JB Comments - Takeall Patch

Takeall patch was formerly called Ophiobolus patch. The causal pathogen is *Gaeumannomyces graminis var. avenae*. It is a serious disease of bentgrass (*Agrostis* spp.). The severity is greatest during the first 3 to 5 years on new greens which have been fumigated or constructed of a high-sand content. The initial serious problem phase is followed by a subsequent gradual decline which is thought to be due to a natural buildup of microorganisms that are antagonistic to the *Gaeumannomyces graminis* in the soil.

Disease Symptoms. The symptoms first occur during periods of high evapotranspiration when the restricted root system results in a distinct leaf wilting in rings or patches. If not watered immediately, they will progress to light brown rings or patches of 100 to 150 mm (4 to 6 inches) diameter that may enlarge up to 0.6 to 1.0 meter (2 to 3 feet) in diameter over a period of several years if not controlled. Individual plants within the patches will have a severely restricted root system. In addition, dark brown to black ectotrophic runner hyphae can be observed on the roots, crowns, stolons, and rhizomes of the host grass plants.