



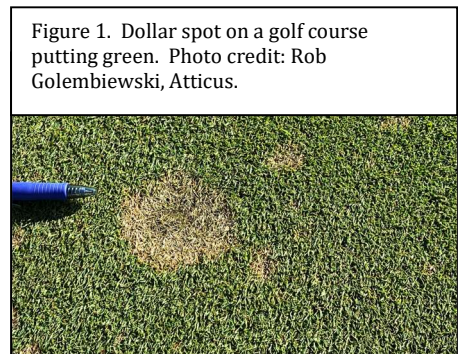
Dollar Spot

Overview

Dollar spot, caused by the fungus *Clarireedia jacksonii*, is a foliar disease of golf courses, athletic fields, home lawns, parks, and institutional grounds. Dollar spot is known to attack most cool- and warm-season turfgrass species with more money spent on fungicides to control this one disease due to the frequency of applications required for effective control. Disease activity is favored by air temperatures ranging from 60-85°F with extended periods of high humidity at night. Dollar spot is most severe with warm days, cool nights, infrequent rain but long dew periods, low nitrogen fertility, and extended leaf wetness periods.

Symptoms

- On golf greens, appears as white or tan spots of dead turf about the size of a silver dollar (Figure 1).
- Spots can be a bit larger (1-3") on golf course fairways and tees.
- On higher-cut turf in home lawns and athletic fields, spots may be 2-5" in diameter and coalesce under favorable conditions (Figure 2).
- Initial symptoms on individual leaves appear as yellow-green blotches that progress to tan-colored lesions with reddish-brown borders (Figure 3). Sometimes white mycelia are observed on diseased leaves in early morning following extended leaf wetness and high humidity.



Cultural Management Strategies

- Maintain adequate nitrogen levels.
- Reduce leaf wetness by mowing, rolling, dew-whipping, and/or dragging a hose.
- Prune trees and shrubs to improve air circulation and light penetration.
- Alleviate compaction and thatch.

Fungicide Solutions

- For best results, initiate fungicide applications in early spring when daytime air temperatures are consistently >60°F. Many golf course superintendents use the Smith-Kerns Model to guide fungicide applications.
- Effective fungicide solutions include Gunner™ 14.3 MEC (propiconazole), Artavia™ Xcel (propiconazole + azoxystrobin), Protégé™ (difenconazole + azoxystrobin), Dornic™ 720 F (chlorothalonil), and Detour™ 4 SC (fluazinam).
- Dollar spot resistance has been documented in all major fungicide classes including benzimidazoles, dicarboximides, DMIs, and SDHIs. Preventive applications, rotating fungicides with different FRAC codes, and the use of contact (multi-site) fungicides is important for reducing the risk of resistance development.