

May 1, 2008

After sending the summer patch info this afternoon I got a question right away about necrotic ringspot. I was about to leave just now, then thought I should really send something out to the list so here goes.

Necrotic ringspot is another disease of Kentucky bluegrass. The symptoms are similar—rings or arcs of brown turf.

How to tell them apart? Necrotic ringspot tends to show up in spring or fall, whereas summer patch is usually in mid summer. In addition, the patches associated with necrotic ringspot are a bit bigger than those for summer patch. But, there is some overlap both in the time and the size of patches.

Luckily, the cultural practices for necrotic ringspot are similar to those for summer patch:

- \*apply most of the N in the fall and if you use N in the spring, use a slow release.

- \*manage thatch with core cultivation

- \*mow at 2.5-3 inches

- \*water deeply and infrequently to promote good root growth \*if symptoms appear, water at mid-day to relieve stress

Also, the fungicide applications are somewhat similar. Like summer patch, applications for necrotic ringspot should go on when soil temps are consistently at 65 F. Some of the same fungicides for summer patch are also labeled and effective for necrotic ringspot. Like summer patch, fungicides alone will not solve the problem.

Fungicides considered “fair to good” for necrotic ringspot:

iprodione (ex: Chipco 26GT, Raven, Lesco 18 Plus, Iprodione Pro) propiconazole (ex: Banner MAXX, Spectator) thiophanate-methyl (ex: Cleary’s 3336, Fungo, Systec 1998, T-Storm)

Fungicides considered “good to excellent” for necrotic ringspot:

Fenarimol (Rubigan)

Myclobutanil (Eagle)

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