

Ten Basic Search Tips for Using TGIF

- 1. Type phrases in TGIF without quotation marks, and don't use plus or minus signs in your search**
- 2. Shorten search terms to their root form to increase results**
 - a. Searching *fertil* will search for fertility, fertilization, fertilisers, fertilized, etc.
 - b. Searching *groom* will search for grooming, groomed, groomers, etc.
- 3. Type only the most important words of the search instead of questions**
 - a. *Overseed bermuda football field* instead of *how do I overseed a bermuagrass football field?*
- 4. If you are getting too many results, add words to your search to be more precise**
 - a. Search *syring bent fan* to find results that intersect the concepts of syringing, bentgrass, and using fans
 - b. Search *cynodon kikuyu* to find results that intersect the topics of both Bermuda/couch grasses and kikuyu grass.
- 5. Removing punctuation may improve retrievability of results**
 - a. *Whats under all that snow and ice* instead of *What's under all that snow and ice*
- 6. Use the "Dig Deeper" checkbox to find more results on your topic**
 - a. Search *mowrah meal* with the Dig Deeper checkbox on and then again with it off
 - b. Compare *tensiometer* likewise
- 7. If you have limited your search by choosing a sector or have clicked "Dig Deeper" and you are not finding what you are looking for, consider removing the chosen sector or unclicking the Dig Deeper checkbox**
- 8. Stack search terms using a semi-colon to search multiple terms together**
 - a. Search *winterkill; cold tolerance* to run searches for both winterkill and cold tolerance simultaneously
- 9. Basic search can be used to find definitions that appear in Beard's Turfgrass Encyclopedia for Golf Courses, Grounds, Lawns, Sports Fields. It will be the first result when searched in Basic – click on the hot linked term to receive the definition**
 - a. Search *Tilth*
 - b. Search *Sprigging*
- 10. If you would like further resources for using and searching TGIF, visit: tic.msu.edu/resources for a Getting Started Guide, a Quick Start to Using TGIF video, and a guide to helping you locate items you have identified within TGIF**