

PROSCAPE

By Michael Hurdzan, Ph.D., golf course designer and consultant

Q. I would like to know if there is any new information on the cure or control of "Spring Dead Spot" on the golf course greens? . . . B.M., Pendleton, SC

A. At long last — yes. At a workshop on southern turfgrass diseases during the National Phytopathological Meeting held in November 1978, Dr. Leon Lucas, of North Carolina State University, reported the preliminary research has shown Benomyl may control Spring Dead Spot. His early findings indicated that 5-10 oz/1000 ft² of Tersan 1991® applied in October and November gave 0% incidence of the disease while check plots had 20% infection. Dr. Lucas has also found fair control is possible by using PCNB (Terraclor®) at 10 oz/1000 ft² when applied in October and November or about the time that Bermudagrass goes dormant.

As a normal maintenance practice to reduce Spring Dead Spot occurrence, he suggests to avoid heavy nitrogen rates in the late summer and fall on Bermuda.

Although Spring Dead Spot is so devastating and widespread in the south, it has only been recently that active research on this problem could be economically justified. But now that there is money to match the interest in this disease, more information should be forthcoming.

On May 15, 16 and 17, 1979, the Ohio State University, The Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and Chem-Lawn Corporation will jointly sponsor a symposium on turfgrass diseases, to be held at the University Holiday Inn in Columbus, Ohio. Leading turfgrass disease specialists from the United States and Canada have agreed to participate in this event. Anyone interested in current problems associated with control of turfgrass diseases is welcome to attend and should benefit from the speakers' comments. The proceedings of the meeting will be published and should serve as a valuable reference on turfgrass diseases. For further information about the program, address your inquiry to:

A Symposium of Turfgrass Diseases 1979
2865 East Orange Road
Galena, Ohio 43021

or call:
Dr. P.O. Larsen, Ph.D. (614) 422-6987
Dr. B. G. Joyner, Ph.D. (614) 885-9588

This is a good opportunity to meet Dr. Lucas and other noted researchers in Plant Pathology.

Q: Since nemagon is no longer available, what will a golf course combat nematodes with? J.J., Avon Park, FL

A: At this point in time no one can give any definitive answers concerning the fate of Nemagon®. Rumor has it that it will continue to be available for turf application, but only time will tell. (We could try the governmental approach of taxing them to death or else feed them saccharin and let them die of cancer.) **WTT**

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