



# Kikuyu Yellows

## › Causal Agent: *Verrucalvus flavofaciens*

## › Susceptible Turfgrass

Kikuyu.

## › Symptoms

- Leaves turn a uniformly yellow with brown flecking.
- Roots usually turn yellowish brown colour and rot.
- Infected areas range in size from 10cm to 1m in diameter.

## › Conditions Favouring Disease

- Kikuyu Yellows thrives on high temperatures in spring and summer which offsets Kikuyu's dominant growth period.
- Since plant material and soil can bear spores of the fungus, it can be difficult to control.
- Kikuyu Yellows is especially common in areas fertilised with nitrogen.

## › Management Tips

- Prevent spread by not moving infected soils and grass to new areas.
- Nitrogen fertilisers mask symptoms, use a complete fertiliser to encourage root development.

## › General Comments

- Kikuyu Yellows is a water mould, infecting roots and causing them to rot.
- Kikuyu Yellows kills out areas of turf allowing weeds to invade the infected areas.
- Resow affected areas with suitable tolerant Kikuyu varieties ie Noonan.

## › Distribution

Found in north and central coastal regions of New South Wales, south coast of Queensland, and has been reported in Riverina and Tamworth area.



NO CHEMICAL CONTROL OPTIONS  
CURRENTLY REGISTERED