



K-State Turf, Oct 18 2008

There is still some dollar spot lingering here and there in places that had a lot of pressure this year. Large patch in zoysiagrass is active in a number of places (see photo below). The cool, wet weather is also conducive to yellow patch (cool-season brown patch).



Yellow patch

Yellow patch is primarily a disease of putting greens. The fungus is called *Rhizoctonia cerealis*, and it is a cousin of the fungus that causes brown patch during the summertime (*Rhizoctonia solani*). Unlike the brown patch fungus, the yellow patch pathogen prefers temperatures 50-65 F. Like brown patch, it likes wet conditions. It causes yellow or red-brown rings or arcs on low-cut grass (like in putting greens). The photos show some examples. Yellow patch usually affects only the leaf blades, and the disease usually goes away on its own once the temperature gets warmer (>75) and/or the weather is drier.

Yellow Patch



Improving drainage and reducing excessive thatch can help prevent this disease. In sites with recurring yellow patch a nitrogen application in the late fall can help the turf outgrow the disease in the following spring. For sites with chronic yellow patch there are several fungicides available. Flutolanil (Prostar), fludioxonil (Medallion), and propiconazole (ex: Banner MAXX) have provided good control in some trials, with preventative apps more effective than curative.



Large patch in zoysiagrass. Photo by Ken Obasa, KSU