Stop #5: 2012 Turf Disease Trials: Dollar Spot

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Dollar Spot

Twenty fungicide treatments and one nitrogen treatment were evaluated for their ability to control dollar spot (*Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*) preventatively on a creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera*) "tee". The plot is a 90/10 mix of creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass, established in 2005 from sod. Beginning in May 2012, nitrogen was withheld from the turf followed by inoculation of the turfgrass on June 12, 2012. Inoculation was achieved by spreading dollar spot infested grain evenly across the study area. The inoculum was allowed one week to colonize on the turfgrass, and then all treatments were started on June 19, 2012.

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Results:

- ✓ Overall, dollar spot disease pressure was good, reaching 41% cover by mid August on the untreated control, and 54% on the nitrogen treatment (0.2 lbs N/M/2 wks using sprayable NH₄SO₄) by early August.
- ✓ Most all fungicides or fungicide programs provided effective control of dollar spot throughout the study period.
- ✓ Only one fungicide treatment, Disarm M, showed signs of mild phytotoxicity during the study period. Phytotoxicity is known to be an issue for most DMI fungicides, especially in high heat conditions present throughout the study period. Thus myclobutanil, an active ingredient in Disarm M, may have been responsible for the turf injury.

Notes: