYPE	DAYS	STARTEARLY
Tomato	Warm/Hot	Medium	Fruit	75	.T.
Pepper	Warm/Hot	Medium	Fruit	80	.T.
Carrot	Cool/Warm	Small	Root	70	.F.
Corn	Warm/Hot	Large	Fruit	85	.F.
Potato	Cool/Warm		Root	60	.F.
Radish	Cool	Medium	Root	35	.F.
Squash	Warm	Large	Fruit	55	.T.
Cucumber	Warm	Large	Fruit	55	.F.
Bean	Warm/Hot	Large	Fruit	55	.F.
Onion	Cool/Warm		Root	90	.T.
Cabbage	Cool/Warm		Leaf	75	.T.
Broccoli	Cool/Warm		Leaf	75	.T.
Spinach	Cool/Warm	Small	Leaf	50	.F.
Beets	Cool/Warm		Root	75	.F.
Melons	Warm/Hot	Large	Fruit	90	.T.
Pumpkin	Warm/Hot	Large	Fruit	100	.T.

Sample Table Derived From FLOWERS.dbf

NAME	TYPE	SUN	DESCRIPTIO
Marigold	Annual	Full	Marigolds are easy to grow, and come in many different colors and sizes. The Burpee seed company developed a white marigold a few years ago. Most marigolds have a strong smell that scares away some bugs and animals, so plant them near your vegetables to scare away the rabbits!
Zinnia	Annual	Full	Zinnias are one of the best flowers for cutting. They have long, sturdy stems, and they last for a week or longer in a vase. Like marigolds, they are very easy to grow, and they come in many colors and sizes. Some books say that zinnias can be difficult to transplant, but I have never had any problems starting them from seed indoors.
Impatiens	Annual	Shade	Impatiens are wonderful, carefree clumps of color for those troublesome shady spots. They also do well in partial sun, but they tend to dry out and wilt if they don't get enough water. Impatiens require virtually no maintenance. They are excellent bedding and container plants, and will brighten up virtually any landscape. You can get plants in the spring at almost any retail outlet -- garden shops, home centers, even supermarkets.
Shasta Daisy	Perennial	Full	Shasta daisies are classic perennials that are right at home in informal, natural landscapes. They grow in clumps that seem to get a little bigger every year. If you divide the clumps every three or four years, they will become lifetime partners in your garden. Some daisies have long stems that need a little support, so plant these types next to fences or other structures.
Statice	Annual	Full	Statice is an interesting flower that is grown mainly for drying. The plant is low-growing, but sends up tall spikes of small flowers on curious, triangular stems. If you cut the flowers just as they are opening, and dry them in the house, they will last indefinitely in dried arrangements.
Cosmos	Annual	Full	Most cosmos are single flowers that grow on tall, bushy plants. They grow very fast, and can be used as a temporary hedge in the summer. The most popular colors are purple and white. Dwarf varieties are available, as well as a strange variety that has tubular petals.
Pansy	Perennial	Partial	Pansies are nice bedding plants that bloom in an endless variety of colors in the spring and fall. The petals are edible, and look very nice in salads.

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