slime mold is ready to reproduce, it grows up on to the grass blades so that the spores may be spread great distances. Its only purpose of selecting plant parts above the soil line is to distribute the spores over a further distance than it would be able to from the soil surface.

Slime molds do not feed on living plants. They only use them for support during reproduction.

Slime molds occur during wet weather throughout the spring, summer and fall. They disappear rapidly as soon as it becomes dry and chemical control is usually not necessary.

Pythium blight
Pythium blight can be a devastating disease on overseeded ryegrasses; however, bermudagrass and the other warm-season grasses can be affected to a lesser degree.

An abundance of moisture is required for pythium blight development. In addition, the disease is favored by warm temperatures.

Affected grass is killed rapidly in spots two to four inches in diameter. These spots may develop into streaks so that large areas of turf are damaged.

During early stages of development the affected grass appears wilted and greasy. At times the affected turf spots may have a cottony appearance due to the abundant growth of the fungus. For this reason the disease is frequently referred to as cottony blight.

Certain species of pythium can also cause root rot on turfgrasses. Due to the restricted root function the plants become chlorotic and the turf begins to thin.

On overseeded grasses the disease can be limited by using treated seed and delaying the overseeding until as late as possible during the fall. Water as little as possible during periods of favorable disease activity. The perennial ryegrasses are not as susceptible as annual. Under severe disease pressure chemical control may be required.