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NF01-466 Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 6: Management Program for Gray Leaf Spot

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Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 6 Management Program for Gray Leaf Spot

by John E. Watkins, Extension Plant Pathologist

Cause, Hosts and Occurrence

Gray Leaf Spot: Cause: *Pyricularia grisea*
 Primary hosts: Perennial ryegrass
 Occurrence: August - September

Key Symptoms

- Rapid dying of taller turf during warm, humid weather in August.
- Presence of twisted leaves that resemble a fish hook.
- Water-soaked lesions on leaf blades.
- Turf appears droughty even though soil moisture may be sufficient.

Cultural/Maintenance Practices

- Keep nitrogen fertility low during the summer.
- On newly seeded or reseeded turfs, initiate light (1/8 lb nitrogen/1000 square feet), weekly urea applications to improve seedling vigor (do not overstimulate with excess nitrogen).
- Avoid night time irrigation.
- Avoid drought stress.
- Do not apply herbicides or growth regulators during warm, humid weather.

Fungicide Program

Preventive Program

1st Application: Late July or early August
 Products: Daconil Ultrex (3.8 oz) or Manicure Ultrex (3.8 oz) + Banner MAXX

(1 fl oz)

2nd Application: Mid-August
Products: Heritage (0.4 oz), Cleary's 3336 (6 oz), Fungo (6 oz), Spectro 90 (8 oz), or Compass (0.2 oz)

3rd Application: Late August or early September
a. If Heritage or Compass were used in the second application, use Cleary's 3336, Fungo, Spectro 90 or Banner MAXX.
b. If Cleary's 3336, Fungo, or Spectro 90 were used in the second application, use Heritage or Compass.
c. If disease pressure is low after the second application, use Daconil Ultrex or Manicure Ultrex.

Precautions

- To minimize the potential of fungicide resistance, switch fungicides after two applications of any systemic fungicide.
- New seedlings need fungicide protection until the onset of cool, dry weather.

Products reported to provide fair to excellent control of gray leaf spot include:

Commercial Products

<i>Active ingredient(s)</i>	<i>Product name(s)</i>
azoxystrobin	Heritage
chlorothalonil*	Daconil Ultrex, Manicure Ultrex
propiconazole	Banner MAXX
thiophanate-methyl	Cleary's 3336, Fungo, Cavalier
trifloxystrobin	Compass
chlorothalonil + thiophanate-methyl	Spectro 90

*No longer registered for residential turf

Home Lawn Products

<i>Active ingredient(s)</i>	<i>Product name(s)</i>
thiophanate-methyl	Green Light Fung-Away II Systemic Lawn Fungicide

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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