

Dollar Spot



On golf course greens cut at or below 1/8 inch, this disease appears as white or tan spots of dead turf about the size of a silver dollar. Hence the name dollar spot. On home lawns cut at 1 to 3 inches, dead areas may reach 2 to 4 inches in diameter. These spots may run together, producing large areas of dead turf. Affected leaves initially show yellow-green blotches, which progress to a light straw color with a reddish-brown margin. Occasionally, white mycelium can be seen covering affected leaves in early morning on dew-covered grass. Dollar spot symptoms occur anytime from early to late summer. The disease usually reaches peak activity when air temperatures are in the 80°F range and under high humidity. Symptoms also may appear in the fall. The most severe cases of dollar spot occur on turf receiving closely-spaced summer irrigation. The disease may also occur on non-irrigated turf when humidity is high from prolonged muggy summer weather. Dollar spot is more severe under nitrogen deficiency or when grass grows slowly.

