

*Force*  
*Nature*



A Look At ...

# Anthracnose Leaf Blight Disease

## Types of Anthracnose

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There are two types of infection — Anthracnose Leaf Blight which occurs during the summer months, and Anthracnose Basal Rot which is found during cool and moist conditions.

## Period of Activity

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Anthracnose Leaf Blight is quite evident during the months of June, July, and August, but may also exist in May and September.

## Susceptible Species

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Annual bluegrass and creeping bentgrass, located on golf course putting greens, tees, and fairways, are attacked by this disease.



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## Identification

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Anthracnose Leaf Blight may be injurious to the ROOTS and CROWNS, but it will damage ESPECIALLY THE LEAVES.

During the summer months, turf may be completely burned within forty-eight hours after the beginning of conditions favourable to disease development.

Some species, such as annual bluegrass, may be subjected to a rapid death in the form of SPOTS or IRREGULARLY-SHAPED PATCHES.

The oldest outer leaves will be attacked first. Eventually, the entire plant will seem to age rapidly, in a process that is called « *senescence* », which is the aging of the plant parts.

The leaves will become infected from the TIP TO THE BASE, especially after a recent mowing.

In the beginning, the leaves will become discoloured and yellow. ( In comparison to drought damage, which produces its typical purplish colour. ) Turf will lose its vigour.

Once the leaves are yellow, they will rapidly change colour, to speckled reddish-brown, or bronze.

The colour will change one last time to an entirely REDDISH-BROWN COLOUR, which is the CLASSIC symptom of Anthracnose Leaf Blight.

# N O R A H G

The information presented in this document is for preliminary planning only. Before making a final decision, the turf manager is expected to obtain trusted expert advice from extension specialists, local distributors and/or agronomists. All decisions must take into account the prevailing growing conditions, the time of year, and the established management practices.



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Force Of Nature is the brainchild of William H. Gathercole and his entourage. Mr. Gathercole is a principal founder of the Modern Professional Lawn Care Industry in both Ontario and Quebec. He holds a degree in Horticulture from the University of Guelph, and another pure and applied science degree from McGILL University. He has worked in virtually all aspects of the Green Space Industry, including golf, professional lawn care, and distribution. Mr. Gathercole has supervised, consulted, programmed, and/or overseen the successful execution of hundreds of thousands of management operations in the urban landscape. He has trained, instructed, and advised thousands of turf managers and technicians. Mr. Gathercole has also been an agricultural agronomist. Mr. Gathercole is personally credited for crafting the Exception Status that has allowed the Golf Industry to avoid being subjected to the prohibition of pest control products. He is also the creator of the signs that are now used for posting after application. Mr. Gathercole is now retired from Force Of Nature, although his name continues to appear as the founder.

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