



# IPM

Planning Guide

instructions

## Goal Setting Instructions

### What is the Goal Setting Form?

This first step in building your IPM Planning Guide encourages you to identify the goals you hope to achieve.

### What is the Goal Setting Form used for?

- an internal guide that will help you assess your progress
- a communication tool that explains to managers and staff the vision you have for the golf course

**Estimated time:** 30 minutes

### Materials needed:

Forms: Goal Setting Form

### Instructions

1. If you are entering your information using your computer, open the goal setting form file. Click on “save as” in the “File” menu, choose an appropriate location on your computer to save the file (the authors suggest that you create an “IPM Plan” folder for all of your files) and name the file appropriately. For file naming, the authors suggest the current date followed by the word “goals” (example: 2010\_0513\_goals). Once the file has been saved on your computer, you can begin work on it.

If you are entering your information by hand, open the PDF version of the Goal Setting Form file and save it using the instructions above. Then print it out to begin work on it.

2. Identify roughly three to five goals in each of three main categories shown on the form:
  - agronomic
  - environmental
  - budgetary
3. An “other” category is included to allow customization of goals that fit your specific circumstances.
4. Goals should be tangible, as specific as possible, realistic and should have a targeted completion date. Some examples of agronomic, budgetary and environmental goals are listed below:

# INSTRUCTIONS

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- Identify methods for reducing organic matter on greens, and select optimum methods for this facility by September 2011 (agronomic).
  - Reduce organic matter on greens from current levels of 5-6 percent down to 2 percent by the end of 2010 (agronomic).
  - At the end of 2010, identify reductions in earthworms and insect pests, as well as improvements in firmness and water movement that result from organic matter management (agronomic).
  - Manage caterpillar pests with appropriate cultural practices and/or more environmentally compatible insecticides by the end of this year (environmental).
  - Reduce pesticide inputs on fairways and roughs by utilizing spot treatments (as opposed to broadcast treatments) of pesticides whenever appropriate. Document the annual acreage treated with pesticides to measure progress. Complete by year end (environmental and budgetary).
5. Review your goals quarterly to assess progress and make adjustments. You should identify new goals at the start of each new year or new season, whichever is most convenient for you.