### QUICKIE-QUIZ

**Mowing and manicuring turf areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Clippings</th>
<th>Leaf Extension %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td>No longer than height of cut</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptable</td>
<td>Longer than height of cut</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Twice as long as height of cut</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neglect</td>
<td>More than twice as long as height of cut</td>
<td>over 200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Mowing is needed when the ratio of new growth to mowing height is:
   a) 1:1  
   b) 2:1  
   c) 3:1

2. Best quality of cut is obtained with:
   a) reel mowers  
   b) rotary mowers  
   c) flail mowers

3. Root length in more closely-mowed turf is:
   a) longer  
   b) shorter  
   c) not a function of mowing height

4. The purpose of vertical “manicuring” turf is:
   a) to remove old clippings and thatch  
   b) to help regulate green portions  
   c) both of the above

5. How much nitrogen applied to turf can be recovered in clippings?
   a) 25%  
   b) 50%  
   c) 75%

6. Thatch, an accumulation of dead plant material, is most often:
   a) acid  
   b) alkaline  
   c) neutral

7. On home lawns, thatch is generally not considered excessive until it is over:
   a) ¼ inch  
   b) ½ to ¾ inch  
   c) 1 to 1½ inches

8. Excessive thatch may favor insects, diseases and:
   a) puddling  
   b) heavy soil  
   c) winter desiccation

9. Thatch can be avoided/alleviated by:
   a) collecting clippings  
   b) fertilization  
   c) aeration  
   d) all of the above

10. The most effective means of altering the rate of thatch decomposition is:
    a) limiting fertilization  
    b) topdressing  
    c) introducing earthworms

11. For best results, soil should be aerated to at least:
    a) 1 inch  
    b) 3 inches  
    c) 6 inches

12. Thatch accumulation is accelerated by:
    a) heavy clay soil  
    b) frequent watering  
    c) heavy nitrogen rates  
    d) all of the above

Source: **Turf Managers’ Handbook**

ANSWERS

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