

Sherry StJohn

From: K-State turf information [K-STATE_TURF@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU] on behalf of Megan Kennelly [kennelly@KSU.EDU]
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2009 2:13 PM
To: K-STATE_TURF@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU
Subject: [K-STATE_TURF] K-State turf: dollar spot, anthracnose
Attachments: aug_21_dollarspot_anthracnose.pdf

Hello,

Please find attached a pdf file. Topics include dollar spot and anthracnose, and links to information about fall overseeding and turf for shade, plus a few other odds and ends.

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Megan Kennelly
Assistant Professor
Extension and Research: horticultural crops

4603 Throckmorton PSC
Dept of Plant Pathology
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506

phone: 785-532-1387

K-State Turf: Aug 21



It's the last day of quiet here on campus. Classes start next week. There are already a few students roaming around. I can always tell who the freshmen are because they travel in large packs.

I'm looking forward to a few disease-viewing field trips with Dr. Steve Keeley's turf disease class in the coming weeks.

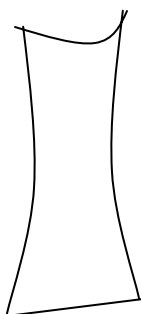
Dollar spot

The main disease I'm seeing right now is dollar spot. On putting greens, we often have some dollar spot in late May-early June, and *sometimes* in mid-summer, but fall is when it kicks into high gear.



In this photo you can see how the infection centers are bigger in the taller creeping bentgrass on the left compared to the greens-height turf on the right.

Dollar spot can hit taller-cut turf as well. Here are some dollar spot lesions in Kentucky bluegrass. Note the tan color, dark margins, and the hourglass shape. That is, as the leaf tissue dries up it sort of shrinks, and the width of the blade in the lesion is more narrow than the width above and below the lesion.



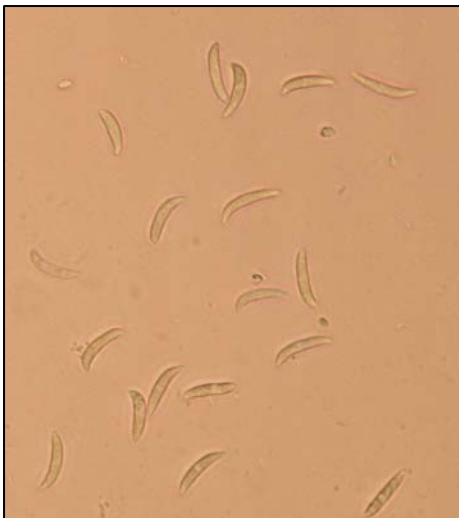
More dollar spot info here: <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/plant2/EP131.pdf>

Anthracnose

Anthracnose is another disease that has been active in some putting green sites recently. Stressful conditions tend to make this disease more severe. One superintendent noted that stressful conditions leading up to a tournament probably triggered the outbreak. With the tournament over, they are applying a little extra N and raising the mowing height just a bit. This should alleviate stress and help the turf recover.

There is information about anthracnose available here:

<http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/plant2/ep147.pdf>



Here are some anthracnose spores in the microscope.

The dark spines as shown on the above website were visible in today's sample, too, but I couldn't manage to get a good photo. Pathogens don't always smile pretty for the camera.



Anthracnose symptoms in the field. Turf is thin with an orange color.

Fall Overseeding, Shady Lawns, and Rhizomatous Tall Fescue:

There is some excellent turf information this week in K-State's HortNews. Check out the full story at this link:

<http://www.hfrr.ksu.edu/DesktopModules/ViewDocument.aspx?DocumentID=2564>

Another farewell

One of our horticulture agents, Chelsey Wasem of Johnson County, is leaving us to pursue some opportunities back home in Nebraska. Chelsey has provided a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the team, and we will miss her. Good luck Chelsey!

Redeeming my own lawn

I realized that I've sent out quite a few photos over the past months showing problems in my own home landscape and I have been taking some ribbing for it recently. Thus, I'm including this here to show that I have managed to cultivate a few nice areas, too ☺



Sun-loving perennials



Turf was *not* going to thrive in these two shady spots, so we went with the hosta, mulch, and stepping-stones approach.