

Turfgrass Disease Identification

Distinct patches of yellow, light straw, or brown-colored turfgrass

Patches are <3" in diameter

Dollar Spot
Leaf spot lesions with tan to straw colored centers

Nigrospora Blight
Tan- to white-centered lesions during warmer weather than dollar spot

Large Patch
Circular patches up to several feet across, may have yellow to orange border

Take-all Root Rot
Irregular patches 8-24" wide, mix of yellow & dead grass

Rings or arcs of lush green to dead grass; mushrooms may be present

Hydrophobic Fairy Ring
Rings or arcs >15" wide, may repel water & have mushrooms

Rhizoctonia Leaf & Sheath Spot
Rings <15" wide, narrow consistent width, doesn't repel water

No distinct patches are present

Rust
Orange spots or blisters on leaves; orange rubs off easily

No orange spots

Leaf spots present

Bipolaris
Red to purple leaf spots & blotches widely ranging in size

Cercospora
Narrow, purple spots become oblong, irregular spots with tan centers & brown borders

Gray Leaf Spot
Spots are oval to irregular with brown borders & tan to gray centers

Anthracnose
Reddish-brown to brown spots with yellow halo

No leaf spots

Slime Mold
Grass covered with easily removed slimy or crusty growth

Pythium Root Rot &/or Nematodes
Scattered yellow leaves & general decline