Northeast

CLARKE ADVISES ON FUNGICIDES

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J. — Dr. Bruce B. Clarke, extension specialist in turf pathology at Rutgers University, discussed fungicide control and irrigation practices for Summer Patch disease at Rutgers' recent turfgrass field day.

He said the first application of drenches should be made at 65 degree soil temperatures, as the disease becomes active at about 68 or 69 F soil temperatures.

Applications should be done on overcast days when drying conditions are poor, so the control product can be watered down to the crown and roots to allow it to be translocated up.

Applying Summer Patch controls on clear bright days, when drying conditions are excellent, almost insure failure because most of the effective control products are absorbed under those conditions in 30 seconds or less.

He recommends an optimum of 5 gallons of finished spray per 1,000 square feet, with 1/8 to 1/4 inch of irrigation immediately following. He said tests done at the University of Maryland have shown that too much water can dilute the product and reduce control.

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