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# NF01-464 Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 4: Management Program for Leaf Spot and Melting Out

John E. Watkins
*University of Nebraska--Lincoln*, jwatkins1@unl.edu

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NebFact

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# Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 4 Management Program for Leaf Spot and Melting Out

*by John E. Watkins, Extension Plant Pathologist*

## Cause, Hosts and Occurrence

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|---|---|
| Leaf Spot and Melting Out: | Causes: *Bipolaris and Drechslera* spp.<br>Primary Hosts: All cool-season turfgrasses<br>Occurrence: April - June; September - October |

## Key Symptoms

- Round to oval leaf spots with buff-colored centers surrounded by a dark margin.
- Yellowing of affected turf.
- Symptoms on bentgrass greens range from a smokey-gray cast to yellowing, blighting and thinning of the turf.

## Cultural/Maintenance Practices

- Provide sufficient nitrogen to maintain moderate growth rate through the season but avoid excess nitrogen, particularly in early spring.
- Irrigate to maintain plant vigor and avoid drought stress.
- Irrigate in the early morning hours.
- Raise mowing height during July and August.
- Aerify in May and/or September to control thatch buildup.

## Fungicide Program

- Where necessary, use a preventive fungicide program from mid-April through early June.

Products reported to provide fair to excellent control of leaf spot and melting out include:

**Commercial Products**

| *Active ingredient(s)* | *Product name(s)* |
|---|---|
| azoxystrobin | Heritage |
| chlorothalonil | Daconil Ultrex, Manicure Ultrex, Thalonil |
| iprodione | Chipco 26GT |
| mancozeb | Formec 80, Fore Rainshield, Dithane T/O Rainshield, Lesco Mancozeb, Protect T/O |
| maneb | Pentathlon |
| propiconazole | Banner MAXX |
| thiophanate-methyl | Cleary's 3336, Fungo, Cavalier |
| trifloxystrobin | Compass |
| vinclozlin | Curalin, Touché |
| chlorothalonil + fenarimol | TwoSome Flowable Fungicide |
| chlorothalonil+thiophanate-methyl | Spectro 90 |
| mancozeb + copper hydroxide | Junction |

**Home Lawn Products**

| *Active ingredient(s)* | *Product name(s)* |
|---|---|
| mancozeb | Green Light Broad Spectrum Mancozeb Fungicide |
| maneb | Acme Maneb Tomato and Vegetable Dust |
| thiophanate-methyl | Green Light Fung-Away II Systemic Fungicide, ferti-lome Halt Systemic, Dragon Systemic Fungicide 3336WP |

Fungicides listed represent the best information available. No criticism is intended of products not listed, nor is endorsement by the University of Nebraska given to those listed. Read and follow all product label directions for mixing and application.

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