

The 2023-24 Virginia Tech School of Turfgrass Ecology and Management (VT-STEM) Schedule, Topics, Presenters & Industry Guests

Date presentation is launched/Date of that week's Live Q+A by Zoom at 7 pm EST	Topic for the weekly training	Lead Presenter(s), Industry guest(s), Guest Certified Turfgrass Professionals
November 4, 8 (Wed)	Turfgrass Identification Tips; Cool Season Turfgrass Adaptation and Uses	Dr. Mike Goatley, Professor and Extension Turfgrass Specialist; Industry Guest: Mr. Kevin Morris, Executive Director, National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, Guest CTP: Lee Carr, senior Golf Course Industry columnist,
November 11, 15 (Wed)	Warm-Season Turfgrass Adaptation and Uses; Principles in Turfgrass Growth and Development	Goatley: Dr. Leah Brillman, Director of Product Management & Technical Services at DLF-Pickseed; Guest CTP: John Clintsman, Ensworth School, Nashville, TN.
November 18, 21 (Tues) NOTE: TUESDAY EVENING FOR ZOOM MEETING THIS WEEK	Soil Science Principles for Turfgrass Managers	Jon Dickerson, Director, VT Agriculture Technology Turfgrass Program; Guest CTP: Larry Newman, Construction Mgr/Environmental Monitor AMT Engineering
November 25, 29 (Wed)	Irrigation Principles in Turfgrass Management	Dr. Dan Sandor, Collegiate Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Science; Industry Guest: Mr. Brad Jakubowski, Instructor/Agronomy Penn State; Guest CTP: Harrison Young, Director of Racing Services, Colonial Downs Race Track, New Kent, VA
December 2, 6 (Wed)	Mowing Principles and Cultural Management Practices	Goatley; Industry and Guest CTPs: Rodney Jordan, Rock Haven Turf Specialties and Will Cole, Salem Red Sox
December 9, 13 (Wed)	Turfgrass Nutrition and Nutrient Management Strategies;	Goatley; Industry Guest, Dr. Eric Miltner, Allied Industries; Guest CTP: Harris Wheeler, Founder and Owner of Grounds Maintenance Consulting and Training Services.
December 16, 19 (Tues) NOTE: TUESDAY EVENING FOR ZOOM MEETING THIS WEEK	Turfgrass Establishment	Adam Nichols, Turfgrass Research Manager, VT Hampton Roads AREC; Industry guest: Industry and Guest CTP: Jeff Everhart, Sales Associate (retired), Woodward Turf Farm
NO CLASS the week of Dec 23	NO CLASS	
December 30, January 3 (Wed)	Weed Identification Tips for the Most Prominent Transition Zone Weeds	Dr. Jeff Derr, Professor and Extension Ornamental Weed Specialist and Director, VT-HRAREC; Industry Guest: Brian Hinkley, Liberty University and Guest CTP: Zach Horsley, Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA

January 6, 10 (Wed)	Principles of Turf Entomology and Tips in Identification and Mgt of the Predominant MidAtlantic Turfgrass Insects	Dr. Thomas Kuhar, Professor of Entomology; Dr. Alejandro Del Pozo Valdivia, Assistant Professor of Entomology; Industry Guest: Jon Zalewski, Business Development Manager, Professional Grounds Inc; Guest CTP: Martin Marano, Ass't Acc't Mgt/Training and Dvlpt Specialist, Professional Grounds Inc., Lorton, VA
January 13, 17 (Wed)	Weed Management Principles in Turfgrass Systems	Dr. Shawn Askew, Professor and Extension Turfgrass Specialist; Greg Caldwell CGCS, Pete Dye River Course; Guest CTP: Damian Beasley, Boonsboro CC
January 20, 24 (Wed)	Best Management Practices that Protect Water Quality	Goatley Guest CTP, Val Buhner, Sales Association, The Turf and Gardening Store, Roanoke, VA
January 27, Jan 31 (Wed)	Turfgrass Disease Management and Tips in Identification and Management of the Predominant Mid-Atlantic Turfgrass Diseases	Dr. David McCall, Assistant Professor and Turfgrass Pathology Specialist; Initiate Turfgrass Mathematics problem solving exercises with Goatley, Sandor, and Roberson
February 3, 7 (Wed)	Review of Turfgrass Mathematics	Goatley/Sandor: Review Turfgrass Mathematics problem solving exercises with Goatley and Sandor
February 10, 14 (Wed)	Review week preparation for optional Virginia Tech Certified Turfgrass Professional exams.	
February 17-March 31	Optional Virginia Tech Certified Turfgrass Professional Testing available over this approximately 7 week period for all students that qualify to sit for the CTP exams.	

