

Necrotic Ring Spot (Leptosphaeria Korrae)

- Fescues are susceptible
- Disease is active in spring and fall but symptoms are not obvious until summer drought periods
- Frog eye symptoms visible all year
- Patches 10cm to 1m (4 inches to 3 feet) wide become evident as outer leaves yellow and bleach
- Affected leaves may turn reddish purple
- Damage may persist long after fungi is active since roots and crowns of grass are killed
- Summer heat and drought stress magnify damage despite disease activity being minimal during these conditions
- Infected grass plants have dark coloured roots.

Management of Necrotic Ring Spot

- Over all this is a very difficult disease to control. A few things that can be done are:
- When rings first appear, dig them out (6"-8") and over-seed with perennial rye grass
- Apply N to low N turf
- Control thatch and compaction
- Reduce shade
- Increase air circulation
- Avoid drought stress

