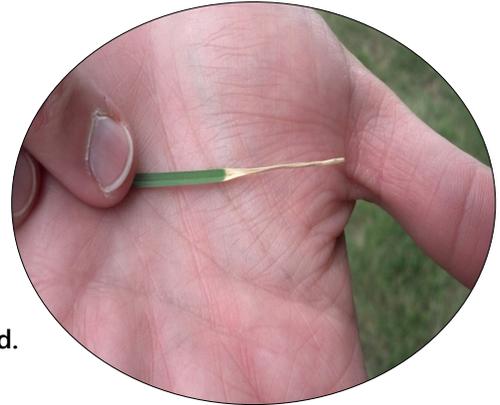


ASCOCHYTA LEAF BLIGHT

Ascochyta Leaf Blight is a fungal disease that appears in stressed turf. Ascochyta looks worse than it is, and seldom causes permanent damage – but there are ways to combat it and keep your lawn lush and green.

ABOUT ASOCHYTA LEAF BLIGHT:

- Symptoms present as large irregular patches of turf that rapidly turn straw-color and appear dead. Overall, the blight may appear uniform from a distance, but healthy leaves are scattered within.
- Disease development typically appears throughout the growing season, but is more common during hot, dry periods that are preceded by cool, rainy conditions.
- Leaves infected with the fungus exhibit bleached tip dieback that extends approximately a third to halfway down the leaf blade. The area between healthy and diseased tissue is abrupt and slightly pinched.



ASCOCHYTA IS A STRESS-RELATED ISSUE YOU CAN CONTROL

This turfgrass disease typically occurs because of underlying stress factors created by improper cultural practices, unhealthy soil, and improper watering practices. A healthy, dense, and actively growing lawn can battle this disease on its own. Here are helpful strategies and cultural practices to reduce disease development:

Core Aerate Spring and/or Fall

- Core Aeration is the most beneficial practice that can be performed on lawns. Reducing thatch and soil compaction will allow for better water, nutrient, and oxygen infiltration into the root system. New channels will provide an area for increased root depth and mass, resulting in a much hardier, stress-tolerant turfgrass.

Modify Mowing Practices

- Maintain a height of 3 – 3.5 inches when mowing.
- Ensure mower blades are sharp; experts recommend sharpening mower blades every 4 – 5 mowings. Never remove more than 1/3 of the grass blade.
- Never mow when the turfgrass is wet or during periods of high heat. Mowing when the grass is wet can result in a poor cut and torn leaf tips. Torn leaf tips allow entry into the plant for the pathogen.
- Be sure to thoroughly wash your mower deck and wheels after mowing. This disease can spread from one location to another through contaminated mower decks and infected grass blades.
- Using a commercial mowing service greatly increases the risk.

Modify Watering Practices

- To reduce stress on the lawn, it is best to water deeply and infrequently. The soil should be moistened to the depth of the deepest root. Most lawns in Colorado will need 1 ½ – 2 inches of water per week.

Deep Green Power Boost

- 100% Pesticide-Free, Probiotic Platform; A soil conditioner that enables the grass to retain more nutrients and water. Our living platform has natural disease suppression and will improve drought resistance.

PLEASE GIVE THE DAMAGED AREAS OF THE LAWN ADDITIONAL WATER FOR 10-14 DAYS, IF IT DOES NOT RECOVER, CALL US OR YOUR RESPECTIVE BRANCH MANAGER!



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