

# The Snow Molds

By J. M. Vargas, Jr.  
Professor

Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology

The mercury fungicides will no longer be available for use in Minnesota. The need to find substitutes to control snow mold is of the utmost importance. The PCNB products are certainly a short-term solution, but they are also up for review and the possibility of their cancellation also exists. In addition erratic results have been obtained with many of these products over the years.

Snow mold in Northern Minnesota is caused by a complex of fungi (Stienstra 1980 Proc. 3rd. Int. Turfgrass Conference Munich, Germany). A similar complex of fungi causes snow mold in Northern Michigan. Our research with this fungi complex that causes snow mold in Northern Michigan, where permanent snow fall covers the turf for 4 to 5 months a year, has shown Daconil 2787 to effectively manage *Typhula incarnata* and *Typhula ishikariensis* but not to be effective against *Fusarium nivale*. Banner, Bayleton, Rubigan and Sentinel have all been shown to be effective against *T. incarnata* and *F. nivale* but not *T. ishikariensis*. Tersan 1991, Fungo 50 and Chipco 26019 have all been shown to be effective against *F. nivale* but not effective against either species of *Typhula*.

In areas where permanent snow covers the ground for the entire winter period a combination of these products may be tried to manage snow mold.

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