

Leaf Blight (*Ascochyta spp.*)



- Leaf Blight occurs on lawns during hot humid weather.
- The disease enters the grass plants after evening mowing, followed by excessive night watering.
- In heavily infested patches the fungus damages the lawn in circular or tubular patches that often form large bleached areas.
- Close inspection of the plant reveals

individual leaves dying from the tip down with a brownish purple line running horizontally across the plant.

Pythium (*Pythium aphanidermatum*)

- Killed areas may occur in streaks as a result of the mycelium and spores being spread by mowing equipment
- Large patches of blighted turf
- Crowns and roots may be damaged with little or no recovery
- Hot, humid weather is necessary for this disease to occur
- Day temperatures exceed 30C (86F) and night temperatures exceed 22C (72F)

Management of Pythium

- Reduce shade and increase air circulation
- Deep infrequent watering only
- Avoid mowing during severe disease activity

