

Control of spring dead spot in western North Carolina, 2006-2007.

Fungicides were evaluated for preventative control of spring dead spot in golf course fairways. This trial was conducted at the Biltmore Forest Country Club in Asheville, NC on ‘Vamont’ bermudagrass. Mowing was performed three times weekly at a height of 0.57 in. with clippings returned, and the site was irrigated to prevent drought stress. Fertilizer was applied as 7-4-24 on 27 Feb 06 (0.33 lb N/1000 sq ft) and as 36-0-0 (1.7 lb N/1000 sq ft) on 28 Feb 07. Insect pests were suppressed with Merit (0.15 fl oz/1000 sq ft) on 19 Jun 06. Primo (0.26 fl oz/1000 sq ft) was applied as a growth regulator on 22 Jun 06. Weed control was applied as Barricade (0.21 oz ai/1000 sq ft) on 18 Sep 06, Revolver (0.39 fl oz/1000 sq ft) on 18 Oct 06, and Ronstar (1.02 oz ai/1000 sq ft) on 28 Feb 07. Plots were 7 ft x 60 ft and were arranged in a randomized complete block with four replications. Fungicides were applied in water equivalent to 5 gal per 1000 sq ft at 40 psi using TeeJet 8004 nozzles. All treatments were initiated on 28 Aug 06 and were reapplied at the appropriate intervals as indicated in the table. Percent turf area exhibiting spring dead spot symptoms was assessed on 14 May 07. Data were subjected to analysis of variance and means separation by Waller-Duncan k-ratio t test (k=100).

Spring dead spot incidence was low in the experiment, with 6.7% disease incidence in untreated control plots. Headway (3 fl oz) was the only treatment to provide significant control of spring dead spot compared to the untreated control. Treatments containing Rubigan were neither significantly different from Headway nor the untreated control.

Treatment, formulation, and rate per 1000 sq ft	Appl. int.	Spring dead spot (%) 14 May 07
Rubigan 1AS 6 fl oz	A*	4.28 ab**
Rubigan 1AS 4 fl oz	AE	2.95 ab
Rubigan 1AS 6 fl oz	AE	5.03 ab
Lynx SC 2.2 fl oz.....	AE	6.59 a
Headway ME 3 fl oz.....	AE	2.03 b
Untreated		6.68 a

*Application interval represents dates on which fungicides were applied: A-28 Aug 06, E-25 Sep 06.

**Values are means of four replications. Means within column followed by the same letter are not significantly different according to the Waller-Duncan k-ratio t-test (k=100).