



**Turfgrass Council of North Carolina**  
110 Horizon Drive, Ste. 210  
Raleigh, NC 27615  
Phone: 919.459.2070 Fax: 919.459.2075  
[www.ncturfgrass.org](http://www.ncturfgrass.org)

## **TCNC CERTIFIED TURFGRASS PROFESSIONAL**

### **The Curriculum Content**

The curriculum material is an in depth coverage of the science of turfgrass management presented in a systematic manner. Its studious use enables rapid learning and easy review. A thorough grasp of the material combined with astute field experience and a strong commitment to continuing education offers the opportunity to excel as a Professional Turfgrass Manager....and through TCNC Certification, to prove it.

#### **Section 1 Turfgrass Characteristics**

The Benefits of Turf in Our World □ The Many Parts of North Carolina's Turfgrass Industry □ Important Turfgrass Characteristics □ Vegetative Identification of Turfgrasses □ What regions of North Carolina the major grass species are best adapted □ Some of the commonly used cultivars for each turfgrass species

#### **Section 2 Establishing Turfgrass**

Criteria that should be considered when selecting turfgrasses □ Climatic zones of North Carolina □ Best time to establish a particular turfgrass species □ How to prepare a site for planting □ Different planting methods □ How to read a seed label to purchase the best seed □ How to calculate seed needs □ How to renovate a poor or declining turf □ How to select and manage turfgrasses for shaded environments

#### **Section 3 Soils & Nutrient Management**

Introduction to Soil-Water Dynamics □ Soil Volume □ Soil Structure □ Soil Depth & Horizons □ Soil Colloids □ Essential Elements □ Nutrient Availability □ Cation Exchange Capacity □ Soil pH - Acidity & Liming □ Macronutrients □ Micronutrients □ Nutrient Management Strategies: Soil Testing, Plant Tissue Testing, Monitoring & Visual Estimates □ Nutrient Management Programs: Turf Species, Fertilization Timing, Fertilization Frequency, Fertilization Rates, Fertilizer Formulations □ Environmental Concerns & Considerations

#### **Section 4 Cultural Practices**

Mowing □ Irrigation □ Vertical Mowing, Power Raking □ Aeration, Root Zone Cultivation

#### **Section 5 Pests & Integrated Pest Management** *(Separate publication)*

Pest Management Strategies □ Weed Identification and Management □ Diseases: Causes, Hosts, Developmental Factors & Forecasting, Symptoms, Management □ Insects: Identification, Prediction, Thresholds & Management

## **Section 6 Pesticides & Plant Growth Regulators**

Characteristics □ Selection □ Formulations Applied as Solids □ Formulations Applied as Liquids □ Judicious Use □ In the Turf Environment □ Storing, Handling & Disposing □ Protective Clothing □ Spill Containment, Accident Response □ Equipment Cleanup

## **Section 7 Landscape Safety & Pesticide Use**

Personnel & Operational Safety □ The role of HAZCOM training □ The difference between the chemical, generic and trade names of pesticides □ Safe & Effective Pesticide Use

## **Section 8 Calculations & Calibration**

Area Measurement Calculations & Dilution Ratios □ Sprayer Calibration □ Sprayer Maintenance □ Spreader Calibration □ Spreader Maintenance □ Fertilizer Calculations □ Fertilizer Analysis & Ratios □ Application Techniques & Options

## **Section 9 Turfgrass Business & Economics**

Effective Personnel Management □ Estimating □ Insurance □ Accounting □ Permitting & Licensing □ Marketing □ Customer & Public Relations

## **Section 10 Environmental Stewardship (reserved)**