# Tennessee Ornamental and Turf Pest Control Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide


**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Questions

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**1. What causes plant galls associated with insects and mites?**

**A. Watering the plant incorrectly**

**B. Changes in soil pH**

**C. Feeding and egg laying by the pest**

**D. Over-fertilization of the plant**

**2. What is the primary control method for weeds in ornamental turf?**

**A. Herbicides or mechanical removal**

**B. Regular mowing**

**C. Soil amendment**

**D. Hand-picking**

**3. What is essential when handling chemicals like Devrinol 50-DF Ornamental?**

**A. Checking weather conditions**

**B. Reading the product label**

**C. Taking breaks often**

**D. Fertilizing nearby plants**

**4. When should personal protective equipment (PPE) be removed after handling Devrinol 50-DF Ornamental?**

**A. Immediately after handling**

**B. Only before eating**

**C. After a 30-minute break**

**D. At the end of the workday**

**5. Which measurements are used by scientists and the EPA to classify pesticide toxicity?**

**A. LD50 and LC50**

**B. MTD and MCE**

**C. ID50 and CE50**

**D. TD50 and PA50**

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**6. How frequently should personal protective equipment clothing be laundered?**

**A. Once a week**

**B. At the end of each day**

**C. After every use**

**D. Only when visibly dirty**

**7. What is the area of a triangle whose base is 260 feet and height is 80 feet?**

**A. 12,400 square feet**

**B. 10,400 square feet**

**C. 20,800 square feet**

**D. 15,680 square feet**

**8. If a product label is destroyed or damaged, which of the following does not need to be marked on the container?**

**A. Concentration of active ingredient**

**B. % of inert ingredient**

**C. Manufacturer's name**

**D. Expiration date**

**9. When should post-emergent herbicides be applied?**

**A. Before weeds start to grow**

**B. After weeds have emerged and are actively growing**

**C. Dormant season of the weeds**

**D. Only in dry weather conditions**

**10. Which symptom indicates damage from billbugs?**

**A. Leaves turning yellow**

**B. Stems breaking easily when pulled**

**C. Presence of small holes in the leaves**

**D. Wilting grass blades**

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# Answers

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**1. C**
**2. A**
**3. B**
**4. A**
**5. A**
**6. B**
**7. B**
**8. B**
**9. B**
**10. B**

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# Explanations

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## 1. What causes plant galls associated with insects and mites?

**A. Watering the plant incorrectly**

**B. Changes in soil pH**

**C. Feeding and egg laying by the pest**

**D. Over-fertilization of the plant**

**Plant galls associated with insects and mites are primarily caused by the feeding and egg laying activities of these pests. When certain insects or mites, such as aphids, gall midges, or leafhoppers, feed on a plant, their saliva can introduce compounds that disrupt the plant's normal growth patterns. This disruption prompts the plant to produce a gall, which is an abnormal growth or swelling. The gall serves as a protective environment for the insect or mite, providing food and shelter as it grows and develops within the gall structure. This process is a fascinating interplay between the pest and the plant, showcasing how certain pests can manipulate plant physiology for their benefit. Galls can vary in shape, size, and color depending on the species of insect or mite involved, and they can appear on various parts of the plant, including leaves, stems, and roots. Understanding this relationship is crucial in ornamental and turf pest management, as it helps in identifying pest issues and choosing effective control methods.**

## 2. What is the primary control method for weeds in ornamental turf?

**A. Herbicides or mechanical removal**

**B. Regular mowing**

**C. Soil amendment**

**D. Hand-picking**

**The primary control method for weeds in ornamental turf is herbicides or mechanical removal. Herbicides are specially formulated chemicals designed to target and eliminate unwanted plant species without harming the desirable turf. They can be pre-emergent, applied before weed seeds germinate, or post-emergent, targeting weeds that are already present. This method offers efficacy in controlling a wide variety of weed species efficiently and is often more practical than manual methods for larger areas. Mechanical removal, which includes practices such as mowing, tilling, or pulling weeds, can also be an effective approach, particularly when dealing with a small number of weeds or in cases where chemical applications are not desirable. This combination of targeted herbicide use and appropriate mechanical practices can help maintain the health and aesthetic quality of ornamental turf by minimizing weed competition for resources like water and nutrients. While regular mowing can help manage some annual weeds and keep turf looking tidy, it is not a standalone method for weed control. Soil amendment may improve overall turf health but does not directly control weeds, and hand-picking is labor-intensive and often impractical for large areas or widespread infestations. Therefore, utilizing herbicides and mechanical methods represents the most effective and efficient strategy for managing weeds in ornamental turf.**

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## 3. What is essential when handling chemicals like Devrinol 50-DF Ornamental?

**A. Checking weather conditions**

**B. Reading the product label**

**C. Taking breaks often**

**D. Fertilizing nearby plants**

**When handling chemicals such as Devrinol 50-DF Ornamental, reading the product label is essential. The label provides critical information regarding the correct usage, application rates, safety precautions, and personal protective equipment (PPE) that should be used. It also includes details about the environmental impact, potential hazards, and specific instructions for handling and storage. By thoroughly reading the label, you ensure that you are using the chemical safely and effectively, thus minimizing risks to yourself, others, and the surrounding environment. Understanding these guidelines helps in making informed decisions while applying the product, which is crucial for successful pest control in ornamental and turf settings.**

## 4. When should personal protective equipment (PPE) be removed after handling Devrinol 50-DF Ornamental?

**A. Immediately after handling**

**B. Only before eating**

**C. After a 30-minute break**

**D. At the end of the workday**

**Removing personal protective equipment (PPE) immediately after handling Devrinol 50-DF Ornamental is important to minimize exposure to any potential pesticide residues that may remain on the equipment. This practice aligns with safety protocols that prioritize the health of individuals who work with or around pesticides. Wearing PPE is essential during application or handling to protect against skin contact, inhalation, and other forms of exposure to hazardous substances. By removing PPE immediately after the activity, workers can significantly reduce the risk of transferring pesticides to their skin, clothing, or personal items, thereby preventing long-term exposure, which can lead to health issues. Timely removal allows for a safer transition from the potentially hazardous work environment to a less risky setting, ensuring that the personnel's overall health and safety are prioritized.**

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## 5. Which measurements are used by scientists and the EPA to classify pesticide toxicity?

**A. LD50 and LC50**

**B. MTD and MCE**

**C. ID50 and CE50**

**D. TD50 and PA50**

**The correct classification of pesticide toxicity is largely determined by measurements like LD50 and LC50. These terms are fundamental to toxicology and are universally recognized in the study of poisonous substances. LD50 refers to the "lethal dose" that is required to kill 50% of a test population, typically expressed in milligrams of substance per kilogram of body weight. It provides a clear metric for determining the acute toxicity of a pesticide when introduced in solid form or as a spray. LC50, on the other hand, stands for "lethal concentration" and indicates the concentration of a substance in air or water that will kill 50% of the test organisms, usually expressed in parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l). This measurement is especially pertinent for pesticides that are applied in liquid form or that pose inhalation risks. By utilizing these two measurements, scientists and regulatory bodies like the EPA can effectively gauge the risks associated with pesticide exposure, allowing for informed safety regulations and effective labeling. This classification framework is critical for ensuring that products are used safely and that potential hazards are communicated appropriately to users and the public.**

## 6. How frequently should personal protective equipment clothing be laundered?

**A. Once a week**

**B. At the end of each day**

**C. After every use**

**D. Only when visibly dirty**

**Personal protective equipment (PPE) clothing is designed to minimize exposure to hazards, including chemical pesticides. Laundering PPE clothing at the end of each day is essential because it helps to remove any pesticide residues that could be harmful if they accumulate over time. It also helps to maintain the integrity and functionality of the PPE, ensuring that it continues to provide adequate protection. By washing the clothing daily, you reduce the risk of transferring any contaminants to your skin or to other surfaces. Additionally, consistent laundering can help prevent any potential degradation of the fabric caused by prolonged exposure to chemicals, thus prolonging the life of the PPE. In contrast, laundering PPE only when it is visibly dirty or infrequently, such as once a week, could lead to sustained exposure to pesticide residues and increase the risk of health issues.**

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## 7. What is the area of a triangle whose base is 260 feet and height is 80 feet?

**A. 12,400 square feet**

**B. 10,400 square feet**

**C. 20,800 square feet**

**D. 15,680 square feet**

**To find the area of a triangle, you use the formula: Area = (Base × Height) / 2. In this case, the base of the triangle is 260 feet and the height is 80 feet. Plugging these values into the formula gives: Area = (260 feet × 80 feet) / 2. Calculating the product of the base and height: 260 × 80 = 20,800. Now, dividing that by 2 to find the area: 20,800 / 2 = 10,400 square feet. Thus, the correct answer is 10,400 square feet, which aligns with the provided answer choice. The other options represent different calculations and are not obtained by applying the area formula correctly to the dimensions given.**

## 8. If a product label is destroyed or damaged, which of the following does not need to be marked on the container?

**A. Concentration of active ingredient**

**B. % of inert ingredient**

**C. Manufacturer's name**

**D. Expiration date**

**The requirement to mark certain information on a container is determined by regulatory standards that ensure the safe handling and use of pesticides. In this case, the correct choice is that the percentage of inert ingredients does not need to be marked on the container if the product label is damaged or destroyed. Inert ingredients, while they play a role in the formulation of pesticides, are typically not as critical for the end-user to know in terms of safety or efficacy compared to active ingredients. The concentration of active ingredients is essential as it directly impacts the effectiveness of the pesticide and is vital for proper application. Similarly, the manufacturer's name is important for identification and accountability, and the expiration date is crucial for ensuring that the product is within its usable life for effective performance. The information about inert ingredients is regulated but does not have the same level of scrutiny as active ingredients, hence it is acceptable that this particular information may not need to be specified on the container when the product label is damaged.**

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## 9. When should post-emergent herbicides be applied?

**A. Before weeds start to grow**

**B. After weeds have emerged and are actively growing**

**C. Dormant season of the weeds**

**D. Only in dry weather conditions**

**Post-emergent herbicides are designed to target weeds that have already emerged and are actively growing. The rationale behind applying these herbicides during this growth phase is that the plants can more effectively absorb the chemicals, leading to better control of the target species. Herbicides work by being taken up through the leaves and sometimes the roots, so a healthy, growing weed is more susceptible to the action of the herbicide. This enhances the likelihood of the herbicide interrupting normal plant processes, effectively killing the weed. Applying post-emergent herbicides before weeds emerge would not be effective since those targeted plants are not yet present, and thus, there are no weeds to control. Treating during the dormant season would similarly be ineffective as the weeds are not actively growing and will not be able to absorb the herbicides. Lastly, while weather conditions can affect herbicide application (such as avoiding heavy rain shortly after application), post-emergent herbicides are generally recommended when weeds are actively growing to maximize effectiveness.**

## 10. Which symptom indicates damage from billbugs?

**A. Leaves turning yellow**

**B. Stems breaking easily when pulled**

**C. Presence of small holes in the leaves**

**D. Wilting grass blades**

**The symptom that indicates damage from billbugs primarily involves stems breaking easily when pulled. Billbugs, which are a type of weevil, target the grass and feed on the tissue within the stem. This feeding can lead to severe structural damage, compromising the integrity of the grass plants. As a result, when these stems are tugged or pulled, they may break more easily than healthy stems, indicating that the plants are weakened due to billbug activity. Other symptoms like leaves turning yellow, the presence of small holes in the leaves, or wilting grass blades are commonly associated with various other pests, diseases, or environmental stressors rather than specifically with billbug damage. For instance, yellowing leaves often indicate nutrient deficiencies or environmental stress, while small holes in leaves could point to chewing insects like caterpillars or leafhoppers. Wilting grass blades can be a result of drought conditions or root issues unrelated to billbugs. Understanding the specific damage caused by billbugs helps in effective identification and management of these pests.**

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