

Penang Sangam High School
P.O. Box 44, Rakiraki
Year 12 Agriculture Lesson Notes Week 10

Strand	AS 12.3 Agronomy
Sub-Strand	AS 12.3.2.3: Ornamental Horticulture
Content Learning Outcome	Deliberate on Ornamental Horticulture by investigating, selecting and practicing appropriate husbandry methods on selected ornamental plants.

Lesson 7: Common Ornamental Grasses

Lesson Outcome: Distinguish among the three grass families and identify some ornamental grasses.

Grass - vegetation consisting of short plants with long narrow leaves, growing wild or cultivated on lawns and pasture, and as a fodder crop.

Sedges - a grass-like plant with triangular stems and inconspicuous flowers, growing in wet ground

Rushes - a grass-like flowering plant distinguished by cylindrical stalks and hollow, stem-like leaves.

Ornamental grasses add color, flowers and texture to an area.

There are five families of grasses which are primarily used in ornamental grass gardening.

- i) the Poaceae family (true grasses) eg. Lemon grass
- ii) the Cyperaceae family (sedges) eg. Umbrella plant
- iii) the Juncaceae family (rushes) eg. Tall Spike Rush [Kuta]
- iv) the Typhaceae family (cattails) eg. Common cattail
- v) the Restionaceae family (restios) eg. Hollow Reed

2020 – Name one common ornamental grass that you have studied. (1 mark)

Activity Questions

1. Discuss the roles which the ornamental grasses play.

2. Differentiate between a shrub and an herb.

3. Fiji sago palm, *Metroxylon vitiense*, is a threatened species which is endemic to Fiji. Discuss how threatened species can be saved from extinction.

Lesson 8: Establishing Lawns**Lesson Outcome: Discuss methods used to establish lawns.**

Before lawns are established, site must be cleared, finely tilled, leveled and fertilizing material applied.

Method of planting lawns	Advantage	Disadvantage
<u>Seeding</u> - broadcasting seeds over the site	-cheaper than any other method -seeds are readily available -can be carried out on any site	-time spent is more -labor involved -uneven establishment may occur
<u>Hydro mulching</u> - seed is mixed with water and paper mulch material before being sprayed onto the site by hydro mulcher	-paper mulch material helps to reduce erosion	-water, paper mulch and spraying equipment are needed
<u>Sod Establishment</u> - sod is carefully harvested, rolled up and transported to new site where it is unrolled	-quickest and easiest method -least labor intensive	-high price of sod -expensive to buy and install sod
<u>Sprigging</u> - pieces of rhizomes or stolons having two nodes placed in soil, 25% remains above soil surface to encourage top growth	-used for those grass varieties that produce poor quality seeds or insufficient amounts of seed	
<u>Stolonizing</u> – broadcasting stolons over moist soil and pressing into soil, leaving 25% of the sprig's length exposed	-can also be used with a hydro mulcher	
<u>Plugging</u> - placing mature plugs of turf into soil about 10 cm deep and 5 cm wide at a spacing of 10cm by 10 cm.	-done to repair small areas of damaged turf -can be used to establish an entire lawn	

Activity Questions

1. Explain the importance of developing salt tolerant plants.

2. Explain one reason why paper mulch material is used during the hydro mulching of a new lawn.
