



PSSC 2470 Fall 2014
Introduction to Turfgrass Science
Tarleton State University
Laboratory Syllabus

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>	<u>HW:</u>
August 27	Turf Plot Tour	
September 03	Warm-Season Turfgrass Identification http://turf.tamu.edu/aggieturf2/grasswee/grasses/grasskey/startkey.html http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/turfid/	Emmons, Apend. D
	10 Cool-Season Turfgrass Identification	Emmons, Apend. D
	17 Boom Sprayer Calibration	Christians Chap. 6
	24 Rotary and Drop Spreader Calibration	Emmons, Apend. B
October 01	Calibrate for ryegrass seeding and prepare areas	Emmons, Apend. C;
	08 Seed ryegrass areas and overseed TifSport	Emmons, Chapter 9; Christians Chap. 8
	15 Tall Fescue Planting at the Turfgrass Field	
	22 Area Calculations	
	29 ID Quiz, Drop Spreader Calibration Video	Christians, Chapt. 2
November 05	Irrigation Evaluation	
	12 Move Fountaingrass inside Greenhouse	Emmons, Chap. 12; Christians Chap. 7
	19 Turfgrass Seed Identification and pure, live seed	Emmons, Apend E;
	26 Fertilize Tall Fescue	
December 03	Fertilizer Label and Calculations	Emmons Chap. 6, 24; Christians Chap. 4

You will need a scientific calculator for every class and lab. Calculator needs to have π , $\sqrt{\quad}$, memory, x^2 , etc. You will need a pocketknife or razor blade to open fertilizer and seed bags at every lab.

Instructor: Dr. Hennen Cummings
Office: 203 C Agriculture (AG)
Office Hours: Wed. (1-3 PM). Please make an appointment for important issues.
Telephone: 968-9223 (O)
Email: hcummings@tarleton.edu
Website: <http://www.tarleton.edu/~hcummings>

Lab Schedule: T 1:00-2:50 PM HRTCT 106 or Turfgrass Field Laboratory and Greenhouse

Required Text: Turfgrass Science and Management. 4th Edition. Robert Emmons
The Mathematics of Turfgrass Maintenance. 4th Ed. Nick Christians.

Office Hours: If you have questions, please schedule an appointment or come by AG Rm. 203 C. If you schedule an appointment, please call me if you cannot make it. If you want to meet with me briefly, please meet with me after class and **NOT** just before class begins.

Course Objectives:

- 1) To be able to list the identifying characteristics of various turf species and identify unknown specimens.
- 2) To be able to calibrate drop and rotary spreaders and a sprayer.
- 3) To be able to determine how much of a given product should be applied over a given area.

Attendance and Grading Policy: Research has shown that if one attends class regularly, one will perform better



than if one were sporadic in one's attendance. Part of responsible attendance is coming to class on time. Late arrival distracts the learners who have committed themselves to responsible learning. The location of the lab or lecture will change periodically; regular attendance is necessary so the class can respond to unforeseen opportunities. Students should inform the instructor in writing if they anticipate being absent for a valid reason. Excuses for emergency absences (due to illness, injury, or death in the family) should be reported to the instructor as soon as possible. Some quizzes will be unannounced, so you need to be prepared each week. Attendance is mandatory and will be counted at the beginning and end of lab. **Labs exercises cannot be recreated. If you miss three labs for ANY reason, your lab grade will be 0.** Absences can only be justified if reasons are given before class starts in **WRITTEN** fashion (paper or e-mail). **You will need a scientific calculator for every class and lab. Calculator needs to have π , $\sqrt{\quad}$, memory, x^2 , etc., and you need to know how to use them. No whining is allowed in labs.** Labs will never be canceled due to bad weather like rain. You will need a knife or razor blade in labs to cut rope or open fertilizer and seed bags. Wash hands after every lab. Make certain that you write down everything that I write on the whiteboard.

Laboratory exercises will contribute to the final grade as follows: Homework (20%), participation (20%), and quizzes (60%). The total of these grades will constitute 25% of the final grade. The lecture will constitute the other 75%. There will be several unannounced oral quizzes.

Academic Integrity: There is a zero tolerance policy for cheating. Both the giver of information and receiver of information will receive a zero on the assignment. Further actions may be taken depending on the severity of the situation. All department and university policies will be followed (See catalogue). Students will write the honor pledge from memory on all assignments. **“On my honor, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this test or assignment because a Texan does not lie, cheat, litter, steal, or toleration people who do”** and sign their name. Failure to write the pledge properly will result in a reduction of the possible points on the test or assignment. Scholarly activity is marked by honesty, fairness, and hard work. A scholar does not take credit for someone else's work, take advantage of others, or behave in such a manner that frustrates others. Frankly, cheating will not be tolerated because it is wrong!

Students with Disabilities: In accordance with TX State's policy on working with students with disabilities, "No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States. . . shall, solely by reason of his handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." If you have any disabilities, please notify your instructor. (See catalogue). It is the policy of Tarleton State University to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other applicable laws. If you are a student with a disability seeking accommodations for this course, please contact Trina Geye, Director of Student Disability Services, at 254.968.9400 or geye@tarleton.edu. Student Disability Services is located in Math 201. More information can be found at www.tarleton.edu/sds or in the University Catalog.

Safety: Be aware of your surroundings when at the Turfgrass Field Laboratory and Greenhouse. At turf facilities, there may be irrigation valve boxes with missing covers. There may be fire ants or other stinging insects and spiders, motorized equipment, items under pressure, or low tree branches. The instructor will advise students on the location of fire extinguishers and evacuation routes. In the event of an emergency and building is evacuated, please meet in the field across the parking lot from the Hort Center so attendance can be taken to confirm that everyone has left the building.

During laboratory, we may apply fertilizers or pesticides. Personal protective equipment will be supplied to the applicator; however, all students must wear long pants and shoes to laboratories. Shorts, flip-flops, or sandals are not appropriate attire for lab. Please wear your own safety glasses during every laboratory. Bring a clipboard and calculator. Whining is not allowed at the Turfgrass Field Laboratory and Greenhouse.



1. Never throw away a container or bag (fertilizer) that could be used for teaching or reused.
2. Always open a fertilizer bag so that it can be used for teaching. Just make a small cut in the top and not remove any text.
3. Do not tape a fertilizer bag closed in a way that will damage the text so that it cannot be used in the classroom for teaching.
4. Clean empty fertilizer bags, so they can be used in the classroom for teaching.
5. Always save a small portion of seed for teaching and for places that did not establish the first time.
6. Do not throw away a broken piece of equipment. It could be used for teaching
7. If you throw away a consumable, let me know, so I can put it on the list of things I need to buy to replace it.
8. Never put any equipment away that is broken or needs maintenance. It needs to be filled with gas and ready to go.
9. Keep the RoundUp spray tank filled with RoundUp. Do not put it up empty.
10. Bring your own drinking water to the turf plots.
11. Wash hands with soap after every lab.
- 12. Always shake jugs very well before pouring anything out of them.**

