

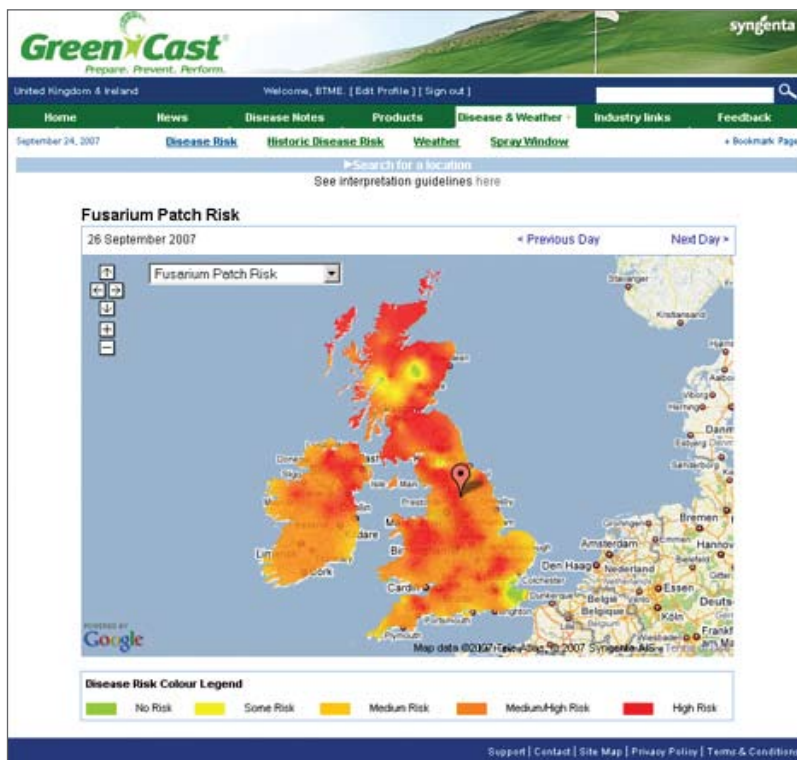
# GreenCast sees the future of disease control

TECHNICAL UPDATE

January 2008

## In Brief

- **Knowing when disease is going to strike enables turf managers to stay ahead of the game**
- Climate change and pressure for high quality turf is changing the way turf disease must be managed
- **Better timing of fungicide applications assures the best results and minimal turf damage**
- GreenCast is an essential new turf management tool to help maintain high quality turf more effectively
- **GreenCast records enable turf managers to justify all inputs**



## GreenCast predicts

Using GreenCast as part of the decision making process can help turf managers stay ahead of the game.

GreenCast disease forecasting will:

- Achieve more proactive management of quality turf
- Enable turf managers to time fungicide applications more accurately, to prevent disease causing visible damage
- Make more effective use of preventative fungicides
- Achieve better quality turf, with potential to reduce overall fungicide use and cost over the course of the season

## Easy to start – great to use

If you have never used GreenCast before, it is very easy to get started, simple to use and quick to access the vast wealth on the UK's most comprehensive turf management web site:

Key [www.greencast.co.uk](http://www.greencast.co.uk) into your browser

Click on 'register' in the top blue bar

Complete the simple registration form for a 'no obligation' free trial offer for the full GreenCast services

Weather and disease forecast pages will automatically be selected for the nearest weather station, but can be personalised to an alternative station if desired

Use the green navigation bar to open and view the comprehensive topic areas on the GreenCast site

Disease risk forecasts • Five day weather forecast • Weather radar  
Turf growth predictor • Historic disease and weather records  
Disease ID and management advice • Fungicide application advice  
Plus much more...

## How to use disease GreenCast forecasts

GreenCast provides a valuable early warning of potential risk of all key UK turf diseases and major turf management issues for the coming five days, using a combination of maps and charts.

Diseases and turf problems covered by GreenCast forecasting include:

Fusarium Patch (Microdochium Patch)	Fusarium Patch high risk
Anthracnose (foliar)	Brown Patch
Dollar Spot	Dollar Spot (irrigated)
Take-all Patch	Take-all Patch (irrigated)
<i>Poa annua</i> germination	<i>Poa annua</i> seed head production

The following guidelines are designed to help turf managers begin using GreenCast on their turf. Comparing the GreenCast predictions with what actually occurs on turf will enable turf managers to utilise information more effectively and give greater confidence in the system.

## Interpreting the GreenCast forecast

GreenCast Risk Forecast	Disease Activity	Action Required
<b>No Risk</b>	Disease activity under natural conditions is very unlikely to develop.	In most instances no action is likely to be required. However, be aware that certain management practices, such as irrigation may create local conditions conducive to disease, or stress induced by drought or pests may make turf more susceptible to disease.
<b>Some Risk</b>	Disease activity may develop if already present, or with long periods of prolonged low risk.	A prolonged period of disease pressure categorised as Some Risk could allow disease to develop and require treatment; if in doubt, apply a systemic fungicide. If a disease High Risk period has recently occurred without treatment, any infection could continue to develop under Some Risk conditions; a curative fungicide treatment, such as BANNER MAXX, will help to clear up infection present. In many instances no action is likely to be required, providing turf is growing healthily.
<b>Medium Risk</b>	Disease is likely to be present and there is a good chance that infection will take place	Warnings of Medium Risk will trigger the need to apply preventative fungicide treatments, particularly if there is a period of several days of Medium Risk. Areas of turf especially susceptible to disease, such as shaded greens, should be treated as at High Risk at this time. The slower disease development associated with Medium Risk warning gives greater leeway in fungicide application timing, but always aim to apply preventative fungicides - before infection occurs, such as HERITAGE or BANNER MAXX - depending on target diseases and previous fungicide use.
<b>Medium/High Risk</b>	Disease is likely to be present and infection likely to take place	Medium/High Risk highlights that there is a significant chance disease will break out, especially if any days around the same time indicate a risk of disease development. Where two or more Medium/High Risk periods are predicated in succession, it is advisable to apply the preventative fungicide HERITAGE, before the first period.
<b>High Risk</b>	Disease is very likely to be present and infection can be expected in most instances	When High Risk is forecast aim to apply a preventative fungicide, such as HERITAGE, 24 to 48 hours before the risk period - remembering that weather conditions that initiate the High Risk may make application timing difficult. If an application is missed after a High Risk warning, the use of a curative and preventative fungicide, such as BANNER MAXX may be beneficial, even if no signs of disease are visible. If grass is not actively growing, apply the contact fungicide, DACONIL WEATHER STIK.

## Rotation, Rotation, Rotation

GreenCast supports the sound agronomic principle of rotating fungicides with different modes of action, to retain the highest levels of long-term turf disease control.



The risk forecasts provided by GreenCast are an important part of supporting turf management decisions, but do need to be used in conjunction with sound agronomic advice and local knowledge to achieve the best and most reliable results.

GreenCast will help turf managers select the most appropriate fungicide programmes for specific disease situations, utilising all the products from the Syngenta range.