



Homeowner Survey

Thank you for your interest in the Sustainable Landscape Seminar. Your completion of this survey will enable us to help you create a beautiful, environmentally friendly, Alabama Yard. Future development of educational programs may be guided by your responses.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

If you have any questions, please call Tony Glover at (205) 879-6964 Ext. 15 or email at gloveta@auburn.edu.

I voluntarily agree to participate in this survey.

Are you a Master Gardener?
Yes _____ No _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. What is the size of the property or lot that you maintain as lawn or landscape? Check the answer that best fits your situation.

10% About 1/8 acre (less than 7,500 Sq. Ft.)

15% About 1/4 acre (7,501 to 12,500 Sq. Ft.)

20% About 1/2 acre (12,501 to 30,000 Sq. Ft.)

20% About 1 acre (30,001 to 50,000 Sq. Ft.)

35% Over 1 acre (specify) _____

2. About what percent of your landscaped area is lawn (turfgrass)?

<u>3%</u>	0% (no lawn)	<u>38%</u>	26 to 50%
<u>26%</u>	Less than 25%	<u>11%</u>	76 to 100%
<u>22%</u>	51 to 75%		

SITE ANALYSIS, PLANTING, AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN

3. Please indicate whether you use any of the following practices:

Plants are chosen based on site conditions (soil pH, soil drainage, sun, shade, salt.etc.).
Yes 92% No 5% Don't know 3%

Plants are grouped into beds by water needs.
Yes 57% No 35% Don't know 8%

Trees and shrubs are planted with the top of the root ball even with or slightly higher than the soil surface.
Yes 86% No 8% Don't know 6%

Low-maintenance areas are included in the landscape (natural areas, ground covers and mulch only areas).
Yes 90% No 9% Don't know 1%

STORMWATER RUNOFF

4. Please Indicate whether you use any of the following practices to keep stormwater on site.

Downspouts drain onto the lawn, landscape beds, or containment areas where rain can soak into the soil.
Yes 71% No 25% Don't know 4%

Mulch, brick, gravel or other porous surfaces are used on walkways, patios and driveways.
Yes 63% No 37% Don't know _____

A rain barrel or cistern collects rainwater for irrigating plants.
Yes 16% No 84% Don't know _____

Low areas in the landscape catch and filter stormwater (Rain garden).
Yes _____ No _____ Don't know _____

DATA MISSING

IRRIGATION

5. How are your lawn and landscape beds watered? Check all that apply:

Lawn	Beds	
42%	16%	Rainfall only.
24%	27%	Permanent sprinkler system
6%	27%	Drip, trickle, microsprayers, soaker hoses or other low volume system.
35%	68%	Garden hose and sprinkler or hand-held nozzle.

6. Please indicate whether you use any of the following irrigation practices.

Plant beds are watered separately from lawn.
Yes 85% No 14% Don't know 1%

1/2 to 3/4 inch of water is applied per irrigation
Yes 65% No 9% Don't know 26%

Adjust watering according to rainfall and season.
Yes 71% No 18% Don't know 11%

FERTILIZATION

- 7. Fertilizer is applied in your lawn or landscape by:**
 12% No one (fertilizer is never applied; go to Question #9).
 67% You or a member of the household.
 21% A lawn service or commercial maintenance company.
- 8. Please indicate whether you or your lawn care service use any of the following practices:**
 Fertilizers with slow release components are used.
 Yes 78% No 13% Don't know 9%
- Fertilizer is applied at rates of 1 pound or less of actual nitrogen per 1000 square feet.
 Yes 41% No 10% Don't know 49%

PEST MANAGEMENT

- 9. Pests are controlled in the lawn or landscape by:**
 23% No one controls pests (go to Question #11).
 67% You or a member of the household.
 10% A lawn service or commercial maintenance company.
- 10. Please indicate whether you or your lawn care service use any of the following practices**
 The lawn and/or landscape plants are routinely checked for pest problems.
 Yes 74% No 23% Don't know 3%
- Pesticides are applied only when a pest problem is confirmed.
 Yes 88% No 8% Don't know 4%
- Only infested plant(s) or lawn area(s) are spot-treated
 Yes 88% No 7% Don't know 5%
- Avoid practices which encourage pests (i.e. mowing too low, excessive watering or fertilizing, improper pruning).
 Yes 89% No 3% Don't know 8%
- If a pesticide is needed, the product (i.e. soaps, oils, etc.) with the least harmful impact on the environment is chosen.
 Yes 70% No 15% Don't know 15%

MOWING, MULCHING & RECYCLING

- 11. Does a lawn care service or maintenance company mow your lawn and/or care for your landscape?**
 _____ All the time _____ Sometimes _____ Never
- 12. What type(s) of lawn grass do you have?**
- | | | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| <u>6.7%</u> | Fescue | <u>21.2%</u> | Centipede | <u>1.8%</u> | Bahia |
| <u>4.1%</u> | St. Augustine | <u>36.4%</u> | Bermuda | <u>19%</u> | Zoysia |
| <u>.3%</u> | Bluegrass | <u>5%</u> | Don't know | | |
| <u>5.6%</u> | Other: | | | | |
- 13. At what height do you or your lawn care service mow the lawn?**
- | | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| <u>1.8%</u> | Under 1 ½ in. | <u>30%</u> | 1 ½ -< 2 in. | |
| <u>50%</u> | 2 – 3 in. | <u>8%</u> | Over 3 in. | <u>11.2%</u> Don't know |

- 14. Please indicate whether you or your lawn care service use any of the following practices.**
 Mulch is applied 2 to 3 inches deep in beds around trees and shrubs.
 Yes 83% No 14% Don't know 3%
- Yard trimmings, leaves, pruning clippings, grass clippings, etc. are used on site.
 Yes 76% No 22% Don't know 2%
- Grass clippings are left on lawn.
 Yes 68% No 31% Don't know 1%

WILDLIFE

- 15. Please indicate whether you use any of the following practices.**
 Use plants in landscape which provide food for wildlife.
 Yes 81% No 17% Don't know 2%
- Use plants in landscape which provide cover or nesting sites for birds.
 Yes 88% No 9% Don't know 3%
- Provide sources of water for wildlife
 Yes 84% No 15% Don't know 1%
- 16. Which of the following best describes IPM (Integrated Pest Management)?**
- | | |
|------------|--|
| <u>16%</u> | a. Proper pest identification |
| <u>3%</u> | b. Talking to the sales person at the store, making notes and asking questions |
| <u>14%</u> | c. Finding the single best control option and applying it as directed |
| <u>9%</u> | d. Applying multiple control strategies as directed |
| <u>46%</u> | e. Both a & d |
| <u>12%</u> | f. Both b & c |
- 17. Do you feel it is important to read the label of a chemical you plan to apply to your home or garden?**
- | | |
|------------|--------|
| <u>99%</u> | a. Yes |
| <u>1%</u> | b. No |
- 18. How hard is it (use the following scale) to understand pesticide labels?**
- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>9</u> | <u>10</u> |
| Easy | | | | | | | | | Very difficult |
| (-----30%-----) | (-----60-----) | (-----10-----) | | | | | | | |
- 19. Where do you go for answers? Please give one reference or resource that you count on for information (web, magazine, neighbor, etc.) related to your daily life, your home and/or garden.**
- | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|----------|------------|----|-------------|
| ACES | <u>29%</u> | Library | <u>10%</u> | Magazine | <u>15%</u> | MG | <u>8.5%</u> |
| Family/Friends | <u>5%</u> | Nursery/Garden Center | <u>5%</u> | | | | |
| Internet | <u>27%</u> | Own Experience | <u>.5%</u> | | | | |
- 20. How motivated are you to reduce dependence on synthetic chemicals and fertilizers (use the following scale).**
- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>9</u> | <u>10</u> |
| Not Very | | | | | | | | | Highly motivated |
| (-----5%-----) | (-----35%-----) | (-----60%-----) | | | | | | | |