The Basics of Turfgrass Fungicides
Part 5: Record Keeping

by Eric B. Nelson
Cornell University

One of the more important aspects of maintaining highly effective fungicide programs is proper record keeping. This is also among the more critical aspects of developing successful IPM programs on golf course turf. Golf course superintendents, and other turfgrass managers for that matter, often take record keeping for granted. Even though the maintenance of fungicide and other pesticide records is required by state and federal laws, many superintendents fail to recognize the tremendous wealth of historical information and management insight that can be gained from properly prepared and maintained fungicide records. Often superintendents rely on memory for a large amount of this significant information. Unfortunately though, useful specific management knowledge is often lost as superintendents retire or move from course to course. In this article, we will explore the reasons for maintaining detailed records and show how these records can help not only in fungicide management, but in pest management in general.