
From: K-State turf information [K-STATE_TURF@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU] on behalf of Megan Kennelly [kennelly@KSU.EDU]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 12:18 PM
To: K-STATE_TURF@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU
Subject: [K-STATE_TURF] K-State turf: some zoysia news
Attachments: June5_zoysia.pdf

Hello,

We are definitely moving into June. I'm an empty nester, as the two baby robins in our pine tree at home have left the nest and are now hopping around like they own the place, hunting worms on their own and trying to look cool.

Attached is some information about zoysiagrass large patch and flowering.

Also on people's minds now is dollar spot in golf course greens.

A recent stretch of hot, sunny, windy days made me think ahead to mid-summer, when all those stress problems will be arising.

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1) Large patch still on the march

Large patch of zoysiagrass is caused by a sub-group of *Rhizoctonia solani*, and is closely related to fungus that causes brown patch. It's active in spring and fall, when the zoysia is going in and out of dormancy. This year I saw the first symptoms in early May during some wet weather. The symptoms faded a bit in dry weather, but some recent moisture kicked it back up again.

While this disease is most common in golf courses, I did receive a home lawn sample that had large patch. The lower the mowing height, the more severe is the disease. In a study in the early 1990's, K-State researchers found that large patch was more severe in turf mowed at 1.2 or 2.5 cm (0-0.5 inch) compared to 4.5 or 5.1 cm (1.75-2 inch). So, large patch is more likely in golf course fairway-type heights than lawn-type heights.

2) Fundraiser tournament

The Kansas Golf Course Superintendents Association held their annual research and scholarship fundraiser tournament. This year it was at Berkshire Country Club in Topeka. Thank you to Rick Farrant, owner; Ron Rindt, General Manager and David Charles, GC Supt, for hosting. And, thanks to the sponsors and to everyone who came out to play.

3) Flowering turfgrass

Zoysiagrass has been flowering profusely in some sites. The seedheads themselves give an off-color to the grass, and then once it is mowed the tan stalks are left behind.



The orange tint means that large patch is pretty active.



Mowed zoysia seedheads leave a tan color to this stand.



Zoysia flower

4) All grown up

