Sportsturf Science & Maintenance

(Component Award)

L6

About the Course

The Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin and Teagasc Kildalton College, Co. Kilkenny are offering a QQI Level 6 component award in Sportsturf Science and Maintenance, which will equip the learner with the knowledge, skills and competence to manage all of the factors that influence the development, quality and maintenance of sportsturf in Ireland. This course will lead to a minor award at NFQ Level 6 in Sportsturf Science and Maintenance (6N3623).

Who should apply?

This course is designed for anyone already employed in the area of sportsturf management, in particular golf courses, sports fields/pitches, equestrian or any other sports facility using natural turf. It is particularly suited to those who are embarking on a career in sportsturf and who wish to develop a greater understanding of the sciences underpinning all aspects of sportsturf maintenance.

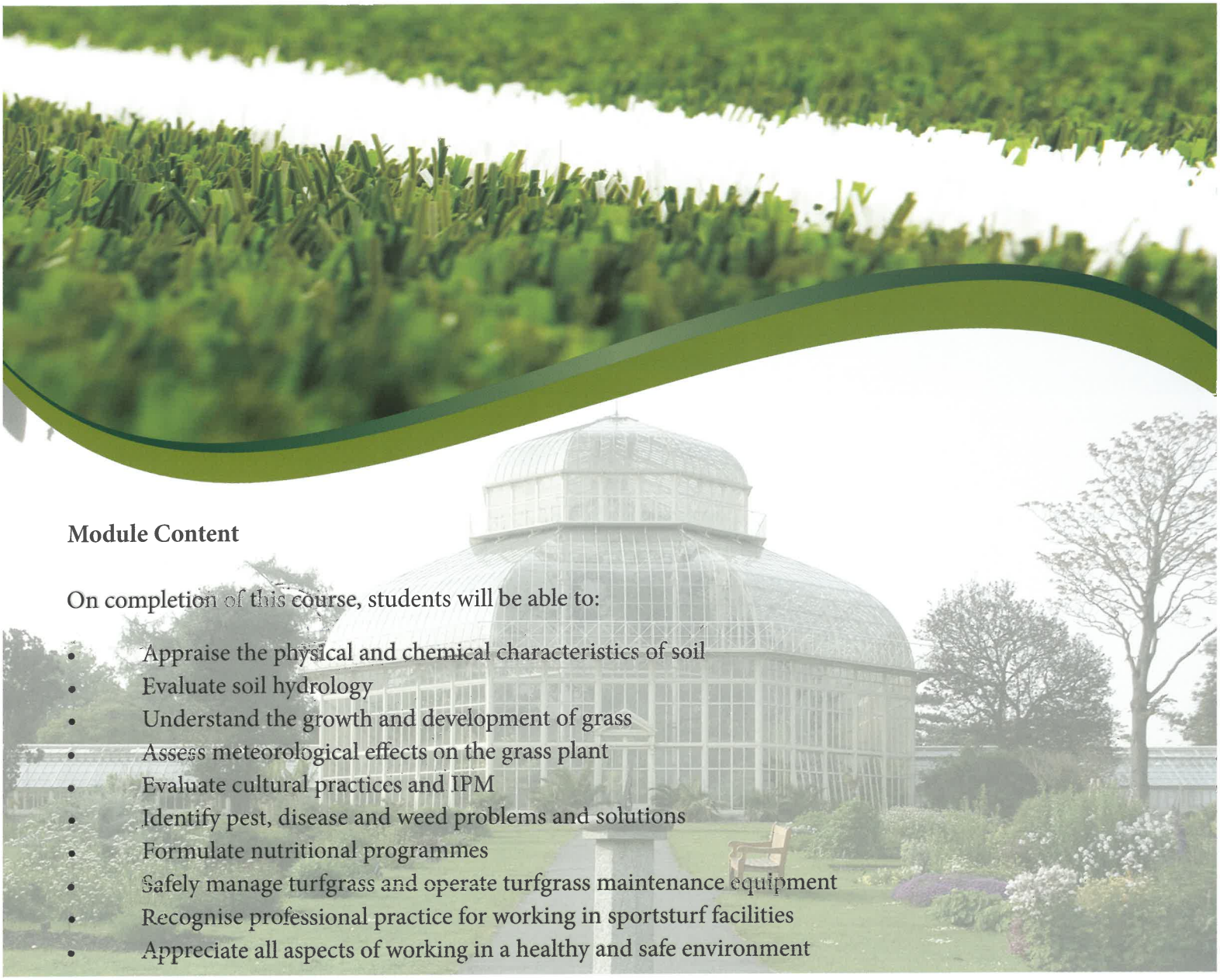
The course will focus on the use of sustainable methods of managing turfgrass. Particular emphasis will be placed on developing a thorough understanding of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and environmental conservation as required under the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD) legislation.

Progression

This award is a component part of the Advanced Certificate in Horticulture programme offered at The College of Amenity Horticulture, Glasnevin and Teagasc Kildalton College, Co. Kilkenny. On completion of this module, students can take other part-time modules that are complimentary to this Sportsturf Science module.

Teagasc

Agriculture and Food Development Authority



Module Content

On completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Appraise the physical and chemical characteristics of soil
- Evaluate soil hydrology
- Understand the growth and development of grass
- Assess meteorological effects on the grass plant
- Evaluate cultural practices and IPM
- Identify pest, disease and weed problems and solutions
- Formulate nutritional programmes
- Safely manage turfgrass and operate turfgrass maintenance equipment
- Recognise professional practice for working in sportsturf facilities
- Appreciate all aspects of working in a healthy and safe environment

Course Structure

In the National Botanic Gardens the course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November. At Teagasc Kildalton College the course will be offered in early January. Students will attend college two days per week and will be required to undertake an industry based project which will focus on specific aspects of turfgrass management. Their competence in sportsturf maintenance skills will be assessed at the end of the course by College personnel. Students will be required to keep a comprehensive diary detailing their learning of the prescribed practical skills as set out in the course schedule.

Please contact the college of your choice to access the precise mode of delivery and current fees.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it to the college of their choice by end of May.

Application forms are available from the College office, Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Tel: 01-8040201 or Email: botanic.college@teagasc.ie

Teagasc Kildalton Agriculture & Horticulture College, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny
Tel: 051-644400 or Email: kildalton.college@teagasc.ie

From the Teagasc website: www.teagasc.ie

Revision Date: *March 2016*