



# Turfgrass Diseases: Cultural Management Recommendations

Disease (pathogens)	Turfgrass Hosts*	Season of Occurrence	Cultural Management Methods
<b>Dollar Spot</b> <i>Sclerotinia homeocarpa</i>	All species	Late spring - September	Avoid drought stress. Water early (5-10am). Avoid soil compaction. Balanced N-P-K**. Reduce thatch (no more than 1/2").
<b>Leaf Spot, Melting-Out</b> <i>Bipolaris, Dreschlera</i>	All species Kentucky bluegrasses* Fine fescues*	Spring - October	Raise mowing height. Avoid excess soluble nitrogen. Reduce thatch (no more than 1/2"). Water early (5-10am).
<b>Red Thread</b> <i>Corticium fuciforme</i>	Most species Perennial ryegrasses* Fine fescues*	Spring - October	Maintain balanced N-P-K**. Avoid low pH. Light applications of nitrogen (N). Apply 1/2-1 lb. of actual N per 1000 ft <sup>2</sup> . Remove clippings.
<b>Powdery Mildew</b> <i>Erysiphe graminis</i>	Kentucky bluegrasses* Fine fescues	Early summer - October (most prevalent in September)	Reduce shade. Avoid excess Nitrogen. Improve air circulation.
<b>Brown Patch</b> <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>	All species Tall fescues* Perennial ryegrasses*	July - September	Avoid excess Nitrogen (especially during active growth). Mow only when dry. Water early (5-10am). Avoid night watering.

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<b>Pythium Blight</b> <i>Pythium spp.</i>	All species Perennial ryegrasses*	June - mid-September	Avoid excess Nitrogen. Mow only when dry. Fungicides are usually required.
<b>Pythium Root Rot</b> <i>Pythium spp.</i>	All species Annual bluegrasses*	March - November (periods of slow plant growth)	As above. Increase organic matter. Improve drainage.
<b>Anthracnose</b> <i>Colletotrichum graminicola</i>	Bluegrasses Fescues Annual bluegrasses*	July - September	Avoid drought stress. Avoid compaction. Balanced N-P-K**.
<b>Summer Patch</b> <i>Magnaporthe poae</i>	Fine fescues Kentucky bluegrasses* Annual bluegrasses*	July - September	Avoid compaction. Avoid drought stress. Raise mowing height (2-3"). Lower pH in top 1" soil to 6.0-6.5. Avoid overwatering.
<b>Fusarium Blight</b> <i>Fusarium culmorum</i>	All species	June - September	As for summer patch.
<b>Snow Molds</b> Gray <i>Typhula spp.</i> Pink <i>Microdochium ivale</i>	All species	November - April (during extended periods of cool, wet weather, 32-55° F)	Continue mowing until growth ceases in the autumn. Maintain pH of 6.5-7.0. Avoid late Nitrogen applications.

\*Most susceptible species

\*\*N-P-K is Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium

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