THE VALUE OF
GRADUATE STUDIES

by

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NOTE: Dr. Fred V. Grau, President, The
Messer International Turfgrass
Foundation states, "This statement on
graduate studies was written by Dr. W.
H. Daniel, Purdue University and Musser
Foundation Board Member. In it one may
read the reasons why the Musser
Foundation is committed to helping to
finance exceptional students who are
earning their advanced degrees. They are
our FUTURE."

Advanced or graduate training in any
scientific area is a vital component of
technological advancements. The
biological and scientific complexities
demand intensive training and detailed
research. The graduate program is the
thread that binds together the problems,
studies, solutions and responses.

Graduate study offers intense training
in specific areas. Graduate research
should be innovative and generally is
based on problem solving.

The creative mind that responds to the
current problems in turfgrass management
offers us a better future. Preserving
and improving our environment is an
integral facet of the profession.

Graduate programs are based on
recognizing a problem, determining
methods of solution and arriving at
satisfactory conclusions.

The research, preparation and defense of
a thesis demands a soundly based problem
delt with in a logical scientific manner.

Each graduate student is responsible not
only to a graduate committee but has the
resources and counsel of a group of
professionals that represent a variety
of disciplines.

The demands of a graduate program aid in
the development of fertile minds and
contribute to elevated levels of
competence. The diversity of technology
is well illustrated by the fact that
there are many fields in which PhD
degrees are granted at major
universities.

A graduate program offers or provides
the time for valuable interpersonal
experience between staff and student. In
most disciplines training for the
Bachelor degree requires four years, the
Masters, two years, and a PhD degree
requires approximately three years - a
nine year commitment for learning.

With an advanced degree, one is
qualified to fill positions of teaching,
research and/or extension as may occur
in universities, institutes, industries
and general business.

Informed and dedicated leaders have made
possible the high level of technology we
now enjoy. We must continue to provide
well trained teachers and scientists for
the future.

Seeking out and motivating bright minds
and adequately supporting them during
their years of training challenges the
best of institutions and industry.