

Re: select mline returns truncated values

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Fox/microsoft.public.fox.programmer.exchange/2005-10/msg00649.html>

- *From:* "Dan Freeman" <spam@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 25 Oct 2005 09:58:31 -0700
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Your output columns must be a consistent width. No SQL implementation supports variable width columns.

Use PADR() to force your column widths.

Dan

Matthew L Reed wrote:

- > This is an issue I remember from years ago, but don't remember the
- > solution. Do this:
- >
- > CREATE CURSOR zoot (zz m, SelectMe L)
- > INSERT INTO zoot (zz, SelectMe) VALUES ('aa' + CHR(13) + 'bb' +
- > CHR(13) + 'cc', .F.)
- > INSERT INTO zoot (zz, SelectMe) VALUES ('aa' + CHR(13) + 'bbbb' +
- > CHR(13) + 'cccccccc', .T.)
- > INSERT INTO zoot (zz, SelectMe) VALUES ('aa' + CHR(13) + 'bbbb' +
- > CHR(13) + 'cccccccc', .T.)
- > INSERT INTO zoot (zz, SelectMe) VALUES ('aa' + CHR(13) + 'bbbb' +
- > CHR(13) + 'cccccccc', .T.)
- > SELECT MLINE(zz,2) FROM zoot WHERE SelectMe
- >
- > Look at your output. Notice that the data is truncated and instead of
- > 'bbbb', we only get 'bb'. Look at the structure of your cursor. It
- > is c(2). This is what VFP does – it evaluates the first record in the
- > table and uses that to determine the width of the field in your
- > output cursor, regardless of whether or not this record is actually
- > included in the result set. The filter on SelectMe proves this, as
- > the first record is not included in the output set, yet VFP still
- > evaluates it with the MLINE function from the SELECT statement. In
- > this case, the first record returns 'bb', so the query engine assumes
- > that we want an output structure with c(2). This causes truncation of
- > any data that exceeds c(2) in other fields.
- >
- > I hesitate to call this a bug, as Fox has always done this. It's more
- > of a stupid feature by design.
- >
- > Question – how to work around this?

- **Follow-Ups:**
 - ◆ **Re: select mline returns truncated values**
 - ◇ From: Matthew L Reed

- **References:**
 - ◆ **select mline returns truncated values**
 - ◇ From: Matthew L Reed

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