



MU TURFGRASS SCIENCE PROGRAM

*College of Agriculture, Food
and Natural Resources*

Unique Program

- The MU Turfgrass Science Program is one of the top programs in the country. It is also the only four-year program in Missouri that offers a BS degree in Turfgrass Management.
- Due to Missouri's geographic location, our program offers students a unique curriculum that includes both cool and warm season grass courses.

Exceptional Students

- Because of our unique curriculum, our students are highly recruited in the turfgrass industry. They have been offered internships and jobs at such high visibility venues as the Boston Red Sox, Kansas City Royals, Baltimore Ravens, Cleveland Browns, the Bellerive Country Club and the Porto Cima Country Club, just to name a few.
- Our turfgrass students receive the best of both worlds: the prestige of working within a large research institution and small classes that allow for quality, one-on-one interaction from their professors.

Quality Faculty

- We are pleased to welcome Dr. Xi Xiong to our program as a turf management researcher and professor. She joins Brad Fresenburg, who has been with MU for over 20 years and presently serves as a state turfgrass specialist involved in extension, research and teaching.
- With Missouri's turfgrass industry on the rise, we are in the process of hiring a new faculty position in turf pathology. This individual will provide much needed support of disease management.
- In addition to on-campus faculty and researchers, there are 15 horticultural extension specialists located around the state who help coordinate Master Gardener programs, sports turf seminars and conferences.

Cutting Edge Research

- As the only working laboratory of its kind in the country, our state-of-the-art infield research diamond is similar to playing surfaces used by professional baseball teams.
- With growing concerns of infectious bacteria in synthetic fields, our researchers are installing a new synthetic experimental surface for testing the survivability of bacteria in a so-called sterile environment.
- The results of a recent research project by one of our graduate students helped in the development of a new root zone mix installed at Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

New State-of-the-Art Facility

- Thanks to the support of industry leaders, the MU Turfgrass Science Program has raised more than \$150,000 toward a new teaching and research facility at our South Farm location. This building will include an advanced technology classroom for student and community use, offices, a conference room, library and greenhouse. The next generation of turf leaders will get a head start at this facility and help propel advances in turfgrass research, education and extension.

CONTACT INFORMATION

BRAD FRESENBURG
TURFGRASS SPECIALIST
573-442-4893
FRESENBURGB@MISSOURI.EDU

MIA PLATZ
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
573-884-8732
PLATZM@MISSOURI.EDU