Research on a new combination material shows promise against two important diseases of creeping bentgrass: dollar spot and brown patch. Tartan combines two active ingredients (triadimefon and trifloxystrobin) to provide effective control of many important turfgrass diseases. The triadimefon component (manufactured separately as Bayleton) is effective against foliar diseases, such as dollar spot and brown patch, and can be used to suppress damage caused by root diseases, such as summer patch and take all patch. The trifloxystrobin component (manufactured separately as Compass) provides excellent brown patch control and is effective against anthracnose and gray leaf spot.

Dollar spot is one of the most common and readily identifiable diseases on golf course turf. It is caused by a fungal pathogen (Sclerotinia homoeocarpa) that blights leaf tissues but does not affect turfgrass roots or crowns. The disease is a major concern on golf course turf, especially creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass greens, tees and fairways, where it can affect playability as well as appearance. Characteristic symptoms on creeping bentgrass greens include small (up to 1 inch in diameter), round white- to tan-colored spots (Fig. 1). The spots often occur in clusters and can cause considerable damage to playing surfaces if not appropriately managed.

Brown patch is caused by a fungal pathogen (Rhizoctonia solani) that affects all cool-season turfgrass species. Moderate to severe outbreaks on high-maintenance creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass can result in thin, poor quality turf that may be predisposed to algae and moss infestation. Even mild brown patch outbreaks can spoil the appearance of golf greens and tees. Taller mowed turfgrasses for athletic fields and professional landscapes (especially tall fescue and perennial ryegrass) also may sustain damage from brown patch infection. Under favorable environmental conditions

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(e.g. hot, humid weather) brown patch symptoms may develop overnight.

On creeping bentgrass and annual blue-grass greens, tees and fairways, brown patch results in circular olive green stains, ranging from 4 inches to more than 12 inches in diameter. Similarly, large, round patches of blighted turf can also occur on perennial ryegrass collars and fairways. Leaf blades within the patch become water-soaked and turn brown soon after infection. After warm and humid evenings, a dark gray to light gray band (quarter-inch to one inch wide) is normally evident at the perimeter of active patches (Fig. 2). The band (often called a smoke ring) is a sign of the advancing fungal mycelium and water-soaked infected leaves.

Trials in 2005
The dollar spot trial was conducted at the Daniel Turfgrass Research and Diagnostic Center on the campus of Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind. Efficacy of Tartan for dollar spot control was evaluated on creeping bentgrass (cultivar L-93) maintained at a fairway mowing height of approximately one-half inch. Plots were sprayed with Tartan, manufactured by Bayer Environmental Science, at rates equivalent to 1.0 fluid ounces per 1,000 square feet and 2.0 fluid ounces per 1,000 square feet at 21-day intervals beginning on May 25, when no disease symptoms were apparent in any of the replicated plots. Visual evaluations of disease severity were recorded at regular intervals throughout the summer.

The brown patch evaluations were conducted at the Rutgers Turf Research Farm in North Brunswick, N.J. Fungicide treatments were evaluated on replicated plots of fairway height (3/8-inch) colonial bentgrass (cultivar SR 7100), a species that is especially prone to brown patch infection. Both rates (1.0 and 2.0 fluid ounces per 1,000 square feet) of Tartan were applied at three-week intervals, beginning on June 16, before the first outbreak of disease. Brown patch severity was evaluated periodically through the summer.

Dollar spot results
Throughout Indiana and the lower Midwest, the 2005 growing season was marked by a warm, dry spring and unusually high temperatures through summer.

Although dollar spot pressure was rather moderate, fungicide sprays were still warranted on area greens, tees and fairways; and disease lev-

Continued on page 74

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment and rate per 1,000 square feet</th>
<th>spray interval</th>
<th>27-Jun DA*</th>
<th>5-Jul DA</th>
<th>10-Jul DA</th>
<th>17-Jul DA</th>
<th>25-Jul DA</th>
<th>1-Aug DA</th>
<th>8-Aug DA</th>
<th>15-Aug DA</th>
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<td>3.06</td>
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<td>4.30</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.24</td>
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*DA = Days after the previous spray for each evaluation date.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Treatment and rate per 1,000 square feet</th>
<th>spray interval</th>
<th>5-Jul DA*</th>
<th>10-Jul DA</th>
<th>17-Jul DA</th>
<th>1-Aug DA</th>
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<td>Tartan 2.0 fl oz</td>
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<td>7.25</td>
<td>7.25</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Turf quality was assessed visually based on a 0-9 index, where 9 = excellent quality. Values below 6.0 indicate unacceptable turf quality.

*DA = Days after the previous spray for each evaluation date.
How Strong is Your Turf?

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Renaissance:
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ProteSyn:
Strength building

When acquiring new or used equipment for your golf course, be open-minded about the opportunities presented through leasing. Leasing can provide flexibility, enhance cash flow and reduce downtime. An industry resource like John Deere Credit can provide the flexible financial solutions you require at your course.

Brown patch results

Weather during the summer of 2005 was extremely favorable for brown patch development in New Jersey as well as the entire northeastern quadrant for the United States. Except for a brief cool period in late July, high nighttime temperatures and long dew periods prevailed from late June through early September.

Brown patch severity in untreated plots remained very high throughout the experimental period, indicating that the environmental conditions provided a vigorous challenge to fungicide performance (Table 3).

Both rates of Tartan resulted in significantly less disease than the untreated plots at all evaluation dates. Also, plots treated at the 2.0-ounce rate gave superior brown patch control and excellent turf quality under high disease pressure for the duration of the experiment.

The formulation of the two components into one product offers the advantage of using one product at prescribed dosages to protect against damage associated with a range of infectious diseases. It includes the same StressGard technology found in Chipco Signature.

Richard Latin is a professor of plant pathology at Purdue University. John F. Smith is technical development representative for Bayer Environmental Science.
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Granular fungicide

**Andersons Golf Products** introduces the first granular strobilurin fungicide, Compass G, you can now spread your Compass protection to control brown patch, anthracnose, gray leaf spot, summer patch and more. With the proper setting and a professional grade spreader, the job can be done by anyone on the grounds crew. For more information, contact www.AndersonsGolfProducts.com.

Web site upgrade

**Multi-Flow** drainage has recently upgraded its Web site. It now contains design assistance, technical advice, money and time-saving tips and more. The design and installation sections provide extensive assistance for green, fairway and bunker drainage. For more information, visit www.varicore.com.

Fertilizer catalyst

**Advanced Microbial Solutions L.L.C. (AMS)** introduces NutriLife, a proprietary, microbial-based fertilizer catalyst that was developed specifically for blending with fertilizers. NutriLife, as a fertilizer additive, can enhance fertilizer efficiency. University tests and field studies demonstrate the effectiveness of NutriLife in improving fertilizer performance, with significant growth response on turfgrass, according to the company. For more information, contact 800-SuperBio.

Aquatic herbicide

**Phoenix Environmental Care LLC** has added Current Aquatic Herbicide to its line of products. Current is a copper-based herbicide that can be used just about anywhere aquatic weeds are a problem. It’s effective on pests like Hydrilla, Egeria and Southern Naiad, which can make ponds unattractive. Phoenix has also added Symmetry Algaecide to its product line. Symmetry is a copper-based algaecide used to eliminate unsightly algae from slow-moving water. For more information, visit www.phoenixenvcare.com.

Broadleaf herbicide

**PBI/Gordon** has received EPA acceptance for a new turf herbicide for grassy and broadleaf weed control. The patented formulation contains the protox inhibitor sulfentrazone in combination with quinclorac, 2,4-D and dicamba. Trade-marked as Q4 Turf Herbicide, the new product will join Gordon’s ProForm brand. Q4 offers a single-product control option for yellow nutsedge suppression and grassy and broadleaf weed control in established turfgrass areas. An alternative to MSMA products, Q4 has reduced phototoxicity on cool-season grass species. For more information, visit Q4.pbigordon.com.

Non-selective herbicide

**Nufarm Americas** announces the addition of Razor Burn to its line of herbicides. Razor Burn is a liquid pre-mix formulation of glyphosate and diquat that offers broad-spectrum, non-selective control of many annual weeds, perennial weeds, woody brush and trees. Razor Burn gives applicators the same effective control as Razor Pro, but with quicker visual results, the company says. For further information, contact www.nufarm.com.

Label expansion

**Cleary Chemical’s 26/36 Fungicide** was granted a label expansion to include 16 different diseases of more than 85 genera of ornamental plants. 26/36 Fungicide, a combination of iprodione and thiophanate-methyl, is a broad-spectrum fungicide that can be applied to a wide range of container and field-grown ornamental flowering and foliage plants, either as a foliar spray, drench or dip. For more information, contact www.clearychemical.com.

Fungicide for fairy ring

Sixteen states approved a 2(ee) recommendation for use of Bayleton 50 WP fungicide as a preventive treatment for fairy ring in turfgrass. Bayer Environmental Science announced. The product may be applied as a foliar spray at the rate of 1 ounce to 2 ounces per 1,000 square feet. For more information, visit www. bayerprocentral.com.

Pythium control

**Insignia fungicide** can be used in rotation to combat pythium root dysfunction, according to **BASF Professional Products**. The company says Charles Sheffield, superintendent of Croasdaile Country Club in Durham, N.C., used Insignia to stop the spread of the disease at his course. Sheffield says the product is now part of his rotation to battle it. For more information, contact www.turffacts.com.
New Reservoir DG from Helena will let loose a Hydro-Revolution on your turf – in a dry granular form! And you’ll see the revolution in vastly increased irrigation efficiency, and significantly lower irrigation costs!

With timely applications of Reservoir DG, water usage can be reduced by 20 to 60 percent! On a golf course, that can be a lot of gallons. And you’ll also see lower expenses for irrigation-related costs, such as electricity and equipment wear and tear.

When Reservoir DG is present and “active” in the soil, it improves water infiltration and water-holding capacity. It also reduces water lost to evapo-transpiration.

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- Convenient “greens grade” dry granular product
- Can be spot applied to problem areas
- Improves water infiltration & water holding capacity of soil during its “active” phase
- Remains active for 3 - 5 weeks
- Lowers expenses for irrigation-related costs
- Reduces leaching of nutrients and pesticides
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- Easy to apply

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