



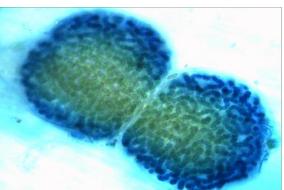


Guidelines for:

The Management of Turfgrass Disease on NZ Cricket Blocks

NZ Cricket

2016







Contents

1	. INTI	RODUCTION	3
		IOR TURFGRASS DISEASES AFFECTING NEW ZEALAND	
3	. PRE	VENTATIVE STRATEGIES	18
	3.1	The disease cycle	18
	3.2	Contributing factors of turfgrass disease	20
4	. TUR	F DISORDERS	21
5	. CUR	RRENT CHEMICAL OPTIONS FOR TURFGRASS DISEASE	24

LIMITATION AND COPYRIGHT

Limitation: This document has been produced by Sports Surface Design & Management (SSDM) solely for New Zealand Cricket in good faith with a view to providing a set of recognised 'Guidelines' focussed upon the control and management of turfgrass diseases in New Zealand cricket blocks. Sports Surface Design & Management accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever in respect of any use or application of the information and recommendations contained in this report by any third party.

Copyright: The contents of this report remain copyright to Sports Surface Design & Management who request that no part of this document be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form to any third party without prior written permission.

CONTACT DETAILS

Sports Surface Design & Management

Postal address: PO Box 33-127, Takapuna, Auckland, 0740
Physical address: 64 Porana Road, Hillcrest Auckland 0627

Website: www.ssdm.co.nz

Contact: Will Bowden, Sports Turf Consultant

T 09 442 0275, M 021 475 941 E will.bowden@ssdm.co.nz





1. Introduction

Cricket Turf Managers across New Zealand are faced with a number of significant challenges with regards to the preparation and management of natural turf cricket blocks (at all levels). One of the most significant issues faced by managers is that of controlling and minimising the occurrence and severity of various turfgrass diseases. This challenge tends to be site specific and on a region-by-region basis, with a variety of climatic, geographical and resource factors contributing to the complexity of each scenario.

This 'Guidelines Document' has been produced by Sports Surface Design & Management (SSDM) in synergy with New Zealand Cricket (NZC) in order to provide the New Zealand Turf Manager with a resource for future reference, based upon the best practice guidelines and most recent research regarding turfgrass disease management on cricket clays.

The information provided within this document is designed to be used in conjunction with latest (updated) New Zealand Cricket guidelines and refers to the most recent international research and findings relating to turfgrass disease management. Due to the nature of the topic recommendations and best practice treatments are forever evolving and changing, SSDM recommends that in conjunction with this document the Turf Manager proactively keeps up-to-date with latest research and turfgrass disease control strategies in order to make the best decisions based upon independent research and experiences.

To assist in this, the following links to independent sites and applications are recommended:

- http://turfpath.com/ (excellent App for information regarding turfgrass diseases)
- http://www.msuturfdiseases.net/id-tool/ (turfgrass disease tool)
- http://www.stma.org/sites/stma/files/pdfs/Alan_Windham_-_Microscopic_Identification_of_Turfgrass_Diseases_STMA.pdf (manual on turfgrass disease)
- http://turfdiseaseid.ncsu.edu/ (turfgrass disease tool)

Note: The recommendations within this document have been independently written and do not propose to direct the Turf Manager towards specific chemical products for the treatment of turfgrass disease.

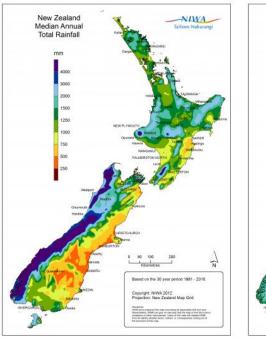




2. Major Turfgrass Diseases Affecting New Zealand

Due to the geographical range of cricket venues across New Zealand, a number of environmental factors need to be considered when establishing a site-specific turfgrass disease management strategy.

Figure 1 (below) identifies the variances in terms of annual median rainfall and temperature on a regional basis across New Zealand. Consideration of factors such as this data will influence the prevalence and nature of turfgrass disease infestations and should form the foundation of future management strategies.



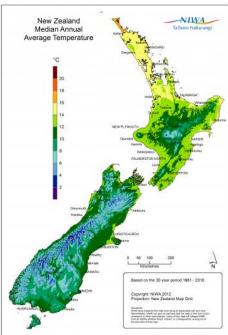


Figure 1: Climatic variances across New Zealand (1981-2010) NIWA.

The term 'Turfgrass disease' refers primarily to a fungal, bacterial or viral (pathogen) infestation of the turf plant which results in some level of visible plant injury. Depending upon the mode of action of the pathogen the target area for treatment of the disease will vary i.e. *Pythium* sp. requires targeting the base or crown of the turfgrass plant, *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* (dollar spot) will require targeting the leaf tissue of the plant and so on.

Contributing factors that may encourage or initiate a disease outbreak include:

- Inappropriate chemical use/selection
- Poor soil conditions (i.e. excessive compaction, poor drainage pH etc.)
- Plant injury (i.e. scalping, tearing or fertiliser burn)
- Nutrient deficiencies
- Drought
- Wear





Where any number of these (and other) factors exist then disease occurrence will tend to form 'patterns' i.e. at certain times of each year and as environmental conditions allow then specific turfgrass disease pathogens will become more active. In such instances chemical treatment will serve to offer a level of superficial treatment of the issue but investigations should take place in order to identify (and remedy) the deeper cause of the problem. More often than not repeatedly occurring turfgrass disease issues provide the Turf Manager with a 'bio-indication' of a deeper unresolved problem that needs investigation.

The information in Table 1. is designed to form part of a quick reference guide for the cricket Turf Manager when it comes to identifying the key factors associated with each (major) turfgrass disease pathogen.

Table 1: Reference guide to major turfgrass disease affecting NZ cricket blocks.

Pathogen	Characteristic	Favoured conditions	Images	Recommended treatment plan(s)
(botanical &	(Fungal or	(turf species, time of year etc.)	(surface, leaf and microscopic)	
common name)	bacterial)			
leaf spot/melting	Fungal	All year round on all turfgrass species.		Actively manage spore counts at key times of
out diseases				year i.e. when covers will be most frequently
			A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	used and/or when leaf wetness is most likely
(Bipolaris,				for periods of time >8 hours
Drechslera,			The state of the s	
Curvularia sp.)				Focus chemical treatment upon achieving
				good contact with leaf tissue. Recommended
				chemicals: Chlorothalonil & Mancozeb
				(750g/kg) at 20 L/ha. Medium droplet size.





	1		T	
Pythium sp.	Fungal	Primarily spring and early autumn (when temps are mid 20°c to		Disease widespread across all parts of New
		low 30°c).		Zealand, perhaps less prevalent in south
				island due to generally lower humidity.
		Relies on leaf wetness to spread across surface of turf sward.		
				Maintain effective preventative fungicide
				programme during the spring and summer
			and the same	months when disease pressures are high.
				'Drench in' systemic fungicides i.e.
				Azoxystrobin and Propiconazole at 9L/ha. If
			MY had	symptoms persist, alternate with Metalaxyl
				Mefenoxam at 10L/ha, (in addition to
			2584	Mancozeb at 20L/ha).
			STATE OF THE PARTY	Pythium sp. will sit 'dormant' within the soil
				environment. SSDM recommends carrying
			and the second second	out a drenching application of Azoxystrobin
				and Propiconazole (as above) in early spring,
				mid-summer and again in early autumn.
				This summer and again in early actumit.





take-all patch	Fungal	Most prevalent in autumn and winter months when the soil is		Soil-based fungal pathogen.
·	Fungal			Soil-based rungai pathogen.
disease & take-all		wet and the temps are around 10-15°c.	《中国的国际》	
root rot				Optimise the efficacy of chemical treatment
		Gaeumannomyces graminis has been observed on couchgrass		by needle-tining prior to applying
(Gaeumannomyces		and is associated with the complex; Ectotrophic root-infecting		Azoxystrobin and Propiconazole at 9L/ha.
graminis sp.)		fungi (ERI).		
				Water (drench) in the above fungicide
		Particularly prevalent when soil microbiological diversity is low		application
		or fungal dominated.	从下面对应	
				Apply Manganese and a biological mix (i.e.
		pH >6.5 will increase disease occurrence and severity		Superzyme and <i>Trichoderma</i> sp.) 10 days
				following the application of fungicide.
		Check to ensure irrigation water is not at a high pH.		During summer apply monthly applications of
				'Superzyme' (or approved equivalent). Ideally
				the selected product will contain: Trichoderma harzianum, Pseudomonas putida
				and Bacillus subtilis. Apply at 1Kg/ha (this
				product should be tank mixed to existing feed
				programme) Note: These products will not
				cause any increase in the % organic matter of the clay.
				the clay.
				Aim to stabilise the pH of the soil at < 6.5
				Carry out a soil nutrient analysis to identify
				the existing level of available Manganese
				within the rootzone. Manganese levels
				should be maintained at > 10 me/100g if possible.
				·
				Consider incorporating an amendment of 'Mycormax' (or an approved equivalent) at
				time of seeding the block. Application rate:
				40-50Kg/ha. This product should be applied
				just prior to seeding.





fusarium patch	Fungal	Cold wet weather and shaded conditions i.e. drizzly and		Disease most likely to occur in south island
rusarium patem	Fullgal			
		overcast for many days.		and inland locations. Relatively scarce from
(Microdochium				Auckland north.
nivale)		Temperatures consistently below 15°c.		
				Treat curatively with applications of either
		Limited light and air flow.	and the same	Chlorothalonil or Iprodione at an application
				rate of 20L/ha.
		Infestations will be most severe when plant has been overfed		
		(i.e. 'soft growth') and/or pH is too high.		Where fusarium is considered a chronic issue
				SSDM recommends an early autumn
				application of Chlorothalonil and Thiophanate
				Methyl at an application rate of 20L/ha,
				followed by applications of the appropriate
			A 44 1 24 4 5	
			小型 一个人	contact fungicide until environmental
				conditions no longer favour disease activity.





dollar spot	Fungal	Prolonged leaf wetness and humidity (particularly at night).		Most likely to occur in North island locations
				(Central north island and northwards).
(Sclerotinia		Prevalent on ryegrass swards, especially if over-fed with		
homoeocarpa)		Nitrogen. Appearing initially as small (dollar-sized) tan spots and		Turf Manager should aim to prevent an
		often accompanied by cottony mycelium (spider web-like) that	Addition to the second second	infestation of dollar spot rather than apply
		enlarge, coalesce and form bleached areas of turfgrass loss.		curative chemical treatments. In particular if
		Note : symptoms likely to be less obvious on cricket blocks.		it is known the block will be regularly covered
				for prolonged periods of time. Dew control
		Can remain active in NZ at a wide temperature range: 15°c to		measures will be beneficial.
		30°c.		In early spring apply Azoxystrobin and Propiconazole at 9L/ha. Every 3 weeks (or as symptoms and/or environmental conditions demand) continue to apply Mancozeb (750g/kg) at a preventative rate of 20L/ha. Maintain this programme until environmental conditions no longer favour the disease





spring dead spot

Fungal

Spring dead spot (SDS) can occur on couchgrass cricket blocks during early spring and persist throughout the summer until dormancy. Although visual symptoms may appear reduced during dormancy, the pathogen is soil-borne and if not appropriately treated through the spring, summer and early autumn will return the following year (in many cases increasing in severity).







Due to the host species being couchgrass this disease will be exclusive to couchgrass cricket blocks.

Long-term strategy:
Upon positive identification of SDS:

- Ensure any applications of Nitrogen are made in advance of winter dormancy.
 The couchgrass plant should not 'take' excessive Nitrogen into dormancy.
- 2) Make 2 x applications of Potassium sulphate in the months prior to dormancy. The application rate should be: around 0.8Kg/100m² per application.
- Carry out soil testing to ensure that a pH of between 5.5-6.0 is targeted.
- 4) Apply autumn fungicide application of Fenarimol at 1-1.5Kg/ha rate.
- 5) As soon as couchgrass comes out of dormancy apply 3-4 weekly applications of Propiconazole, Myclobutanil and Fenarimol (as appropriate) throughout the summer.





Rhizoctonia sp.

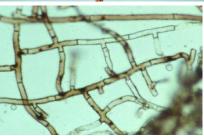
Fungal

Rhizoctonia pathogens cover such "patch" diseases as: brown patch, leaf spot and yellow patch. The pathogen is also associated with other root-rot infections, damping off and leaf blights.

The disease pathogen occurs primarily on ryegrass during periods of warm and humid weather. Infected hyphae from affected plants will contact the soil around the base of the turfgrass crown and spread towards neighbouring turf plants when environmental conditions are conducive.







Present throughout New Zealand (most likely to occur central to north, north island).

The nature of cricket block preparation (i.e. compaction and relatively high soil moisture) provides an ideal environment for the development of *Rhizoctonia* sp. Care should be taken to avoid prolonged periods of 'High' soil moisture content (i.e. >60%) at times of the year when humidity is highest or covers are likely to be in place for extended periods of time. Soil moisture will need to be managed around emerging seedlings or young turfgrass plants whilst avoiding seed germination and high Nitrogen feeding during periods of high humidity.

Chemical treatment: In New Zealand's temperate climate curative applications are most commonly employed. Chemicals from the following groups are effective: carboxamides, benzimidazoles, carbamates, dicarboximides, DMI fungicides, nitriles, and QOIs.





red thread and pink patch	Fungal	Prevalent during periods of moist weather (usually cool temperatures 18°c - 20°c). Generally most active around the		Present throughout New Zealand.
		times of seasonal change (spring & autumn). Red thread in	经有效的对应 相交应	Maintain a 'clean' sward i.e. attempt to
(Laetisaria		particular can be associated with a low availability of Nitrogen	沃安外,这个人的	remove majority of desiccated leaf tissue
fuciformis and		or Potassium. Turf Managers should be aware that autumn	是不是是2000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年的1000年	accumulations around the base of the sward
Limonomyces		applications of Nitrogen are not recommended to reduce red		– this is where <i>Laetisaria fuciformis and</i>
roseipellis)		thread persistence.		Limonomyces roseipellis spores will reside.
				Chemical control only necessary in extreme
				situations: Chlorothalonil at 20L/ha or
				Azoxystrobin at 2.4L/ha can be used.





			Г	Т
bacterial wilt	Bacterial	First observed incidence of bacterial wilt on ryegrass in 2013	AND AND SERVICE TO THE SERVICE TO T	Most likely in central to north, north Island.
		(USA). Prevalent in hot and humid weather conditions. Bacterial	The second second	
(Xanthomonas		wilt on <i>Poa annua</i> turf was recently identified by SSDM in	Section 1988 of the second	Unlikely to be a significant issue for NZ cricket
translucens)		Auckland.	对于中国的企业。由于中国的	Turf Managers.
			A STATE OF THE STA	Applications of Copper hydroxide (500 g/Kg
Etiolation (ETS).		Symptoms range from desiccation and wilt of turfgrass plants to		copper, as copper hydroxide) at the labelled
		etiolation of individual plants (the latter being most likely to		rate for use on fruit crops can be made to the
		occur on cricket blocks)		affected turf (each application should be
				thoroughly watered in and carried out at a
				time when heat and UV stress on the turf is
				minimal i.e. early morning or late afternoon).
				Three applications of Copper should be made
				at 2 week intervals after which time an
				evaluation can be made regarding the extent
				of disease control.
				Where etiolation is the main symptom: SSDM
				recommends the Turf Manager carry out a
				soil nutrient analysis to identify existing levels
				of pH and available Calcium and Magnesium
				as these can be contributing factors to leaf
				etiolation if limited in availability.
			《李》上的《阿斯斯》的《阿斯斯	
			2000年1000年100日	
			等少方的"多"等的	
			以多得及(學)(新)()(多)(多)	





rust (<i>Puccinia</i> spp.)	Fungal	Late summer to early autumn (especially in warmer/wetter autumns). Ryegrass is particularly susceptible to rust.	Present throughout New Zealand. Generally symptoms shall not be severe enough to require chemical treatment on a cricket block. However, if symptoms do require treatment an application of Azoxystrobin at 2.4L/ha is recommended (note: this will need to be followed up with
			an application of Tebuconazole at 4L/ha if environmental conditions continue for a number of weeks following initial treatment).





powdery mildew (Erysiphe graminis sp.)	Fungal	Occurs primarily in autumn on areas of turf that struggle to receive sufficient light and where turf canopy is dense.	Present throughout New Zealand. If symptoms appear persistent and severe enough to justify chemical application: Apply Propiconazole at 4L/ha and if symptoms and environmental conditions persist for several weeks, follow up with an application of Trifloxystrobin at 0.75L/ha (2-3 weeks later).





Fungal			
i ungui	Low light, leaf wetness and low fertility are major contributors		Occurrence is widespread across New
	to the occurrence of anthracnose.	大学是一种的一种企业的一种企业	Zealand regions due to broad temperature
			range of activity.
	Active in a broad temperature range: 15°c to 25°c.		Persistent disease that may be either basal
			(rot) or plant (blight) based. Depending upon
	Primarily a disease of <i>Poa annua</i> , anthracnose will also infest	1	the nature of the infection the best course of
	ryegrass and couchgrass cricket blocks if conditions are		treatment may involve spiking and drenching
	favourable.		with a broad spectrum fungicide or a leaf
		DE LA PARTIE DE LA	application.
			If applying fungicides preventatively (i.e.
			before any symptoms have been observed)
			then a foliar application will be appropriate. A
		4	suitable product is: Chlorothalonil (20 L/ha),
			Mancozeb (20 L/ha) or Propiconazole (5L/ha).
			Where a curative programme is being
			established then systemic fungicides are
		THE COURT	required i.e. products containing:
		The second	Chlorothalonil, Propiconazole and Fludioxinil
		10	at an application rate of 18L/ha.
		Carlo III	
		Active in a broad temperature range: 15°c to 25°c. Primarily a disease of <i>Poa annua</i> , anthracnose will also infest ryegrass and couchgrass cricket blocks if conditions are	Active in a broad temperature range: 15°c to 25°c. Primarily a disease of <i>Poa annua</i> , anthracnose will also infest ryegrass and couchgrass cricket blocks if conditions are





Slimes	Fungal	Prolonged soil/surface wetness. Overcast and mild days in	A STATE OF THE STA	Chemical treatment: Apply Mancozeb and
		particular early spring and late autumn when turfgrass growth is		Chlorothalonil every 10 to 14 days leading up
(Cyanobacteria etc.)		slow and the sward coverage likely to be sparse.		to and during periods of humid, moist
			3	weather.
		High soil pH will increase the persistence of many slimes (i.e.		
		alkaline clays opposed to those that are more acidic).		Application rates:
				Mancozeb = 200ml/100 m ²
		Slimes can also be 'artificially' brought about as a result of high		Chlorothalonil = 300ml/100m²
		NPK fertilisers being applied inappropriately.	The second second	Note: if weather is conducive to slimes and
				algae development, these applications will
				need to be followed up within 1-2 weeks and
				repeated up to 3 times.
				Control of an existing algae/slime issue may
			Control of the Contro	also be gained from applying Iron Sulphate at
				a rate of 80ml/100m²





3. Preventative Strategies

In most cases the occurrence of turfgrass disease occurs at a point when environmental conditions are conducive to infestation and is to some extent unavoidable. In these scenarios the onus is upon the Turf Manager to have strategies in pace that control or limit the extent and severity of such turfgrass disease infections.

In order that the Turf Manager is able to mitigate and minimise disease severity an appreciation of the key factors that contribute to turfgrass disease infection is important. This Section identifies the major factors that contribute to the plants susceptibility to pathogen infestation and consequently the severity of disease infection.

3.1 The disease cycle

No single turfgrass disease pathogen acts in exactly the same way. The mode of action of fungal pathogens will differ significantly from those of Bacterial and Viral; however a fundamental awareness of the 'typical' disease cycle for turfgrass diseases is valuable for the Turf Manager to understand.

Figure 2 illustrates the principle of a fungal pathogen lifecycle:

OVERWINTERING/SURVIVAL PENETRATION germinating stroma tomata cut/injured leaf dead plant tissue contains fungal stroma Movement of hyphae or infected plant tissue to healthy plants by: -wind, water -animals, people -equipment ESTABLISHMENT

Figure 2: Turfgrass disease cycle- dollar spot

(Source: http://www.apsnet.org/edcenter/intropp/lessons/fungi/ascomycetes/pages/dollarspot.aspx0





As highlighted in figure 2, prevention of serious disease infestation should be focussed upon reducing the opportunity for pathogen 'stroma' (spores) to enter the turfgrass plant. Primarily, entry to the plant will be through some form of turfgrass injury or creation of an artificial environment conducive to turfgrass disease.

Commonly opportunities for pathogen infestation will be caused as a result of:

- Mowing turf with dull/blunt cutting units (figure 3).
- Carrying out abrasive cultural practices such as topdressing and/or brushing when the weather is too hot, too dry or plant is too wet (soft).
- Excessive wear and tear on the turf. (i.e. poor machine operation or carrying out maintenance tasks when ground conditions or environmental conditions are inappropriate [too dry or too soft]).
- Creating 'artificial' conditions around the turf (i.e. a humid micro-climate beneath covers).
- Damaging the turfgrass plant with inappropriate applications of chemicals and/or fertilisers.
 (i.e. avoid applying chemicals and fertilisers during periods of prolonged heat or leaf wetness)

Fungal pathogens in particular are highly opportunistic and will rapidly infest a damaged turfgrass plant. The extent of potential infestation will depend upon how the Turf Manager mitigates against providing further opportunities for fungal pathogens to spread and cause serious harm.



Figure 3: Example of turfgrass mown with blunt cutting units.





3.2 Contributing factors of turfgrass disease

Understanding how best to limit the opportunities for pathogen infestation of turf requires the Turf Manager to have a basic understanding of the key factors that can work in association to effectively create a 'perfect storm' for a severe turfgrass disease outbreak.

These key factors are described graphically in figure 4.

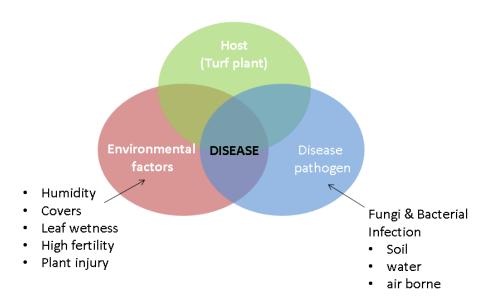


Figure 4: Key factors contributing to severe turfgrass disease infestations.

As illustrated in figure 4, where environmental conditions support pathogen occurrence and turfgrass injury occurs through any of the opportunities identified in Section 3.1 a 'perfect storm' for turfgrass disease infestation occurs.

Although many of the factors leading to turfgrass disease infection can be avoided through following 'best practice' management techniques and not adversely injuring or compromising the integrity of the turfgrass plant, there are occasions when it is necessary to ensure a preventative chemical programme is in place in order to limit the opportunities for turfgrass infection. Most commonly these will be during preparations for match fixtures where covers may be required along with the manipulation of soil moisture content.

In such circumstances the Turf Manager should aim to apply a preventative broad spectrum fungicide (i.e. Azoxystrobin) a minimum of 2 days in advance of having to cover the pitch for prolonged periods of time.

This application will be made in conjunction with a basic understanding of the key 'cultural' factors that encourage disease infestation (as outlined within this Section of the guidelines).





4. Turf Disorders

A range of turf 'disorders' that can mimic the visual symptoms of turfgrass disease include:

1. Chemical or Fertiliser burn:

Caused by a number of factors: leaking equipment, inappropriate application rates, applying chemical at the wrong time of year/day, and not understanding the 'burn potential' of a particular product etc.



Figure 5: Chemical burn on a golf green.

2. Chemical tracking through groundwater:

Some chemicals have a residual mode of action (i.e. the active ingredient remains active within the soil profile for a number of days or weeks). When using such chemicals the Turf Manager should ensure that a) weather conditions are appropriate for use of the particular product and b) appropriate measures have been taken to limit the potential 'tracking' of the chemical through the soil to wider areas of turf. This may be particularly relevant where managing multiple turfgrass blocks of different species i.e. couchgrass and ryegrass. Where any risk of chemicals tracking through the soil profile exists, the Turf Manager must ensure that soil moisture content is managed and no rainfall or irrigation is likely to occur over the week (or so) following the chemical application.

Understanding the life of chemicals within the soil is very important. Most turfgrass chemicals will have some form of "half-life" (the half-life of an herbicide in soil is the time it takes

for 50% of the chemical to degrade or break down within the soil) after which point the active ingredient will be unlikely to have any adverse effects upon adjacent areas. By means of example, Amitrole has a half-life in the soil of approximately 40 days, and MCPA may still be 'active' within the





soil for up to 5 weeks. A further example (particularly relevant to use on couchgrass cricket pitches) will be Simazine. This is a soil-based herbicide that remains active within the soil for long periods of time; it is also liable to track through soil ground water/moisture and has the potential to damage surrounding (non-target) areas.

When using chemicals that have a significant half-life within the soil it is important to apply these when environmental conditions a favourable (i.e. no forecast rain) and also understanding that it may be preferable to use less residual foliar-based alternatives.

3. Dull mower blades:



Figure 6: 'Whitening of turf' caused from mowing with a dull blade.

Mowing with a dull blade will effectively tear the turfgrass plant, leaving the tip of the plant torn and desiccated. Not only does this create an opportunity for turfgrass disease infestation, but sometimes the appearance of the sward can be so 'off colour' that the Turf Manager can assume the turf is under attack from a disease pathogen. Where this has happened it is recommended to apply a contact fungicide as soon as possible (avoiding the heat of the day if in summer). A broad spectrum contact such as Dithane Rainshield (Mancozeb) at 20 L/ha is recommended.

5. Plant nutrient deficiency:

SSDM recommends that the Turf Manager submit representative samples of their soils for basic nutrient analysis on an annual basis. This information will provide some objective measurements to assist in the setting up of on-going fertiliser plans for the year ahead. The recommended Laboratory in New Zealand to provide this service is: Hill laboratories, Hamilton (www.hill-laboratories.com/). Interpretation of these results should be made by an independent turf agronomist.





Figure 7 (below) provides an example of how a nutrient deficiency can often appear.



Figure 7: Nutrient deficiency of turf.

Carrying out an annual soil test will also identify whether your soil is deficient in any key nutrient groups or whether there might be accumulations in potentially damaging factors such as Sodium or a high pH etc. Without this background information sometimes the wrong diagnosis can be made without successful resolution.

Where your facility may be connected to a private water source (i.e. not town supply) it may also be worthwhile analysing the irrigation water every few years to ensure key criteria such as Sodium, pH and Calcium etc. are in balance.





5. Current Chemical Options for Turfgrass Disease

The efficacy of fungicides will depend greatly upon the methodology and calibration of use. It is recommended to identify the pH (ideally 6.5-7.0) of your water source prior to mixing chemicals as in order to encourage efficacy a pH buffer solution may be required. Timing of applications is also critical, i.e. early morning or late evening is generally the optimum times to apply fungicides. DMI fungicides should not be applied when weather conditions are hot and/or dry as these can result in significant turfgrass injury.

Table 2: Inventory of the current chemicals available in New Zealand to manage fungal and bacterial turfgrass issues.

Active Ingredient	Chemical group (fungicides only)	Trade name (Options include but are not limited to)	Chemical control	Rate of application	Comments: 'Burn potential' use on seedling/establishing turf
			Fungicides		
Azoxystrobin 500g/L	Qol, Strobilurin	Amistar	Systemic Broad spectrum	2.4L/ha	Suitable for use as a seasonal 'protectant' i.e. following renovation and during spring and autumn transitions Do not use on dollar spot as can worsen symptoms. Medium – High risk of resistance. Do not apply more than 6 applications of Azoxystrobin in any single year. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low
Azoxystrobin 62 g/L & Propiconazole 104 g/L	DMI, Strobilurin	Headway MAXX	Systemic Broad spectrum	9 L/ha	As above (added cost implication of combined product) As with all DMI grouped fungicides, a high risk of resistance exists. This can be managed by applying no





					more than 3 consecutive applications of DMI grouped fungicides before changing and applying no more than 5 applications of DMI grouped fungicides per 'active turf growing season'. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low
Carbendazim 500g/L	Benzimidazole	Prolific ¹ , Protek	Broad spectrum	20L/ha¹	Not effective on diseases such as; <i>Pythium</i> , leaf spot/damping off/melting out or take-all-patch. Offers some control over worm casting. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low
Chlorothalonil 250g/L and Thiophanate Methyl 250g/L	DMI	Tratek 5F	Broad spectrum	15-20L/ha	As above. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low (Note: DMI fungicides can have a growth regulating effect during periods of hot weather)
Chlorothalonil 362 g/L, Propiconazole 57 g/L & Fludioxinil 14.5g/L	DMI, Strobilurin	Instrata	Broad spectrum systemic and protectant	9-18L/ha	As above. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low (Note: DMI fungicides can have a growth regulating effect during periods of hot weather)
Chlorothalonil 720g/L	DMI	Cavalary, Bravo WeatherStik	Broad spectrum contact and protectant	14-20L/ha	Suitable for the majority of turfgrass diseases (apart from <i>Pythium</i> and take-all-patch). Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low (Note: DMI fungicides can have a growth regulating effect during periods of hot weather)





Cyproconazol 100g/L	Triazole	Alto	Broad spectrum contact and protectant	4L/ha	Particularly effective on dollar spot Do not tank mix with copper fungicides. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = High
Fosetyl-Aluminium 800g/Kg	Triazole	Aliette	Broad spectrum contact and protectant	20L/ha	Primarily used when <i>Pythium</i> sp. is considered a high risk. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Moderate
Iprodione 250g/L	Dicarboximide	Rovral Flo	Contact and Protectant	10-20L/ha	Particularly effective on melting out diseases. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low
Mancozeb	Dithiocarbamates	Dithane Rainshield,	Protectant	6-20L/ha	Ensure leaf is well coated, this works well as an ongoing protectant against leaf spot and melting out diseases (apply every 2-3 weeks during main growth season). Safe for use during turfgrass establishment.
Metalaxyl Mefenoxam 40g/Kg & Mancozeb 640g/Kg	Benzimidazole	Ridomil Gold	Broad spectrum systemic and protectant	10-20L/ha	Burn potential = Low Primarily used for control of <i>Pythium</i> sp. and root rot Can be washed in (drenched) in order to increase efficacy at the base/crown of the turf plant. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low
Prochloraz 450g/L	DMI	Mirage, Sportak	Broad spectrum systemic and protectant	2-7L/ha	Leaf spot control i.e. dollar spot, <i>Bipolaris</i> sp. and fusarium.





					Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low (Note: DMI fungicides can have a growth regulating effect during periods of hot weather)
Propiconazole 250g/L	DMI	Tilt, Aurora	Broad spectrum systemic and protectant	2-10L/ha²	² Dependent upon target pest. Suitable for control of dollar spot, leaf spots, fusarium etc. Can be watered in for treatment of soil-borne pathogens.
					Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low (Note: DMI fungicides can have a growth regulating effect during periods of hot weather)
Tebuconazole 500g/L	Triazole	Axis Gold	Broad spectrum systemic and protectant	2-6L/ha	Particularly effective on anthracnose, when used in conjunction with Propiconazole. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low
Thiram 400g/L	DMI	Thiram 40F	Protectant	15-20L/ha or 1L per pitch when breakout is severe	Effective on dollar spot and when mixed with a systemic fungicide. Also used as a slime control on cricket blocks at 15L/ha. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low (Note: DMI fungicides can have a growth regulating effect during periods of hot weather)
Triadimenol 250g/L	Triazole	Cereous	Systemic and protectant	3-6L/ha	Control of powdery mildew and rust. Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Moderate





Trifloxystrobin 500g/L	Strobilurin	Twist, Flint	Broad spectrum systemic and protectant	0.3- 0.75L/ha	Control of powdery mildew, rust and leaf spot disease.
					Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Low
Fenarimol	DMI Pyrimidine	Rubigan	Protectant	See Technical rep.	Reduced likelihood of resistance (in comparison to other DMI grouped fungicides). For control of dollar spot. Suggested in use with a surfactant.
					Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Moderate (Note: DMI fungicides can have a growth regulating effect during periods of hot weather)
Phosphite	NA	Phoscare	Biological preventative	5L/ha	Apply every 2 weeks during main growing season. Thought to assist the turfs natural defence systems against anthracnose and root rot fungi.
					Safe for use during turfgrass establishment. Burn potential = Moderate
			Herbicides	s	
Amitrole 400g/L		Zelam	Non-selective	16 ml/L	Short life within soil (4-6 weeks) can be used to 'cleanout' areas prior to re-seeding in spring
					Should not be used on seedling turfgrass Burn potential = HIGH (particularly phytotoxic to couch upon repeated application)
Picloram 100g/L & Triclopyr 300g/L		Conquest, Brushkiller	Selective herbicide	2L/ha	Broad selective, particularly good on Oxalis and will assist in <i>Poa annua</i> control also.
					Should not be used on seedling turfgrass. Burn potential = Moderate (Triclopyr has HIGH burn





				potential on <i>Poa annua</i> and couchgrass)
Triclopyr 600g/L	Grazon	Selective herbicide	2L/ha	Good control of Hydrocotyle and <i>Poa annua</i> (not advisable to apply to couchgrass). Provides control of summer grasses in cool season blocks. Should not be used on seedling turfgrass. Burn potential (See above)
Mecoprop 600g/L, MCPA 150g/L & Dicamba 18.7g/L	Trimec	Selective (broad spectrum) herbicide	3L/ha	Excellent control of a wide range of broadleaf weeds, in particular good control on toad rush. Should not be used on seedling turfgrass. Burn potential = Low to Moderate
MCPA 750g/L	Maestro	Selective herbicide	3L/ha	Broad range of control, including starweed (will require multiple applications). Should not be used on seedling turfgrass. Burn potential = Moderate
Ethofumesate	Nortron	Pre-emergent herbicide	2L/ha	Good all round control of weed species. Should be applied at the time of seeding turfgrass. Should be used at time of seeding turf as a preemergent. Burn potential = Moderate (best applied to couchgrass swards during dormancy as a preemergent to combat spring growth of <i>Poa annua</i> and weeds).
Oxadiazon 380g/L	Oracle	Pre-emergent herbicide	2L/ha	Up to 6 weeks protection from pre-emergent weed species. Note: product forms a 'skin' over the surface of the soil and will lose efficacy if disturbed through cultural practices during this time.





				Chould not be used an coodling turfaress
				Should not be used on seedling turfgrass.
	17. 1	6.1	4.21.//	Burn potential = Low
Propyzamide	Kerb	Selective	1.2L/ha	Excellent control of weed species on couchgrass
500g/L		herbicide (for		surfaces.
		couchgrass)		
				Safe to use on seedling turf (2-leaf stage of growth)
				Burn potential = Low (effective for control of
			==0 1/1	Paspalum in couchgrass)
Fenoxaprop-P-	Puma	Selective	750ml/ha	Best applied in springtime on ryegrass blocks for
Ethyl 69g/L		herbicide		control over broad leaf weds and invasive summer
				grass.
				Should not be used on seedling turfgrass.
				Burn potential = Low (cool-season) Moderate to High
				(warm-season) grasses.
Trifloxysulfuron	Monument		100-	Application rate will depend upon target species.
100g/L	Wionament		300ml/ha	Trifloxysulfuron will control winter grass species in
1006/ 1			3001111,110	the couchgrass cricket block as well as broad leaf
				weeds. Applications should be made as plants are
				actively growing, targeting stem and crown of
				undesirable turfgrass plants.
				6 *** 7 *** 6 *** 7 **
				Should not be used on seedling turfgrass.
				Burn potential = Low
		Wetting agents/dev	w control	
Polyether 1020g/L	Breakthru Gold	Penetrant/surfact	Varies	1) Initial early season application = 3L/ha
		ant		2) Bi-weekly applications (thereafter) =
				800ml/ha
				3) Dew suppressant = 3L/ha
				Note: apply only in early evening or early morning
				when dew is still present on the ground.
Oxirane-	DewCure	Surfactant	6L/ha	Can last up to 1 week of dew control (ideal for 'match





methyloxirane polymer				day' situations).
		Moss/algae co	ntrol	
Carfentrazone 240g/L	Smackdown	Selective herbicide (additional moss- control benefits)	500 ml/ha	Important: This product is an accelerant and therefore all equipment used to apply Carfentrazone must be triple rinsed and thoroughly cleaned post application. Will require follow-up application within 14 days of initial application.
Dichlorophen 432g/L	Mostox	Selective biocide	500ml/L	initial application.
Benzalkonium chloride 500g/L	Surrender	Algaecide	250ml/10L	
Iron Sulphate	Iron Sulphate		100g/ha in 600 L or water	Apply 2-3 times during the autumn or early spring to sliver moss and algae etc. The action of the Sulphate Iron may also be enhanced by the addition of 200-250ml of Acid (i.e. white vinegar) to every 5L of tank mix.

Important Notes:

- 1. Where 'Burn *Potential*' is described as being 'Low' to 'Moderate' the product can be applied adhering to manufacturer's guidelines and GROWSAFE best practice, throughout the day. Where 'Burn Potential' has been described as 'High' the product should only be applied early morning or later in the evening and may require some washing off the leaf.
- 2. DMI fungicides have the potential to stunt growth and act as a 'growth retardant' during periods of environmental stress i.e. heat or drought. The use of DMIs should be carefully considered during such times.