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NF01-468 Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 8: Management Program for Powdery Mildew

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by John E. Watkins, Extension Plant Pathologist

Cause, Hosts and Occurrence

Powdery Mildew: Cause: *Erysiphe graminis*
 Primary hosts: Kentucky bluegrass
 Occurrence: May - June; August - October

Key Symptoms

- Grayish white cast to the turf.
- Individual leaf blades look as though they were dusted with flour or lime.

Cultural/Maintenance Practices

- Prune shade trees to increase light penetration to the turf area.
- Remove or thin surrounding vegetation to improve air movement and lower humidity in the grass canopy.
- Reseed shaded areas with a mixture of mildew-resistant, improved Kentucky bluegrass cultivars and shade-tolerant fine-leaved fescues.

Fungicide Program

- Apply one or two fungicide treatments to affected areas in spring, late summer, or autumn.

Products reported to provide fair to excellent control of powdery mildew include:

Commercial Products

<i>Active ingredient(s)</i>	<i>Product name(s)</i>
fenarimol	Rubigan
myclobutanil	Eagle
propiconazole	Banner MAXX
triadimefon	Accost, Bayleton, Lesco Granular Turf Fungicide

Home Lawn Products

propiconazole	ferti-lome Liquid Systemic Fungicide
triadimefon	Green Light Fung-Away Systemic Lawn Spray, Bonide Lawn Fungicide with Bayleton

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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