

COURSE OUTLINE

HORT-240

Turf Grass Management

3 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course involves the management of turf grasses for both landscape and recreational uses. At the end of the course, the student should have a working knowledge of grass varieties and their uses: use of a key in plant grass identification; growth requirements including temperature, fertilizers, irrigation and drainage; pest identification and control including fungi, nematodes, insects and weeds; cultivation (planting and mowing) thatch management and auxiliary practices; sod establishment; and golf course practices. (2 hours lecture, 2 hours lab)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the major types of turf grasses.
2. Identify the relationship between proper mowing, liming, variety selection and a successful turf.
3. Identify and manage turf pest problems with reduced application of traditional pesticides.
4. Develop a turf management program for both commercial and home lawns.
5. Define IPM practices as they apply to turf.
6. Identify steps to improve a lawn.
7. Identify steps to completely renovate a lawn.
8. Select the appropriate fertilizer program for turf.
9. Specify how to read a soil test result.
10. Identify common turf weeds and a strategy to reduce/prevent them.

Major Topics

- I. Characteristics of Grasses
 - A. Cool Season
 - B. Bluegrass
 - C. Tall Fescue
 - D. Creeping Red Fescue
 - E. Rye
 - F. Warm Season
 - G. Zoysia
 - H. Bermuda

- II. Soil pH and Nutrient Requirements of Turf
- III. Installation of a New Lawn
- IV. Total Lawn Renovation
- V. Weed Identification and Control
- VI. Turf Insect and Disease Identification and Control
- VII. Pesticides Used in the Lawn Care Industry
- VIII. Integrated Pest Management Techniques

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will be based on lecture test, quizzes and lab exams.

Other Course Information

This course is a course in the Plant Science program.