

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Historical Materials from University of
Nebraska-Lincoln Extension

Extension

2001

NF01-469 Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 9: Management Program for Pink and Gray Snow Molds

John E. Watkins

University of Nebraska--Lincoln, jwatkins1@unl.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/extensionhist>



Part of the [Agriculture Commons](#), and the [Curriculum and Instruction Commons](#)

Watkins, John E., "NF01-469 Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 9: Management Program for Pink and Gray Snow Molds" (2001). *Historical Materials from University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension*. 904.
<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/extensionhist/904>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Extension at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Historical Materials from University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.



NebFact



Published by Cooperative Extension, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources,
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Turf Disease Fact Sheet No. 9

Management Program for Pink and Gray Snow Molds

by John E. Watkins, Extension Plant Pathologist

Cause, Hosts and Occurrence

Pink Snow Mold (*Microdochium* patch):

Cause: *Microdochium nivale*

Primary hosts: Creeping bentgrass, Perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass

Occurrence: November - April

Gray Snow Mold (*Typhula* Blight):

Cause: *Typhula incarnata* and *T. ishikariensis*

Primary hosts: All cool-season turfgrasses

Occurrence: December - March

Key Symptoms and Signs

Pink Snow Mold

Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass

- Four- to 12-inch diameter circular patches.
- Bleached, matted grass within the patches.
- Patches surrounded by a salmon-pink border.

Creeping bentgrass greens and fairways

- Bleached, roughly circular patches ranging from 1/2 foot to 2-3 feet in diameter.
- Presence of a white to salmon-pink moldy growth on infected grass blades.

Gray Snow Mold

- Patches of roughly, circular, bleached-brown areas up to 1 foot in diameter becoming visible as snow melts.
- Leaves within the patches are matted and appear scalded.
- Presence of a gray mold growth at the edges of the patches, and tiny orange to red to dark brown fungal sclerotia (resembling tiny sand grains) embedded in infected leaves.

Cultural/Maintenance Practices

- Fertilize cool season grasses in late fall (after the last mowing) with a slow-release nitrogen-source.
- Continue mowing in the fall until all leaf growth stops and rake leaves.
- Reduce thatch with aeration.
- Prevent large drifts of snow on important turf areas by strategic placement of snow fences or landscape plantings.
- Prevent snow compaction by restricting walking, snowmobiling, skiing, or sledding on important turfs.
- Repair snow mold damage by raking the affected patches in early spring to disrupt the encrusted mat and by lightly fertilizing to encourage new growth.

Fungicide Program

- Use a preventative fungicide program on high-value turf and on areas where snow molds cause injury year after year. Make the initial fungicide application in early- to mid-November and repeat applications during mid-winter thaws, as needed.

Products reported to provide good to excellent snow mold control include:

Commercial Products

<i>Pink SM</i>	<i>Gray SM</i>	<i>Active ingredient(s)</i>	<i>Product name(s)</i>
3	3	azoxystrobin	Heritage
	3	chloroneb	Teremec SP
	3	chlorothalonil*	Daconil Ultrex, Thalonil, Manicure Ultrex
3	3	fenarimol	Rubigan
3	3	iprodione*	Chipco 26GT
3		mancozeb	Formec 80, Fore Rainshield, Dithane T/O Rainshield, Lesco Mancozeb, Protect T/O
3		maneb	Pentathlon
3		myclobutanil	Eagle
3	3	PCNB*	Revere, Cleary's PCNB, Penstar, Terraclor, Turfcide, Defend
3		propiconazole	Banner MAXX
3		thiophanate-methyl	Cleary's 3336, Fungo, Cavalier

3	3	triadimefon	Bayleton, Lesco Granular Turf Fungicide
3	3	thiram	Spotrete
3	3	trifloxystrobin	Compass
3	3	vinclozolin	Curalan, Touché
3	3	chlorothalonil + thiophanate-methyl	Spectro 90
3		mancozeb + copper hydroxide	Junction

*No longer registered for residential turf.

Home Lawn Products

<i>Pink SM</i>	<i>Gray SM</i>	<i>Active ingredient(s)</i>	<i>Product name(s)</i>
3		benomyl	Bonide Benomyl Lawn Fungicide Granules
3		mancozeb	Green Light Broad Spectrum Mancozeb Fungicide
3		thiophanate- methyl	Green Light Fung-Away II Systemic Fungicide, ferti-lome Halt Systemic, Dragon Systemic Fungicide 3336WP
3	3	triadimefon	Green Light Fung-Away Systemic Lawn Fungicide, Bonide Lawn Fungicide with Bayleton

Precautions: PCNB may cause phytotoxicity during warm weather.

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.

File NF01-469 under PLANT DISEASES

F-10, Turf

Issued April 2001

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Elbert C. Dickey, Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension, University of Nebraska, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension educational programs abide with the non-discrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.