

The Grass Roots



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE "Professionalism"

There is no room in the Golf Course Superintendent's Profession for those who are willing to accept less than perfection. If you can ever say that you have your course, your

staff, and your superiors in complete control, you are either a liar or you have had a dream while you slept.

This field is a constant chal-

lenge. We deal with many contingencies that frequently arise. Hence, decisions have to be made on the spot. Long and short range planning are definitely necessary, but in this business one must adjust to all conditions and be ready for emergencies. If the Golf Superintendent is to be recognized as a professional, he must put much more emphasis on expertise. An old saying is - "If you never do any more than you are paid for, you will never get paid for more than you do."

The following article was taken from the PENNSYLVANIA TURFGRASS COUNCIL "The Keynote"

Update on Cool Weather Brown Patch - A Continuing Problem.

H. Cole Jr., L. L. Burpee and P.O. Sanders

A Brief History

For years Brown Patch has been recognized as a warm temperature, humid weather disease of colonial bents and the older mixed creeping bentgrasses of greens and tees. Typically the disease would smolder causing patches of brownish discolored grasses until the weather became especially "muggy" and warm when smoke rings and active patches would appear overnight.

Older writings about golf course diseases contain references to winter Brown Patch but these brownish rings or patches were little more than curiosities. In mid 1970's, however, persistent reports of brown rings or yellowish brown rings or patches were being made from golf courses throughout the East. Often these symptoms occurred when temperatures were in the 50's, 60's, or 70's. Superficially, they resembled typical Brown Patch, but in many instances symptoms were not controlled by the common Brown Patch fungicides or at best were checked for only a few days. As the reports filtered in, we were about to blame the disease on fungicide resistant low temperatures strains of **Rhizoctonia solani** and we were going to publish a note about the resistance problem. Fortunately, Dr. Robert Sherwood of the U.S.D.A. Pasture Research Laboratory asked a most important question: How do you know the fungus is **Rhizoctonia solani**, the

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WAYNE OTTO

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For further information contact:

Don Schiefelbein
Box A
Hillsboro, Wisconsin 54734
608-489-2431