



GO TIPS

RED THREAD



Red thread appears on turf grasses as light pink or red patches.

Common cause of patches of dead grass in mid to late summer and fall. Prevalent in prolonged periods of moisture (rain or heavy dew), or watering in late evening. Increased severity occurs on lawns that have a high thatch layer, as well as lawns that are nutrient deficient. Can be spread by walking over infected areas to non-infected areas and mowing and leaving the grass clippings on the lawn. Best controlled with a combination of proper cultural practices and fertilization. A fungicide can be applied to assist in control as required.

- Water only in early morning and deeply once a week
- Do not allow the turf to get excessively dry
- Reduce the thatch layer in the lawn by aerating and top dressing
- Over-seed the lawn with Kentucky bluegrass
- Bag all the grass clippings
- Maintain a proper fertilization program







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FAIRY RING



Fairy Rings are a common problem in residential lawns and can be easily identified by the emergence of a ring of darker green grass and mushrooms.

Fairy rings are caused by the decomposition of organic matter under the surface of your lawn. This causes a release of nitrogen based nutrients which is the main contributing factor to the dark green ring. The fungus grows rapidly as it decomposes organic matter and sends fungal strands to the surface of the lawn.

Damage to lawns is caused in two ways:



The fungus deprives grass roots of water and oxygen



Release of excess nitrogen through organic matter breakdown causes uncontrollable top growth and burn

Treatment Options:

There is no guaranteed control for fairy ring. Regular fertilization, aeration and over-seeding will help minimize the damage. Watering the area heavily and popping holes in the surface using a "poke and soak" method can assist in masking the ring. Digging out the soil and replacing with fresh soil and overseeding/sodding is an option if damage continues.





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POWDERY MILDEW



Powdery Mildew is mostly prevalent on Kentucky Bluegrass and in shaded areas.

Inspection reveals a white, powdery growth primarily on the upper surface of the leaf. Advanced stages of the disease will cover the whole leaf with mycelium, eventually turning the foliage yellowish-orange. As the disease progresses, turf grass blades may wither and die and the plant becomes more susceptible to other stresses and diseases.

To control this disease the best solution is to use cultural practices to help fix the problem:

- In shady areas, change the type of grass to more shade tolerant variety
- Avoid watering at night
- Improve air circulation to the affected areas
- Reduce the amount of shade the grass is getting and prune surrounding trees and shrubs to allow light penetration
- Increase cutting height to 3"

