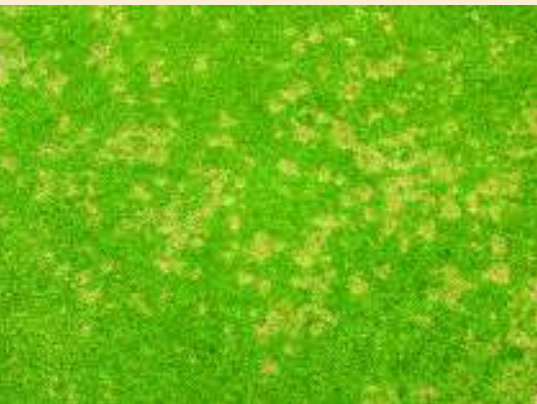


INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT FOR TURF

Publication 845



Water in fungicides in spring and fall when fungus is active.

Dollar spot

Pathogen: *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* is the current name but this fungus is being renamed.

Hosts: All turfgrasses especially creeping bentgrass.

Symptoms: On close-cut grass, there are small 5 cm wide straw-coloured patches (Figure 5-21, on this page). Individual leaves can be bleached out with dark margins. Individual patches may be up to 7 cm across, but patches may merge. Long leaves may have “hourglass” lesions with a narrow bleached centre and brown borders and a bleached inner region and dark margins bordering the live green areas (Figure 5-22, on this page). Cobweb-like mycelium can form after warm days (greater than 25°C) and nights (greater than 20°C) and heavy morning dew (Figure 5-23, on this page).



Figure 5-21. Dollar spot patches on creeping bentgrass.



Figure 5-22. Dollar spot disease causing hourglass lesions on leaf blades. A bleached inner region and dark margins bordering the live green areas. (Photo: Dr. Tom Hsiang, University of Guelph)



Figure 5-23. Cobweb like mycelium.

Disease Cycle: Mycelium and sclerotial flakes overwinter in foliage, thatch and soil. Fungal growth begins at 15°C, is favoured by humidity and temperatures in the 20°C range. Mycelium grows out of the thatch or from diseased foliage and infects new foliage. Inoculum may be spread with field equipment.

Management: Apply nitrogen to low nitrogen turfs. Control thatch and compaction. Enhance quick drying of turf by reducing shade and increasing air circulation. Avoid drought and night watering.

Brown patch (Rhizoctonia patch)

Pathogen: *Rhizoctonia solani*.

Hosts: All turfgrasses are susceptible but bentgrasses, annual bluegrass and perennial ryegrass are the most susceptible.

Symptoms: Brown patch forms patches with discoloured centres that turn yellow and then turn brown and can increase in diameter up to 1 m across (Figure 5-24, on page 75). A purplish “smoke ring” can be present on lower cut turf less than 2 cm on dewy mornings (Figure 5-25, on page 75). The smoke ring disappears when turf dries off. On longer turf large brown patches with bleached thinned turf up to 1 m across may develop. Irregularly shaped leaf lesions with brown borders can be found on individual leaves.