

TURF PEST MANAGEMENT CATEGORY 3B PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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. For dollar spot control, why is thorough coverage important?**
 - A. To ensure contact with leaf surfaces
 - B. To reduce watering needs
 - C. To relax application timing
 - D. To decrease accuracy
- 2. Which nitrogen timing is most associated with increased turf disease and pest susceptibility?**
 - A. Excessive or late nitrogen can promote lush growth and higher disease risk.
 - B. Balanced, species-appropriate nitrogen improves resilience.
 - C. Early nitrogen is always best.
 - D. No nitrogen affects disease risk.
- 3. Preemergent herbicides should be applied when to control summer annual weeds?**
 - A. Late spring
 - B. Late summer or early fall
 - C. Any time weed seeds germinate
 - D. Late winter or early spring
- 4. What is the difference between contact and systemic insecticides in turf?**
 - A. Systemic insecticides kill on contact only.
 - B. Contact insecticides are absorbed and translocated, providing interior protection.
 - C. Contact insecticides kill on contact or via surface exposure; systemic insecticides are absorbed, translocated, and provide interior protection against feeding.
 - D. All insecticides are either contact or systemic, with no other modes.
- 5. In turf disease management, how do protectant fungicides differ from curative fungicides and where is each typically used?**
 - A. Protectants are applied before infection; curatives are used after infection to reduce disease
 - B. Protectants are soil drenches; curatives are foliar sprays
 - C. Protectants are used after infection; curatives prevent infection
 - D. They are the same in function

- 6. Which statement about preemergence and postemergence herbicides is true?**
- A. Postemergence herbicides are applied to soil before germination
 - B. Postemergence herbicides are applied to emerged weeds
 - C. Preemergence herbicides are absorbed by the leaves
 - D. Preemergence herbicides kill established plants
- 7. What is the rationale for rotating fungicides during turf disease management?**
- A. Rotation helps avoid resistance by using products with different modes of action.
 - B. Rotation is unnecessary if you prefer a cheaper product.
 - C. Rotation accelerates resistance development.
 - D. Rotation reduces application effectiveness.
- 8. Which IPM tactic is included in turfgrass pest control?**
- A. Monitoring and early detection, sanitation, and cultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical control methods.
 - B. Only chemical sprays without monitoring.
 - C. Ignoring sanitation.
 - D. Focusing only on aesthetics.
- 9. What symptoms distinguish sting nematodes from root-knot nematodes in turf roots?**
- A. Sting nematodes cause galls or knots on roots and overall poor uptake.
 - B. Root-knot nematodes cause stunted roots and patchy decline.
 - C. Sting nematodes cause stunted roots and patchy decline; root-knot nematodes produce galls or knots on roots and overall poor uptake.
 - D. Nematode symptoms are identical for both types.
- 10. Why will thatch management help to reduce the incidence and severity of turfgrass diseases?**
- A. Because many fungi that parasitize leaves and crowns can live as saprophytes in thatch, increasing inoculum
 - B. Thatch reduces root activity and disease
 - C. Thatch has no effect on disease
 - D. Thatch increases beneficial microbes only

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. For dollar spot control, why is thorough coverage important?

A. To ensure contact with leaf surfaces

B. To reduce watering needs

C. To relax application timing

D. To decrease accuracy

Thorough coverage matters because dollar spot fungi live on and immediately above the leaf surface, so the fungicide must actually contact the leaf blades to be effective. When spray covers all the turf, every blade gets protected, forming a consistent barrier that prevents infection and reduces the chance of untreated pockets where the disease can start and spread. If some areas are missed or canopy density causes poor coverage, those untreated spots can become infection centers and undermine control. The other options aren't relevant factors for why coverage is important—coverage doesn't change watering needs, application timing, or accuracy in this context.

2. Which nitrogen timing is most associated with increased turf disease and pest susceptibility?

A. Excessive or late nitrogen can promote lush growth and higher disease risk.

B. Balanced, species-appropriate nitrogen improves resilience.

C. Early nitrogen is always best.

D. No nitrogen affects disease risk.

Nitrogen timing affects how fast and how much the turf grows, which in turn changes tissue quality and the microclimate in the leaf canopy. When nitrogen is applied in excess or late in the growing season, the turf puts on lush, rapid growth with softer, more succulent leaves. This dense, high-moisture canopy tends to stay wet longer and shade the soil, creating ideal conditions for many diseases and making the turf more attractive to pests that feed on tender tissue. In contrast, applying nitrogen in a balanced, species-appropriate way supports steady growth, stronger root systems, and tougher leaf tissue, reducing the likelihood of disease outbreaks and pest problems. Early nitrogen can aid establishment, but it isn't inherently the best approach for minimizing disease risk if it leads to late-season flushes or over-fertilization. So, the timing that most increases disease and pest susceptibility is when nitrogen is excessive or applied late, because it promotes lush growth that creates favorable conditions for pathogens and pests.

3. Preemergent herbicides should be applied when to control summer annual weeds?

A. Late spring

B. Late summer or early fall

C. Any time weed seeds germinate

D. Late winter or early spring

Preemergent herbicides must be present in the soil before weed seeds begin to germinate, forming a barrier that prevents seedling emergence. For summer annual weeds, germination typically starts as soil warms in spring. Placing the herbicide in late winter or early spring positions it ahead of that germination window, so the chemical is active when seeds try to sprout. If you wait until late spring, many seeds have already germinated, and the barrier won't stop them. Late summer or early fall comes after the germination window for summer annuals, so it's not effective for controlling them.

4. What is the difference between contact and systemic insecticides in turf?

- A. Systemic insecticides kill on contact only.
- B. Contact insecticides are absorbed and translocated, providing interior protection.
- C. Contact insecticides kill on contact or via surface exposure; systemic insecticides are absorbed, translocated, and provide interior protection against feeding.**
- D. All insecticides are either contact or systemic, with no other modes.

Understanding how insecticides reach the pest is the key. A contact insecticide works on pests that touch the treated surface or ingest residues on that surface; it does not rely on moving inside the plant to kill pests. A systemic insecticide, on the other hand, is absorbed by the plant and moved through its tissues so that pests feeding on those tissues ingest the chemical from within the plant, providing protection from the inside. In turf, this means systemic products can protect new growth and roots as the chemical is transported by the plant's vascular system, while contact products act only where they're applied on surfaces. The description that combines both ideas—contact insecticides kill on contact or via surface exposure, while systemic insecticides are absorbed, translocated, and provide interior protection against feeding—best captures the difference.

5. In turf disease management, how do protectant fungicides differ from curative fungicides and where is each typically used?

- A. Protectants are applied before infection; curatives are used after infection to reduce disease
- B. Protectants are soil drenches; curatives are foliar sprays**
- C. Protectants are used after infection; curatives prevent infection
- D. They are the same in function

Protectant fungicides are used to prevent infection and are often applied as soil drenches, which allow the chemical to move into the root zone and provide protection as new growth emerges. Curative fungicides are applied after infection to slow or stop disease progression, and they are typically delivered as foliar sprays directly on infected above ground tissue. The main idea is that protectants guard against infection via soil uptake, while curatives act after symptoms appear on the foliage. That's why describing protectants as soil drenches and curatives as foliar sprays best aligns with how these products are commonly used in turf disease management. The other options mix up timing or application method or claim they are the same, which doesn't fit the practical use in the field.

6. Which statement about preemergence and postemergence herbicides is true?

- A. Postemergence herbicides are applied to soil before germination
- B. Postemergence herbicides are applied to emerged weeds**
- C. Preemergence herbicides are absorbed by the leaves
- D. Preemergence herbicides kill established plants

Postemergence herbicides are applied after the weeds have emerged, targeting actively growing tissue on visible weeds. That timing is why this statement is true: you apply postemergence products to emerged weeds to kill or suppress them. In contrast, preemergence herbicides are applied to the soil before germination to prevent weed seedlings from establishing, so they don't rely on leaf uptake. Saying preemergence products are absorbed by the leaves is inaccurate because their primary action is through the soil and on germinating seeds. Also, preemergence herbicides are not meant to kill established plants; they are used to prevent emergence, not to control plants that are already growing.

7. What is the rationale for rotating fungicides during turf disease management?

- A. Rotation helps avoid resistance by using products with different modes of action.**
- B. Rotation is unnecessary if you prefer a cheaper product.
- C. Rotation accelerates resistance development.
- D. Rotation reduces application effectiveness.

Rotating fungicides is about slowing resistance by using products with different modes of action. When a turf pathogen is repeatedly exposed to the same fungicide, individuals with resistance traits survive and reproduce, so the population becomes less sensitive and control declines. Using products that target different parts of the pathogen's biology interrupts this process, making it harder for the pathogen to adapt. This preserves effectiveness over time and is a core part of an integrated disease-management plan. In practice, you switch among products from different chemical families (different modes of action) across a rotation so no single mechanism is consistently selected for. The idea isn't about cost, and properly done rotation doesn't inherently reduce application effectiveness; when timed with disease risk and applied correctly, it helps maintain control.

8. Which IPM tactic is included in turfgrass pest control?

- A. Monitoring and early detection, sanitation, and cultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical control methods.**
- B. Only chemical sprays without monitoring.
- C. Ignoring sanitation.
- D. Focusing only on aesthetics.

Integrated pest management in turfgrass relies on combining multiple tactics rather than using a single approach. The best answer reflects that combination: ongoing monitoring to detect problems early, sanitation to remove sources and habitats for pests, and a toolbox of control methods that includes cultural practices to reduce pest pressure, mechanical removal, biological controls that use natural enemies, and chemical options used judiciously when needed. This broad, integrated approach helps protect turf while minimizing risks to the environment and non-target organisms. Choosing only chemical sprays without monitoring misses the essential step of catching issues early and often leads to overuse or misapplication. Ignoring sanitation leaves pests with places to thrive. Focusing solely on aesthetics ignores the pest pressures and the management practices that keep turf healthier and less attractive to pests.

9. What symptoms distinguish sting nematodes from root-knot nematodes in turf roots?

- A. Sting nematodes cause galls or knots on roots and overall poor uptake.
- B. Root-knot nematodes cause stunted roots and patchy decline.
- C. Sting nematodes cause stunted roots and patchy decline; root-knot nematodes produce galls or knots on roots and overall poor uptake.**
- D. Nematode symptoms are identical for both types.

The key idea is that different nematodes injure roots in distinct ways, and those injury patterns show up as specific turf symptoms. Root-knot nematodes create galls or knots on the roots where they feed, which disrupts water and nutrient uptake and leads to overall poor turf vigor. Sting nematodes, on the other hand, injure roots without forming galls, causing stunted root growth and a patchy decline in the turf as damage is unevenly distributed. So the best answer matches these diagnostic patterns: sting nematodes cause stunted roots and patchy decline, while root-knot nematodes produce galls or knots on roots with poor uptake.

10. Why will thatch management help to reduce the incidence and severity of turfgrass diseases?

- A. Because many fungi that parasitize leaves and crowns can live as saprophytes in thatch, increasing inoculum**
- B. Thatch reduces root activity and disease
- C. Thatch has no effect on disease
- D. Thatch increases beneficial microbes only

Thatch provides a living reservoir for turf pathogens. Many fungi that attack leaves and crowns can live as saprophytes in thatch, so a thick thatch layer stores inoculum and keeps it ready to infect when conditions are right. By reducing thatch, you cut down the amount of pathogen inoculum present and disrupt the disease cycle, making infections less likely and severe. In addition, a thinner, well-aerated thatch improves air and water movement and promotes healthier, deeper rooting, which helps the plant resist disease. Other statements aren't as accurate: thick thatch often correlates with poorer rooting and wetter microclimates that can favor disease, not reduce it. Thatch clearly influences disease risk, not nothing. And while some beneficial microbes exist in thatch, it doesn't increase only beneficial microbes; pathogens are also present, so simply having thatch isn't a silver bullet for microbes.

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://turfpestmgmtcat3b.examzify.com>

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

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