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IRRIGATION DIVISION



911 Hilltop Drive  
Itasca, Illinois 60143  
(312) 773-5555



*The good old  
summertime is  
not vacation time  
for fungi*

start summer disease control NOW  
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Heavy play plus unchecked fungal activity can spell disaster. Use Acti-dione Thiram weekly to control brown patch, dollarspot, melting-out, fading-out, leafspot, rust and powdery mildew. Call us now for help in planning summer disease control.



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## “THE GREENBUG” [an aphid]

Aphids are plant-sucking insects commonly called plant lice. There is probably a species of aphid for virtually every species of plant. Aphids are usually greenish in color but they may be pink, black or brown. They are fragile looking creatures, somewhat pear-like in shape. Look for two horn-like protruberances on their rear ends and strong, slender beaks. Once these beaks are inserted into the plant, aphids can suck out large amounts of the plant juices. Aphids are the “Draculas” of the insect world .. Dahling ...

Much of the damage they cause is due to the fact that they reproduce rapidly and congregate in great numbers. It has been estimated that one aphid can reproduce 1521<sup>21</sup> offspring in a single season.

The Greenbug *Shizaphis graminum* is a very well known pest in the United States. It attacks all kinds of grain crops throughout the Midwest. In the early 70's, the greenbug turned its attention to Kentucky bluegrass and was found in central and eastern Illinois in epidemic proportions.

Large circular, slightly irregular patches of dead grass ranging in size from 3 to 15 feet are typical symptoms of greenbug damage. Much of the damage occurs underneath the canopy of a shade tree. The specific migration habits of greenbug feeding on turf have not been identified.

Malathion or Orthene are presently the only insecticides specifically labeled for greenbug control, on grasses. In general, spot treating greenbug damaged areas is sufficient to keep the problem under control.

**Stanley Rachesky, Entomologist**