

Fusarium or Microdochium Patch

Part 2.



AFTER THE INFECTION BEGINS.

After the beginning of the infection, on plants subject to **MINOR** damage, this disease may form **SMALL CIRCULAR SPOTS**, 0.8 to 1.6-inches (2 to 4 centimetres) in diameter. These spots are brownish-red, and there is no green centre. Damaged plants are not killed. When numerous enough, these spots can overlap and merge to form irregular patches, up to a maximum of 4-inches, or 10 centimetres, in width.

With the presence of morning dew, a **PINK RING OF MYCELIUM** can be seen around the damaged area.

When this mycelium is actively-growing, the use a mower on humid and infected leaves may « *smear* » the disease throughout the turf. This will lead to « *streaks* » of discoloured grass.

The disease is easily transported physically by the use of a mower, in a similar but less dramatic fashion than **PYTHIUM BLIGHT** or **DOLLAR SPOT**.

SERIOUS INFECTION.

In the case of a serious infection, plants are subject to major damage and death. At this stage, this disease develops the symptoms of « *Copper Spot* », which take the form of **LARGER CIRCULAR SPOTS**, from 0.8 to 2.8-inches, or 2 to 7 centimetres, in diameter. The injured plants have a **COPPER COLOUR**, as well as a **GREASY TEXTURE** when touched. These spots are entirely **SUNKEN** like craters. Turf is killed because the disease effectively reaches the crown tissues. The « *Copper Spot* » phase is extremely rapid, and it develops within one or two days. Once the turf is killed, the spots go from tan or brown.

