

Preventative control of spring dead spot in hybrid bermuagrass, 2004-2005.

Fungicides were evaluated for preventative control of spring dead spot caused by the fungus *Ophiosphaerella korrae*. This trial was conducted at the Landfall Soccer Complex in Wilmington, NC on 'Tifway' bermudagrass maintained under athletic field conditions. Plots were 5 ft x 10 ft and were arranged in a randomized complete block with four replications. Sprayable fungicides were applied in water equivalent to 2.5 gal per 1000 sq ft with a CO₂ powered sprayer at 40 psi using TeeJet 8004 nozzles, whereas granular fungicides were applied using a shaker jar. All treatments were watered-in with 0.25 in. of irrigation immediately after application. Treatments were initiated on 7 Oct 04 or 18 Feb 05 and were reapplied at the appropriate intervals as indicated in the table. Percent turf area exhibiting spring dead spot symptoms was assessed on 25 Apr 05. Turfgrass quality was evaluated on 25 Apr 05, using a 1 to 9 scale (9=best, 5=acceptable) based on color, density, and uniformity. Turfgrass color and density were also evaluated using a 1 to 9 scale (9=best, 5=acceptable). Data were subjected to analysis of variance and means separation by Waller-Duncan k-ratio t test (k=100).

No differences were detected among treatments for turfgrass color on 9 Nov 04 or on 23 Mar 05 or for turfgrass density on 4 Mar 05. This was of concern since some fungicides have been known to impact bermudagrass color and density as it enters or exits dormancy. No differences in spring dead spot incidence were detected among treatments, however, plots treated with Endorse 2.5WP (6 oz, 2 apps in fall) and Rubigan 1G (4 lb) were free of spring dead spot symptoms on 25 Apr 05.

Treatment and rate / 1000 sq ft	Spray interval (days)	Turfgrass color ^z		Turfgrass density ^y	SDS incidence (%)	Turfgrass quality ^x
		9 Nov 04	23 Mar 05	4 Mar 05	25 Apr 05	25 Apr 05
3336 4F 6 fl oz.....	AB ^w	6.5 a ^v	2.3 a	5.8 a	5.04 a	3.5 b
3336 4F 4 fl oz.....	CD	6.8 a	2.5 a	4.5 a	3.0 a	4.5 ab
Endorse 2.5WP 6 oz.....	AB	7.0 a	3.5 a	4.8 a	0.0 a	5.8 a
Endorse 2.5WP 4 oz.....	CD	6.8 a	2.5 a	5.3 a	1.98 a	4.5 ab
214 4F 6 fl oz.....	A	6.8 a	2.3 a	5.0 a	5.42 a	4.3 ab
Rubigan 1G 4 lb	A	6.8 a	3.5 a	3.8 a	0.0 a	5.5 a
Rubigan 1AS 4 fl oz.....	A	6.3 a	2.8 a	5.5 a	0.19 a	5.0 ab
Rubigan 1G 6 lb	A	6.8 a	4.3 a	4.3 a	1.02 a	5.3 ab
Rubigan 1AS 6 fl oz.....	A	7.0 a	2.5 a	5.5 a	0.77 a	5.0 ab
Untreated Control.....	--	6.3 a	3.3 a	4.8 a	3.37 a	4.3 ab

^zTurfgrass color on a 1 to 9 scale, where 9=darkest green and 5=acceptable.

^yTurfgrass density on a 1 to 9 scale, where 9=densest turf and 5=acceptable.

^xTurfgrass quality on a 1 to 9 scale, where 9=highest quality and 5=acceptable.

^wApplication code indicates the application date(s) of each treatment: A, 7 Oct 04; B, 4 Nov 05; C, 18 Feb 05; D, 4 Mar 05.

^vValues are means of four replicates. Means within columns followed by the same letter are not significantly different according to Waller-Duncan k-ratio t-test (k=100).