



Dollar Spot

› Causal Agent: *Lanzia* spp.

Formerly *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*.

› Susceptible Turfgrass

All turfgrass species, predominantly cool season grasses.

Bentgrass – Pennlinks, A1 & A4, Providence, L-93, Penn G2 have shown superior tolerance (Hurley, 1999).

Most susceptible – Crenshaw, SR1020.

› Symptoms

- Small, sunken, circular patches 1.5 to 5cm in diameter.
- The patches turn from brown to a straw colour and may eventually coalesce, into larger irregularly shaped areas.
- In the presence of dew, mycelium may be seen as a fine white cottony thread.
- Infected leaves may display small lesions that turn from yellow-green to straw colour with a reddish-brown border.
- Lesions can extend the full width of the leaf.
- Multiple lesions may occur on a single leaf blade.

› Conditions Favouring Disease

- Temperature ranges of 16°C to 28°C and continuous high humidity above 85%.
- Warm humid weather with cool nights that produce heavy dews.
- When the micro-climate temperature reaches 16°C the fungus resumes growth.
- Low nitrogen levels.
- More severe in dry soils.

› Management Tips

- Preventative fungicide spray program.
- Provide adequate level of nitrogen, particularly in the spring and early summer.
- Mow grass at regular intervals.
- Reduce thatch.
- Increase the air circulation.
- Irrigate turf deeply and as infrequently as possible to avoid drought stress.
- Remove dew from the turf early in the day.



› General Comments

- This fungus overwinters as sclerotia and as a dormant mycelium in the crowns and roots of infected plants.
- Soil pH has little or no effect on Dollar Spot severity.

› Distribution

Found in all states of Australia, particularly coastal areas.