Geographic Distribution, Cultivar Susceptibility, and Field Observations on Bentgrass Dead Spot. (C05-kaminski122256-Oral)

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Abstract:

Bentgrass dead spot (BDS) is a disease of creeping bentgrass (Agrostis stolonifera L.) incited by Ophiosphaerella agrostis Dernoeden et al. In a field cultivar evaluation trial, the three major Agrostis spp. used on golf courses, including colonial (A. capillaris L.) and velvet (A. canina L.) bentgrasses, were shown to be susceptible to O. agrostis. Among creeping bentgrass cultivars, L-93 generally was the most susceptible cultivar and Pennlinks, Penncross and Crenshaw were among the least susceptible cultivars. The disease was most commonly found on golf greens from 1 to 4 years of age and disease severity declined greatly 1 to 3 years after it first appeared. Bentgrass dead spot only has been found on sand-based greens, collars, and tees and has not been found in bentgrass grown on native soil. Between 1998 and 2001, O. agrostis was isolated from creeping bentgrass and hybrid bermudagrass (Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers. x C. transvaalensis Burtt-Davy) turf samples received from thirteen states. The disease was most severe in sunny and exposed locations. In the Mid-Atlantic region, BDS may appear as early as May and the disease can remain active as late as December.

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