

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS OFFERED AS A GUIDE FOR PROSPECTIVE CHALLENGES TO MANAGING SEASHORE PASPALUM. ALL TURFGRASSES ARE SUBJECTED TO INSECT, DISEASE, AND WEED PRESSURES. PROPER MANAGEMENT IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS. YOU MUST CHECK ALL LABELS OF THE PESTICIDES TO BE USED ON THIS GRASS FOR LEGAL AND PROPER USE. MENTION OF A PARTICULAR PRODUCT IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT OF THAT PRODUCT BUT REFLECTS WHAT IS KNOWN AT THE PRESENT TIME. ENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIONS, INCLUDING SALINITY THAT IMPACT SPECIFIC SITES, MAY GIVE VARIABLE RESULTS IN THE USE OF SOME PRODUCTS.

Powdery Mildew

Erysiphe graminis

Optimum temperatures for development are 60-72°F (15-22°C). Typically attacks areas under stress from tree shade or low light intensity, high humidity, and poor air movement. Organism is an obligate parasite that attacks leaves and shoots.

Cultural: avoid high nitrogen applications that cause succulent growth

increase height of cut

prune tree branches or remove trees where possible to limit shading

Suggested Chemical Fungicides: (ROTATE MODE-OF-ACTION CHEMISTRIES)

cyproconazole (Sentinel, Alto)

fenarimol (Rubigan)

propiconazole (Banner Maxx, Kestrel, Tenacity, Spectator, Propensity, Prophesy™, Tilt, Strider)

triadimefon (Bayleton)

triadimefon + trifloxystrobin (Armada)

kresoxim-methyl (Cygnus)

Mn + Zn + ethylenebis dithiocarbamate/mancozeb + thiophanate methyl (Zyban, Duosan)

Banner + Daconil (Concert, Echo)

azoxystrobin + propiconazole (Quilt)

azoxystrobin + cyproconazole (Quadris Xtra)

K salts of fatty acids (M-Pede)

fenbucanazole (Enable)

polyoxin D zinc salt (Endorse, Affirm)

tetraconazole (Eminent®)

tebuconazole (Lynx 25C, Torque, Muscle®, ArmorTech TEB360, Clearscape, Fame, Mirage™StressGard™)

monopotassium dehydrate phosphate (Nutrol®)

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Slime molds

(Mucilago spongiosa or crustacea, Physarum cinereum; Fuligo spp.)

Non-pathogenic and saprophytic, these slimy-mass organisms cause an unsightly cosmetic appearance and rarely if ever cause any permanent damage to turfgrasses.

Symptoms: irregular circles ranging from 0.5-24 inches in diameter in conjunction with wet and high humidity, cool temperature conditions (favors spore discharge) that persist. Fruiting bodies range in bright colors from grayish white, yellow, purple, brown to pink and often with purple or dark-colored spores. Some chlorosis or yellowing can sometimes occur due to sunlight exclusion by the accumulated slimy plasmodia masses on leaves. The plasmodia

feed on living bacteria, fungi, and decaying organic matter in the turf canopy. Warm wet weather favors plasmodium movement onto grass sheaths and leaves.

Control: no fungicide applications are recommended. Mechanically syringe, brush or mow the turfgrass for removal. Remove excess thatch via vertical cutting. Install appropriate surface and subsurface soil drainage.

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Sooty mold

(Cladosporium, Aureobasidium, Antennariella, Limacinula, Scorias, and Capnodium)

Non-pathogenic fungus and non-deleterious to plant health other than being a physical barrier to sunlight and an inhibitor of photosynthesis. Normally an aesthetic problem in manicured landscape areas. Honeydew excreting insects (aphids, scales, mealybugs, whiteflies) coat leaves or other plant parts, in turn attracting the fungus to the sticky sugary coating for colonization. No fungicide applications are recommended, but ant control, which cultivate the sap-feeding and honeydew excreting insects, is recommended.

Recommended for sooty mold: Enable (fenbuconazole)

Citation: D. Dale. July 2011. Sooty mold requires a different approach. Turf (Turf Science). A19.