UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TECHNICAL COLLEGE, WASECA
OFFERS NEW IMPROVED
TURFGRASS COURSES

University of Minnesota Technical College, Waseca improves course offerings for turfgrass students.

The mission of the University of Minnesota, Waseca is to train students for mid-management, semiprofessional positions in the broad field related to agriculture. One of the first programmatic areas developed was the Horticultural Technology program.

The Horticultural Technology area currently consists of two majors: Landscape-Nursery Technology and Floriculture, Greenhouse and Garden Center Technology. Each major contains three emphases or areas of study. Students enrolled in Landscape-Nursery Technology may choose from Landscape Design, Landscape Maintenance or Nursery Production. Students in Floriculture, Greenhouse and Garden Center Technology may enroll in Retail Floriculture, Floriculture Production or Garden Center.

The horticulture curriculum ensures development of competencies not only in technical horticulture, but in business management, sales and related education. Each emphasis is composed of five separate course groups: College Requirements, Division Requirements, Major Requirements, Emphasis Requirements and Electives.

Horticulture faculty and staff with the help of the Horticultural Technology Advisory Committee and the UMW Educational Policy Committee have recently completed a major review of curriculum content for several of the horticulture emphases. College and division requirements remain the same but several changes were made in major and emphasis requirements.

Those changes of most importance to the turfgrass industry are in the Landscape Maintenance emphasis. The signals we have been receiving from the industry indicates a need for broader background for the landscape students. Almost every employer through campus interviews and position announcements reflects this point of view. Golf courses, municipal parks and lawn services expressed a desire for their employees to have some basic background in all aspects of landscape maintenance even though the primary areas continued to be cultural and chemical turfgrass management.

Those competencies most frequently sited were identification, growing, design and maintenance of woody and herbaceous plant materials. Basic accounting procedures and business practices also surfaced as important for all aspects of landscape maintenance.

With these goals in mind, courses in the landscape major requirements were increased for all landscape students. These major requirements now include the following:

AgAc Principles of Accounting I
Hort Deciduous Woody Plants
Hort Evergreen Woody Plants

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Hort Nursery Management

The coursework specific to the Landscape Maintenance emphasis now includes:

Agro Weed Identification
Hort Arboriculture
Hort Turf Management
Hort Grounds Management
MeAg Principles of Equipment Maintenance

Although elective courses vary with the personal goals of each student. Those most frequently chosen by turf grass students include:

MeAg Fundamentals of Building Construction
MeAg Fundamentals of Power
(2 & 4 stroke cycle engines)
Hort Landscape Construction and Management
MeAg Diesel Mechanics
MeAg Hydraulics
Hort Advanced Woody Plants
Hort Fruit Production
AgBm Ag Data Processing
Soil Soil and Plant Testing

College wide and divisional course requirements still include the following courses:

AgSc Agricultural Orientation
AgSc Pre-Occupational Preparation
(Internship)
Comm Intro to Communications
Comm Intro to Technical Reporting
Math Applied Mathematics
PhEd Physical Education

AgBm Small Business Management
AgSc Integrated Pest Management
BiSc Plant Biology I
BiSc Plant Biology II
Chem Technical Chemistry
Hort Introductory Horticulture
Hort Annuals and Perennials
Hort Plant Propagation
Hort Horticultural Seminar
Psyc General Psychology
Soil Soil Science

The University of Minnesota Technical College, Waseca Horticultural Technology program will continue to explore ways to serve its students and the industry. We appreciate any comments or suggestions that you may have. It is especially gratifying to hear from the many UMW alumni currently working in Minnesota golf course and parks.

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Editors Note: For further information about programs at the University of Minnesota Technical College, Waseca, please contact either:

Dale Caldwell
Horticultural Technology Industry Advisory Committee
Minneapolis Golf Club
2001 Flag Avenue South
St. Louis Park, Minn. 55426

or

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ASSOCIATES CORNER
RAMBLINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

by TOM L. HAUGEN
BRAYTON CHEMICALS, INC.

Golf courses again look in great shape. We've had some cool nights (good for healthy turf and superintendents) and a little timely moisture except in the extreme south of the state. It hasn't, however, been a spring and early summer without problems.

THE INSECTS HAVE BEEN EARLY! The Sodwebworms caught some of us at an early date and so have the cutworms. The aetiniana are showing up and so are the billbugs (those little rascals who love bluegrass roughs). Also from the amount of grub producing adults we had flying in June, there should be an abundance of white grubs in late summer.

The insects on trees and ornamentals have also been very damaging. The sawfly larvae on spruce and pines, the leafminers on birch and aphids seem to be everywhere. Also the scale insects have been common.

Enough of the bad news. A few words about some new products. "Turflon D", a new herbicide from Dow, is doing a fantastic job controlling the tough weeds, chickweed, oxalis, spurge, ground ivy, etc.

There is also a new post-emergent grassy weed herbicide. "Acclaim" is under an experimental label at this time for control of emerged crabgrass, goosegrass, foxtail, Johnsongrass and others. The plus with Acclaim is that it has less

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