



Fungicide programmes for proactive turf disease control

In Brief

Turf diseases are becoming more aggressive and causing greater damage

Demands for ever higher quality turf create greater pressure for more effective control

Turf managers need to adopt new strategies to cope with disease

Appropriate use of the right fungicide at the right time will minimise damaging effects

New disease forecasting systems enable better disease control programmes



Targeting disease

Turf fungicides work in a variety of ways; targeting disease at different points in their life cycle and with different modes of action.

Syngenta fungicide programmes are designed to select the optimum choice for any disease, at any stage in the season.

Preventative fungicide applications when the risk of disease infection is high have proven most effective in maintaining higher turf quality.

Well-timed preventative fungicide applications, using risk forecasts from www.greencast.co.uk can deliver the longest lasting protection.

Where disease infection has already occurred, a fungicide with curative and eradicant activity should be used – even if the symptoms are not yet visible on the leaf surface.

Fungicide use in Integrated Turf Management

Integrated Turf Management (ITM) incorporates all elements of good cultural practice to maintain optimum turf health, along with the appropriate use of fungicides when disease pressure is high.

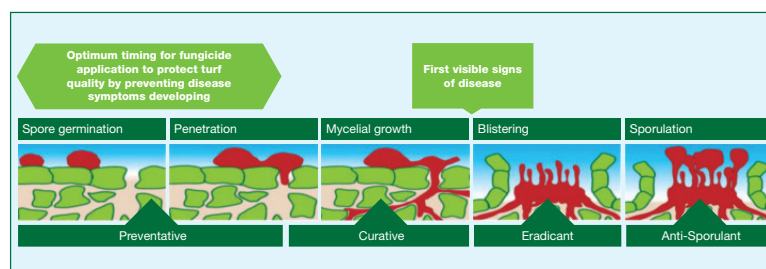
ITM techniques used to create strong healthy turf include:

- Balanced turf nutrition
- Correcting surface drainage
- Reducing organic matter
- Adjusting cutting height
- Use of a growth regulator
- Managing sward species





Where turf is under stress and conditions are conducive to disease, spores present in the thatch and soil can increase rapidly and infect turf, resulting in damage to the leaf tissue.

Current demands on turf management, including lower nutritional inputs and the drive for reduced cutting height to increase green speed, can create additional stress and increase disease risk.

Well timed fungicide application during periods of risk can prevent infection. Where infection has occurred, fungicide application will minimise further spread or damage and can enable the turf to recover faster.



Fungicide options for a full disease programme

| |  BannerMaxx® |  Headway® |  HeritageMaxx® |  Instrata® |
|------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Activity | Fast Systemic | Systemic | Systemic | Contact/Systemic |
| Disease stage targeted | Eradicant Preventative Curative | Preventative Curative Eradicant Anti-sporulant | Preventative (Early Curative) Anti-sporulant | Preventative Curative Eradicant |
| Active ingredient | Propiconazole | Azoxystrobin Propiconazole | Azoxystrobin | Chlorothalonil Propiconazole Fludioxonil |
| Diseases on the label | Fusarium Patch Dollar Spot Anthracnose Brown Patch | Fusarium Patch Anthracnose Leaf Spot Brown Patch Take All | Fusarium Patch Anthracnose Leaf Spot Brown Patch Rusts Take All Fairy Ring | Fusarium Patch Dollar Spot Anthracnose Brown Patch |
| Additional effects | Leaf Spot | | | Leaf Spot |

Armed with the knowledge of how individual fungicides work, the diseases they will effectively control and the optimum time for their use, turf managers can develop a comprehensive programme for season long disease control.

Application on target

New Syngenta turf application innovations can help turf managers to apply fungicides more accurately, with better targeting of infection points and in a more timely manner to achieve the best possible results.

Syngenta Turf Foliar Nozzles can deliver:

- More spraying opportunities
- Reduced risk of drift
- Lower water volume
- Faster operation
- Improved penetration into thatch
- LERAP 3 star rating allows a minimum buffer zone of just 1m wide alongside any watercourse for LERAP B rated products



Other Syngenta application tools include:

- Quick and easy to use Calibration Checker system
- Nozzle height indicators to check spraying height
- Technical advice sheets for knapsack and boom sprayer application
- The dedicated Application Zone on the GreenCast web site provides topical tips and practical advice – www.greencast.co.uk

Key tips

For effective results turf managers must select a fungicide with the:

Greatest efficacy on the primary disease pathogen present

Right mode of action for the time of year

Appropriate activity for the stage of disease life-cycle

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