2012 Florida GI-BMP Follow-Up Survey



1. Select the county for your primary location of operation and/or branch services.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Alachua	2.5%	13
Baker	0.0%	0
Вау	1.2%	6
Bradford	0.2%	1
Brevard	1.6%	8
Broward	6.0%	31
Calhoun	0.2%	1
Charlotte	0.2%	1
Citrus	0.4%	2
Clay	0.2%	1
Collier	6.6%	34
Columbia	0.0%	0
Desoto	0.2%	1
Dixie	0.0%	0
Duval	2.9%	15
Escambia	0.6%	3
Flagler	0.4%	2
Franklin	0.4%	2
Gadsden	0.0%	0
Gilchrist	0.0%	0
Glades	0.0%	0

Gulf	0.09	% 0
Hamilton	0.09	% 0
Hardee	0.09	% 0
Hendry	0.09	% 0
Hernando	0.89	% 4
Highlands	0.09	% 0
Hillsborough	3.79	% 19
Holmes	0.09	% 0
Indian River	1.09	% 5
Jackson	0.29	% 1
Jefferson	0.09	% 0
Lafayette	0.09	% 0
Lake	1.29	% 6
Lee	7.69	% 39
Leon	5.89	% 30
Levy	0.09	% 0
Liberty	0.29	% 1
Madison	0.09	% 0
Manatee	3.59	% 18
Marion	1.99	% 10
Martin	1.09	% 5
Miami-Dade	2.19	% 11
Monroe	0.69	% 3
Nassau	0.49	% 2
Okaloosa	0.89	% 4
Okeechobee	0.0%	% 0

Orange	9.7%	50
Osceola	2.1%	11
Palm Beach	4.1%	21
Pasco	3.7%	19
Pinellas	7.4%	38
Polk	1.2%	6
Putnam	0.2%	1
Santa Rosa	0.6%	3
Sarasota	4.8%	25
Seminole	2.7%	14
St. Johns	2.7%	14
St. Lucie	1.7%	9
Sumter	1.4%	7
Suwannee	0.2%	1
Taylor	0.0%	0
Union	0.0%	0
Volusia	1.7%	9
Wakulla	0.2%	1
Walton	1.2%	6
Washington	0.0%	0
Outside FL	0.4%	2
	answered question	516
	skipped question	18

2. How far do you travel to provide services from your business address or center of operation (branch office)?

	Response Percent	Response Count
0-25 miles	57.4%	296
25-50 miles	25.0%	129
50-100 miles	11.2%	58
100-150 miles	3.1%	16
More than 150 miles	3.3%	17
	answered question	516
	skipped question	18

3. How long have you been certified as a GI-BMP professional?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 1 year	22.5%	116
1-2 years	30.2%	156
2-3 years	19.8%	102
3-4 years	9.7%	50
4-5 years	5.0%	26
5-6 years	12.8%	66
	answered question	516
	skipped question	18

4. Indicate your current level of education:

	Response Percent	Response Count
No High School Diploma	1.9%	10
High School/GED Diploma	29.3%	151
Technical School Certificate/Diploma	10.5%	54
Associate Degree	19.4%	100
Bachelor's Degree	26.2%	135
Master's Degree	10.3%	53
Ph.D.	2.5%	13
	answered question	516
	skipped question	18

5. Please indicate which of the following describes your company:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Pest Control Company	14.0%	72
Education (Teacher, Instructor)	7.8%	40
Lawn/Landscape Maintenance Service (Mowing/Pruning)	32.8%	169
Ornamental Pest Control Services	19.6%	101
Turfgrass Pest Control Services	17.6%	91
Fertilizer Application Services	20.5%	106
Irrigation Installation/Maintenance Services	16.1%	83
Arborist	8.5%	44
Specialty Turfgrass Management (Golf/Sports Turf)	7.8%	40
Equipment/Material Retail Sales	0.8%	4
Consultant	9.1%	47
Institution (Condominium, Hospital, In-house)	1.2%	6
Government (Public Works, Facility Operations)	23.1%	119
Other (please specify)	20.2%	104
	answered question	516
	skipped question	18

6. Which of the following best describes your position?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Trainer	9.1%	47
Grounds Maintenance Technician (Mowing, Pruning,Trimming)	8.1%	42
Landscape Contractor	5.2%	27
Landscape Architect	1.7%	9
Landscape Designer	6.2%	32
Landscape Maintenance Pesticide/Fertilizer Technician	9.3%	48
Interiorscape	0.6%	3
Resort/Facility Manager	1.6%	8
Parks/Recreation/Gardens	8.5%	44
Urban Forester	1.7%	9
Irrigation Contractor	3.7%	19
Irrigation Technician	3.5%	18
Golf Course Management	4.3%	22
Specialty Turfgrass Manager (Sports/Recreation Fields)	4.1%	21
Owner	25.4%	131
Branch/Account Manager	10.9%	56
Property Manager	5.0%	26
Pest Control Operator	7.9%	41
Other (please specify)	25.2%	130
	answered question	516
	skipped question	18

7. What was the total lawn area fertilized by this company/institution in the past 12 months?

	Response Average	Response Total	Response Count
Number of acres	93,445.31	28,500,819	305
Total sq.ft.	16,506,029.52	2,756,506,930	167
	ansv	wered question	320
	ski	ipped question	214

8. What were your company's total revenues in the past 12 months?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than \$100 thousand	40.9%	150
\$100 to \$199 thousand	6.3%	23
\$200 to \$299 thousand	3.8%	14
\$300 to \$399 thousand	3.3%	12
\$400 to 499 thousand	1.1%	4
\$500 to \$999 thousand	8.2%	30
\$1 to \$1.9 million	7.9%	29
\$2 to \$4.9 million	8.7%	32
\$5 to \$9.9 million	4.4%	16
\$10 to \$14.9 million	3.3%	12
\$15 to \$19.9 million	1.1%	4
\$20 to \$24.9 million	0.8%	3
\$25 million or greater	10.4%	38
	answered question	367
	skipped question	167

9. What percentage (%) of your total revenue came from fertilizer application services?

	Response Percent	Response Count
None	50.7%	219
25% or less	37.5%	162
50%	4.9%	21
75%	4.9%	21
100%	2.1%	9
	answered question	432
	skipped question	102

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Used weather forecasting information to plan a fertilization schedule.	9.1% (40)	14.5% (64)	22.7% (100)	39.1% (172)	14.5% (64)	440
Used soil test results to determine fertilization needs.	17.0% (75)	32.5% (143)	21.4% (94)	15.0% (66)	14.1% (62)	440
Established fertilizer-free buffer zones around water bodies.	9.8% (43)	9.5% (42)	13.6% (60)	49.8% (219)	17.3% (76)	440
Used a fertilizer broadcast spreader deflector shield.	13.2% (58)	10.2% (45)	12.3% (54)	45.9% (202)	18.4% (81)	440
Read the fertilizer label to determine slow- and quick-release nitrogen sources.	6.4% (28)	7.0% (31)	9.8% (43)	64.3% (283)	12.5% (55)	440
Inspected plant for insect and disease pressures before applying nutrients.	8.0% (35)	11.4% (50)	16.8% (74)	51.1% (225)	12.7% (56)	440
Calibrated fertilizer application equipment.	8.4% (37)	13.6% (60)	13.9% (61)	48.0% (211)	16.1% (71)	440
				answe	red question	440
				skipp	ed question	94

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Use weather forecasting information to plan a fertilization schedule.	2.0% (9)	4.8% (21)	15.7% (69)	63.9% (281)	13.6% (60)	440
Use soil test results to determine fertilization needs.	7.5% (33)	20.5% (90)	27.5% (121)	30.7% (135)	13.9% (61)	440
Establish fertilizer-free buffer zones around water bodies.	1.8% (8)	2.0% (9)	5.7% (25)	75.0% (330)	15.5% (68)	440
Use a fertilizer broadcast spreader deflector shield.	3.4% (15)	4.1% (18)	8.0% (35)	65.7% (289)	18.9% (83)	440
Read the fertilizer label to determine slow- and quick-release nitrogen sources.	1.6% (7)	1.6% (7)	4.3% (19)	80.2% (353)	12.3% (54)	440
Inspect plant for insect and disease pressures before applying nutrients.	2.3% (10)	3.6% (16)	12.5% (55)	69.1% (304)	12.5% (55)	440
Calibrate fertilizer application equipment.	3.0% (13)	2.7% (12)	13.6% (60)	63.6% (280)	17.0% (75)	440
				answe	ered question	440
skipped question						

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Used Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when handling and/or applying pesticides.	3.3% (13)	11.4% (45)	16.5% (65)	54.4% (215)	14.4% (57)	395
Used IPM to determine pest control method(s).	8.1% (32)	13.4% (53)	25.3% (100)	39.0% (154)	14.2% (56)	395
Monitored pest populations to determine when to apply pesticides.	6.3% (25)	13.9% (55)	23.8% (94)	42.0% (166)	13.9% (55)	395
Scouted routinely to identify existing or potential pest problems.	6.1% (24)	13.2% (52)	24.1% (95)	44.1% (174)	12.7% (50)	395
Performed spot treatment when appropriate.	4.1% (16)	10.9% (43)	22.0% (87)	48.4% (191)	14.7% (58)	395
Stored all pesticides in a secured area.	3.5% (14)	5.8% (23)	10.9% (43)	64.3% (254)	15.4% (61)	395
Established pesticide application- free buffer zones per label instructions.	6.1% (24)	9.1% (36)	14.7% (58)	54.7% (216)	15.4% (61)	395
Maintained proper records of all pesticide applications.	5.8% (23)	9.6% (38)	12.9% (51)	55.2% (218)	16.5% (65)	395
Read and followed all label directions.	1.5% (6)	6.1% (24)	10.1% (40)	68.4% (270)	13.9% (55)	395
Trained other employees in proper pest identification and pesticide selection techniques.	4.8% (19)	11.1% (44)	17.5% (69)	42.0% (166)	24.6% (97)	395
Used spill cleanup equipment to clean, control, contain, collect, and store spilled material until proper disposal.	7.3% (29)	6.8% (27)	10.6% (42)	52.4% (207)	22.8% (90)	395
				answe	ered question	395
				skip	ped question	139

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when handling and/or applying pesticides.	0.8% (3)	1.8% (7)	7.6% (30)	74.9% (296)	14.9% (59)	395
Use IPM to determine pest control method(s).	1.5% (6)	2.8% (11)	12.2% (48)	69.1% (273)	14.4% (57)	395
Monitor pest populations to determine when to apply pesticides.	1.5% (6)	3.8% (15)	11.9% (47)	68.6% (271)	14.2% (56)	395
Scout routinely to identify existing or potential pest problems.	1.3% (5)	2.8% (11)	14.4% (57)	68.6% (271)	12.9% (51)	395
Spot treat when appropriate.	1.3% (5)	1.5% (6)	8.4% (33)	73.2% (289)	15.7% (62)	395
Store all pesticides in a secured area.	1.3% (5)	0.3% (1)	3.5% (14)	79.0% (312)	15.9% (63)	395
Establish pesticide application-free buffer zones per label instructions.	1.0% (4)	0.8% (3)	4.6% (18)	77.5% (306)	16.2% (64)	395
Maintain proper records of all pesticide applications.	1.5% (6)	0.8% (3)	5.1% (20)	76.2% (301)	16.5% (65)	395
Read and follow all label directions.	1.0% (4)	0.3% (1)	2.0% (8)	82.8% (327)	13.9% (55)	395
Train other employees in proper pest identification and pesticide selection techniques.	2.3% (9)	3.0% (12)	8.6% (34)	63.8% (252)	22.3% (88)	395
Use spill cleanup equipment to clean, control, contain, collect, and store spilled material until proper disposal.	1.8% (7)	1.0% (4)	3.5% (14)	71.6% (283)	22.0% (87)	395
				answe	ered question	395
				skip	ped question	139

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Left grass clippings on the lawn after mowing.	4.5% (17)	10.6% (40)	16.8% (63)	49.7% (187)	18.4% (69)	376
Maintained a mulch depth of 2-3 inches.	2.9% (11)	13.0% (49)	27.7% (104)	38.3% (144)	18.1% (68)	376
Avoided mulching around tree trunks and shrub bases.	9.6% (36)	18.6% (70)	17.6% (66)	37.0% (139)	17.3% (65)	376
Used the highest acceptable mowing height for the grass being grown.	4.5% (17)	12.0% (45)	18.1% (68)	47.6% (179)	17.8% (67)	376
Avoided removing more than a third of the grass leaf blade at one time.	5.9% (22)	13.6% (51)	23.1% (87)	38.8% (146)	18.6% (70)	376
Sharpened mower blades to maintain clean mowing cuts.	2.9% (11)	13.3% (50)	19.1% (72)	44.7% (168)	19.9% (75)	376
Mowed turf when dry to maintain turf quality and health.	3.7% (14)	14.4% (54)	34.6% (130)	28.5% (107)	18.9% (71)	376
				answe	ered question	376
skipped question						158

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Leave grass clippings on the lawn after mowing.	7.7% (29)	5.6% (21)	9.0% (34)	59.0% (222)	18.6% (70)	376
Maintain a mulch depth of 2-3 inches.	1.1% (4)	3.2% (12)	20.7% (78)	56.9% (214)	18.1% (68)	376
Avoid mulching around tree trunks and shrub bases.	3.2% (12)	3.5% (13)	15.2% (57)	60.6% (228)	17.6% (66)	376
Use the highest acceptable mowing height for the grass being grown.	1.3% (5)	1.6% (6)	10.6% (40)	67.8% (255)	18.6% (70)	376
Avoid removing more than a third of the grass leaf blade at one time.	1.6% (6)	2.9% (11)	16.0% (60)	60.6% (228)	18.9% (71)	376
Sharpen mower blades to maintain clean mowing cuts.	0.8% (3)	3.2% (12)	11.4% (43)	63.8% (240)	20.7% (78)	376
Mow turf when dry to maintain turf quality and health.	2.4% (9)	4.8% (18)	27.7% (104)	45.5% (171)	19.7% (74)	376
				answe	ered question	376
skipped question						

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Reset irrigation controllers/timers seasonally.	4.4% (16)	12.3% (45)	16.1% (59)	42.1% (154)	25.1% (92)	366
Calibrated rain shut-off devices and/or other automated methods to manage irrigation.	10.4% (38)	14.8% (54)	16.4% (60)	29.5% (108)	29.0% (106)	366
Ensured irrigation rates to prevent leaching and runoff.	7.9% (29)	15.6% (57)	19.7% (72)	32.8% (120)	24.0% (88)	366
Used soil moisture or other sensing devices to ensure effective water use.	29.5% (108)	15.6% (57)	13.7% (50)	15.3% (56)	26.0% (95)	366
Applied no more than ½ to ¾ inches of water per irrigation event.	4.6% (17)	14.8% (54)	26.5% (97)	30.1% (110)	24.0% (88)	366
Considered over-irrigation harmful to the plant and environment.	6.6% (24)	9.6% (35)	16.4% (60)	51.4% (188)	16.1% (59)	366
				answe	red question	366
skipped question						

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Reset irrigation controllers/timers seasonally.	1.6% (6)	2.5% (9)	10.1% (37)	60.1% (220)	25.7% (94)	366
Calibrate rain shut-off devices and/or other automated methods to manage irrigation.	3.6% (13)	4.9% (18)	15.3% (56)	48.1% (176)	28.1% (103)	366
Ensure irrigation rates to prevent leaching and runoff.	1.9% (7)	2.2% (8)	15.6% (57)	56.6% (207)	23.8% (87)	366
Use soil moisture or other sensing devices to ensure effective water use.	13.4% (49)	10.1% (37)	16.7% (61)	34.2% (125)	25.7% (94)	366
Apply no more than ½ to ¾ inches of water per irrigation event.	1.6% (6)	2.7% (10)	16.1% (59)	54.9% (201)	24.6% (90)	366
Consider over-irrigation harmful to the plant and environment.	1.6% (6)	0.8% (3)	7.1% (26)	74.0% (271)	16.4% (60)	366
				answe	ered question	366
skipped question						

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count	
Used brochures or included comments with billing to educate clients.	15.7% (56)	20.8% (74)	12.9% (46)	16.0% (57)	34.6% (123)	356	
Assisted clients in setting/programming the irrigation timer.	6.7% (24)	20.8% (74)	14.3% (51)	23.0% (82)	35.1% (125)	356	
Assisted clients or provided services in calibrating irrigation.	11.2% (40)	18.3% (65)	13.2% (47)	19.9% (71)	37.4% (133)	356	
Assisted clients or provided services inspecting the rain sensor.	13.2% (47)	16.0% (57)	11.0% (39)	19.9% (71)	39.9% (142)	356	
Educated clients about the importance of a nutrient management plan.	8.4% (30)	18.0% (64)	18.3% (65)	28.7% (102)	26.7% (95)	356	
Educated clients about the importance of IPM.	10.1% (36)	18.0% (64)	15.7% (56)	29.8% (106)	26.4% (94)	356	
Educated clients about effective irrigation management.	5.6% (20)	19.7% (70)	15.7% (56)	31.5% (112)	27.5% (98)	356	
Educated clients about proper mowing practices, such as mowing heights, the need to leave clippings on the lawn, etc.	5.1% (18)	17.7% (63)	19.4% (69)	32.0% (114)	25.8% (92)	356	
				answe	red question	356	
skipped question							

19. AFTER participating in the GI-BMP program, I

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count
Use brochures or include comments with billing to educate clients.	6.7% (24)	10.7% (38)	19.1% (68)	29.5% (105)	34.0% (121)	356
Assist clients in setting/programming the irrigation timer.	3.4% (12)	9.0% (32)	14.6% (52)	36.2% (129)	36.8% (131)	356
Assist clients or provide services in calibrating irrigation.	5.1% (18)	9.0% (32)	13.5% (48)	35.7% (127)	36.8% (131)	356
Assist clients or provide services inspecting the rain sensor.	5.6% (20)	7.3% (26)	13.5% (48)	35.4% (126)	38.2% (136)	356
Educate clients about the importance of a nutrient management plan.	2.5% (9)	4.8% (17)	16.9% (60)	50.8% (181)	25.0% (89)	356
Educate clients about the importance of IPM.	3.1% (11)	4.8% (17)	14.3% (51)	51.7% (184)	26.1% (93)	356
Educate clients about effective irrigation management.	2.2% (8)	4.2% (15)	13.2% (47)	54.2% (193)	26.1% (93)	356
Educate clients about proper mowing practices, such as mowing heights, the need to leave clippings on the lawn, etc.	2.2% (8)	4.5% (16)	13.2% (47)	55.6% (198)	24.4% (87)	356
				answe	ered question	356
				skip	ped question	178

20. BEFORE becoming GI-BMP Certified, who did you contact for help with a landscape/lawn problem?

	Never	Rarely	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count	
UF/IFAS County Extension Agent	17.3% (61)	25.3% (89)	30.7% (108)	16.5% (58)	10.2% (36)	352	
UF/IFAS State Specialist	38.1% (134)	26.4% (93)	16.2% (57)	6.8% (24)	12.5% (44)	352	
Chemical company representative	23.3% (82)	22.4% (79)	31.3% (110)	10.8% (38)	12.2% (43)	352	
Private consultant	42.0% (148)	22.4% (79)	14.2% (50)	5.1% (18)	16.2% (57)	352	
answered question							
skipped question						182	

21. AFTER becoming GI-BMP Certified, who do you contact for help with a landscape/lawn problem?

	Never	Rarely	Often	Always	N/A	Response Count	
UF/IFAS County Extension Agent	6.5% (23)	19.9% (70)	35.8% (126)	28.4% (100)	9.4% (33)	352	
UF/IFAS State Specialist	23.3% (82)	28.1% (99)	21.3% (75)	16.5% (58)	10.8% (38)	352	
Chemical company representative	18.2% (64)	18.2% (64)	33.2% (117)	19.3% (68)	11.1% (39)	352	
Private consultant	39.5% (139)	19.6% (69)	15.9% (56)	9.1% (32)	15.9% (56)	352	
answered question							
skipped question							

22. Indicate your level of satisfaction with the information provided by the GI-BMP training program:

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	No Opinion	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Response Count
The information was relevant.	58.0% (204)	35.2% (124)	4.0% (14)	0.6% (2)	2.3% (8)	352
The information was easy to understand.	61.0% (214)	33.9% (119)	2.8% (10)	0.3% (1)	2.0% (7)	351
The information was helpful.	62.0% (217)	30.0% (105)	4.6% (16)	0.6% (2)	2.9% (10)	350
				answe	352	
				skip	182	

23. What is the value of the GI-BMP program for your company?

	Not Applicable	Slightly Important	Important	Very Important	Critical to Company	Response Count
It creates a positive public image.	12.1% (42)	7.8% (27)	27.1% (94)	32.0% (111)	21.0% (73)	347
It provides cost-savings.	21.6% (75)	7.5% (26)	25.1% (87)	28.5% (99)	17.3% (60)	347
It offers reduced liability.	20.2% (70)	6.6% (23)	27.5% (95)	25.4% (88)	20.2% (70)	346
It provides CEUs used to maintain certification.	15.3% (53)	9.0% (31)	28.0% (97)	32.1% (111)	15.6% (54)	346
Certification helps with marketing to the public.	20.3% (70)	11.9% (41)	21.7% (75)	28.7% (99)	17.4% (60)	345
It generates additional revenue	43.5% (150)	10.7% (37)	20.3% (70)	15.4% (53)	10.1% (35)	345
answered question					348	
skipped question				186		

24. What is the value of the GI-BMP program for you?

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Important	Very Important	Critical	Response Count
CEUs to maintain certification	14.7% (51)	8.4% (29)	29.8% (103)	31.2% (108)	15.9% (55)	346
Knowledge increase	3.2% (11)	4.3% (15)	22.7% (79)	45.4% (158)	24.4% (85)	348
Better employment opportunities	21.4% (74)	10.7% (37)	25.7% (89)	28.9% (100)	13.3% (46)	346
More job security	21.7% (75)	11.6% (40)	25.2% (87)	26.7% (92)	14.8% (51)	345
Higher income	29.6% (102)	10.1% (35)	22.6% (78)	22.9% (79)	14.8% (51)	345
answered question					348	
skipped question					186	

25. Are you aware of the new FDACS "Limited Commercial Fertilizer Applicator Certificate" requirement for urban commercial fertilizer applicators?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	78.7%	274
No	21.3%	74
	answered question	348
	skipped question	186

26. What percentage (%) of your total employees will require the new limited Urban Commercial Landscape Applicator certificate from FDACS.

	Response Percent	Response Count
25% or less	69.8%	243
50%	9.5%	33
75%	6.9%	24
100%	13.8%	48
	answered question	348
	skipped question	186

27. What did we miss? Please provide additional comments regarding your experiences as a GI-BMP Certified Professional.

	Response Count
	92
answered question	92
skipped question	442