

TurfGrass TRENDS Future Issues

How to take advantage of the future:

Your colleagues help us translate millions of dollars spent on research. The results are our articles, written for your practical application in the field. Join our advisors. For details, call Mary Haber: (202) 438-TURF

How can proper fungicide and fertility programs manage thatch accumulation?

Read about the accumulation of thatch as an inevitable fact of growing particular turfgrass species. However, thatch accumulation can be readily managed if proper care is exercised in fungicide and fertility programs. New biological approaches may offer exciting solutions.

What is the best way to handle root diseases such as summer patch, Pythium root rot and necrotic ringspot?

Learn about the importance of roots to turf quality and stress tolerance; energy partitioning in grass plants, factors governing root growth, like nitrogen fertility, light supply, shoot disease stress, drought effects. Management strategies to promote root growth are yours to make. We'll tell you about species and cultivar selection, mowing height, fertility and stress management, pest control, soil or root zone characteristics, biostimulants. We'll address the difference in root growth between warm-season and cool-season grasses.

To what extent can biological control of foliar diseases help you reduce dependency on fungicides?

Biological control is an exciting new area of turfgrass disease management offering an opportunity to reduce dependency on fungicides. New information and products are being developed that will revolutionize turfgrass disease control in the coming decades.

Do you fully understand the impacts of algae and other biotic problems?

Among the more common yet least understood biotic problems affecting golf course turf are algae. A nuisance most times of the year, algae causes problems ranging from surface crusting to black layer to suspected turfgrass decline. The management of these pests is something worth taking seriously for optimum turfgrass health.

How can you diagnose Anthracnose and other major diseases before they become serious problems?

Once thought to be a problem of bluegrasses under warm temperatures of mid to late summer, Anthracnose has now become a major disease of golf course turf under cool wet conditions, affecting bentgrasses as often as other turfgrasses. Serious losses occurred because of this disease last summer. Anthracnose is a particular problem because of the difficulty in diagnosis.

How can you maximize yellow nutsedge control while minimizing turf injury?

Begin treatments when weeds are young. Avoid applications during hot, dry weather. Calibrate the sprayer. Overdosing will decrease effectiveness. Due to long-term tuber viability, it may take five years or more to get this weed under control. Keep after it!

