

TENNESSEE ORNAMENTAL AND TURF PEST CONTROL PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Which factor is critical to consider when selecting a pesticide?**
 - A. Cost alone
 - B. Availability in local stores
 - C. Effectiveness against targeted pest
 - D. Popularity among users
- 2. What should be done when involved in a pesticide spill?**
 - A. Leave the site immediately for safety
 - B. Prevent people from entering the contaminated area
 - C. Only notify the authorities
 - D. Set up a perimeter and wait for instructions
- 3. Name a common method to control slugs in ornamental gardens.**
 - A. Using chemical repellents
 - B. Handpicking, traps, or applying iron phosphate baits
 - C. Planting only resistant species
 - D. Increasing soil moisture content
- 4. How can over-watering affect turfgrass?**
 - A. It promotes drought resistance
 - B. It can lead to root rot and other diseases
 - C. It encourages deeper root growth
 - D. It improves soil aeration
- 5. Which statement about plant diseases caused by bacteria is incorrect?**
 - A. Most are easily controlled with fungicides
 - B. Most are controlled with bactericides
 - C. Most need environmental control
 - D. Most are treated chemically
- 6. Which of the following factors is important in determining the timing of pesticide application for ornamental plants?**
 - A. Weather conditions
 - B. Availability of labor
 - C. Cost of materials
 - D. Type of plant diseases

- 7. In which type of establishment might you need to comply with the Worker Protection Standard (WPS)?**
- A. Farm
 - B. School
 - C. Office
 - D. Houses
- 8. What is a classic symptom of brown patch disease?**
- A. Yellowing leaves
 - B. Browning at the edges
 - C. Grayish mycelium and dying grass
 - D. Wilting flowers
- 9. In pest control, what is the difference between contact and systemic insecticides?**
- A. Contact insecticides are less toxic
 - B. Systemic insecticides are more affordable
 - C. Contact insecticides kill pests on contact, while systemic insecticides are absorbed by plants
 - D. Systemic insecticides work faster than contact insecticides
- 10. What is the advantage of using slow-release fertilizers in turf management?**
- A. They are less expensive than other fertilizers
 - B. They supply nutrients over an extended period, reducing the risk of nutrient leaching
 - C. They provide immediate nutrient absorption
 - D. They require more frequent applications

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which factor is critical to consider when selecting a pesticide?

- A. Cost alone
- B. Availability in local stores
- C. Effectiveness against targeted pest**
- D. Popularity among users

When selecting a pesticide, the effectiveness against the targeted pest is crucial. This factor ensures that the pesticide will successfully manage or eliminate the specific pest that is causing damage or issues in the ornamental or turf areas. Effectiveness is typically determined by the active ingredients, formulation, and mode of action of the pesticide. Choosing a pesticide based solely on cost may lead to purchasing a product that does not adequately address the pest problem, resulting in wasted resources and potential damage to plants. Availability in local stores, while convenient, doesn't guarantee the quality or effectiveness of the pesticide. Popularity among users might indicate that a product is well-regarded, but it does not necessarily mean it will perform effectively for your specific pest situation. Thus, focusing on the proven efficacy is the most accountable approach when selecting a pesticide, ensuring proper pest control and protection of the landscape.

2. What should be done when involved in a pesticide spill?

- A. Leave the site immediately for safety
- B. Prevent people from entering the contaminated area**
- C. Only notify the authorities
- D. Set up a perimeter and wait for instructions

When dealing with a pesticide spill, preventing people from entering the contaminated area is a crucial step. This action helps to protect individuals from potential exposure to hazardous substances, ensuring their safety and minimizing health risks. Restricting access allows for the situation to be managed effectively without the added danger of untrained personnel coming into contact with harmful chemicals. While notifying authorities and setting up a perimeter can be important, the immediate priority should be to ensure that the area is secure from unauthorized entry. This containment helps localize the spill, preventing further spread and reducing the risk of exposure to the surrounding environment and community. Additionally, once the area is secured, proper cleanup procedures can be implemented by trained personnel or emergency responders.

3. Name a common method to control slugs in ornamental gardens.

- A. Using chemical repellents
- B. Handpicking, traps, or applying iron phosphate baits**
- C. Planting only resistant species
- D. Increasing soil moisture content

Handpicking, traps, or applying iron phosphate baits are commonly used methods for controlling slugs in ornamental gardens. This approach is practical because it targets slugs directly and can be highly effective in reducing their population. Handpicking involves manually removing slugs from plants, which can help eliminate them before they cause significant damage. Traps, such as beer traps, attract slugs and can help capture them in a contained environment. Iron phosphate baits serve as an effective chemical control option that is less harmful to pets and wildlife while still effectively reducing slug populations. Iron phosphate works by disrupting the digestive system of slugs, leading to their demise, and is considered a more environmentally friendly alternative compared to more toxic chemicals. The other options, although they have their merits, are either less direct in managing slug populations or not as effective as the integrated approach provided by handpicking, traps, and iron phosphate.

4. How can over-watering affect turfgrass?

- A. It promotes drought resistance
- B. It can lead to root rot and other diseases**
- C. It encourages deeper root growth
- D. It improves soil aeration

Over-watering can severely impact turfgrass health, and the correct answer highlights one of the most detrimental effects: it can lead to root rot and other diseases. When turfgrass receives too much water, the soil can become saturated. This saturation reduces the amount of oxygen available to the roots, which is essential for their growth and function. In inadequate oxygen conditions, root rot pathogens thrive, leading to root decay and ultimately diminishing the plant's health. Additionally, excess water creates a favorable environment for various fungal diseases, further compromising the turf's vigor and appearance. Therefore, understanding the importance of balanced watering practices is crucial for maintaining healthy and resilient turfgrass. The other options present benefits that do not align with the consequences of over-watering. Drought resistance and deeper root growth are typically outcomes associated with appropriate watering levels and proper soil management, while improved soil aeration might occur with optimal water management but not when over-watering is prevalent.

5. Which statement about plant diseases caused by bacteria is incorrect?

- A. Most are easily controlled with fungicides**
- B. Most are controlled with bactericides
- C. Most need environmental control
- D. Most are treated chemically

Bacterial plant diseases are typically not controlled with fungicides, which are designed to target fungi. This is a fundamental reason why the statement about most bacterial diseases being easily controlled with fungicides is incorrect. Bacterial pathogens are quite different from fungal ones, and their management strategies differ significantly. In contrast, many bacterial diseases can be effectively managed with bactericides, which are specifically formulated to combat bacteria. Environmental control is also crucial, as factors such as moisture, temperature, and adequate airflow can influence the development and spread of bacterial diseases. Additionally, while chemical treatments can be a part of disease management, they are often part of a broader approach that includes cultural practices and environmental changes to reduce disease incidence. Thus, the misunderstanding about the use of fungicides in controlling bacterial diseases highlights the importance of using the correct treatment for the specific type of plant pathogen.

6. Which of the following factors is important in determining the timing of pesticide application for ornamental plants?

A. Weather conditions

B. Availability of labor

C. Cost of materials

D. Type of plant diseases

The timing of pesticide application for ornamental plants is heavily influenced by weather conditions. This factor is crucial because weather can significantly impact the effectiveness of the pesticide and the susceptibility of plant pests and diseases. For example, rain can wash away pesticides and reduce their efficacy, while hot and dry conditions may increase the stress on plants, making them more vulnerable to pests. Temperature also affects the life cycle of pests and diseases; certain applications may be more effective at specific temperatures when pests are actively feeding or reproducing. While the availability of labor, cost of materials, and type of plant diseases are important considerations in a broader pest management strategy, they do not directly influence the effectiveness or timing of pesticide applications in the same way that weather conditions do. Therefore, focusing on the current and forecasted weather is essential for maximizing the success of pest control measures on ornamental plants.

7. In which type of establishment might you need to comply with the Worker Protection Standard (WPS)?

A. Farm

B. School

C. Office

D. Houses

Compliance with the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) is specifically required in agricultural settings where pesticides are used. This regulation is designed to protect agricultural workers and handlers from the risks associated with exposure to pesticides. Farms are the primary environments where these standards are applicable because they involve activities such as planting, cultivating, and harvesting, during which employees may be directly exposed to pesticide applications or residues. While schools, offices, and houses may also utilize pesticides, they do not typically engage in agricultural practices that warrant the same level of protective measures mandated by the WPS. In non-agricultural settings, different regulations or standards may guide pesticide use, but the WPS is specifically tailored to safeguard workers in environments where agricultural pesticides are applied, highlighting the importance of worker safety in the agricultural sector.

8. What is a classic symptom of brown patch disease?

- A. Yellowing leaves
- B. Browning at the edges
- C. Grayish mycelium and dying grass**
- D. Wilting flowers

Brown patch disease is a common lawn disease primarily affecting cool-season grasses, and it is characterized by specific symptoms that help in its identification. One of the classic symptoms is the appearance of grayish mycelium on the grass blades, typically observed during wet or humid conditions. This mycelium can give a cobweb-like appearance, which is indicative of fungal activity. Along with this, the grass in the affected areas starts to die off, resulting in patches that can severely impact lawn aesthetics and health. This symptom is significant because the mycelium is a clear sign of the pathogen's presence, confirming the diagnosis of brown patch disease. The browning and dying of the grass within the patches, along with the visible mycelia, allow for accurate identification and proper management practices to be implemented before the disease spreads further. Other symptoms, like yellowing leaves or browning at the edges, may indicate different issues or stressors affecting the turf and are not definitive indicators of brown patch disease.

9. In pest control, what is the difference between contact and systemic insecticides?

- A. Contact insecticides are less toxic
- B. Systemic insecticides are more affordable
- C. Contact insecticides kill pests on contact, while systemic insecticides are absorbed by plants**
- D. Systemic insecticides work faster than contact insecticides

The distinction between contact and systemic insecticides is crucial for effective pest management. Contact insecticides work by physically coming into contact with the pest, leading to immediate lethality upon exposure. This means that these insecticides are applied directly onto the insect or the surfaces it inhabits, effectively allowing them to kill pests that encounter the chemical. On the other hand, systemic insecticides function differently; they are absorbed by the plant and then distributed throughout its tissues. This means that any pests that feed on the plant will be affected by the insecticide, even if they do not come into direct contact with where the insecticide was applied. Because systemic insecticides can provide protection over a longer period and target pests feeding on the plant, they can be especially useful in managing certain pest populations that are otherwise difficult to control. Understanding this difference helps pest control professionals select the appropriate type of insecticide based on the pest's behavior and the application method, ultimately contributing to more efficient pest management strategies.

10. What is the advantage of using slow-release fertilizers in turf management?

- A. They are less expensive than other fertilizers
- B. They supply nutrients over an extended period, reducing the risk of nutrient leaching**
- C. They provide immediate nutrient absorption
- D. They require more frequent applications

The advantage of using slow-release fertilizers in turf management primarily lies in their ability to supply nutrients over an extended period. This gradual release of nutrients helps meet the ongoing nutritional needs of the grass, promoting healthy growth and vibrant color while minimizing the risk of nutrient leaching. Leaching can occur after heavy rainfall or excessive irrigation when nutrients dissolve and wash away from the root zone. By using slow-release fertilizers, the nutrients are available to the turf over a longer time frame, which not only benefits the environment by reducing runoff but also ensures that the turf receives consistent nourishment without the need for frequent applications requiring manual labor or increased costs. This method supports the health of the turf in a more sustainable way compared to options that release nutrients all at once.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://tnornamentalturfpestcontrol.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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