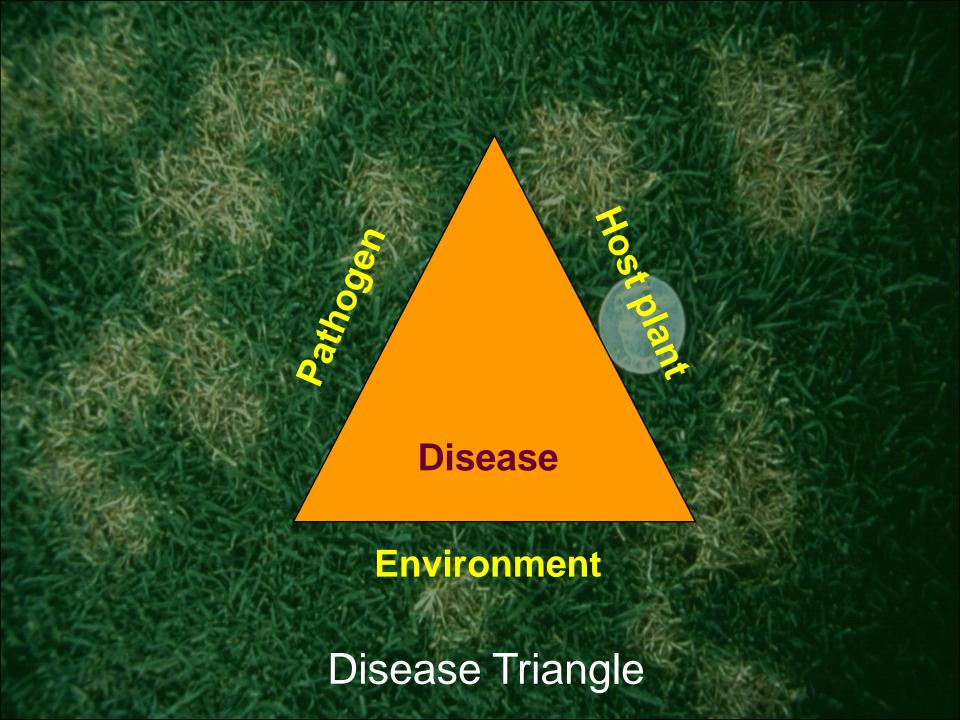


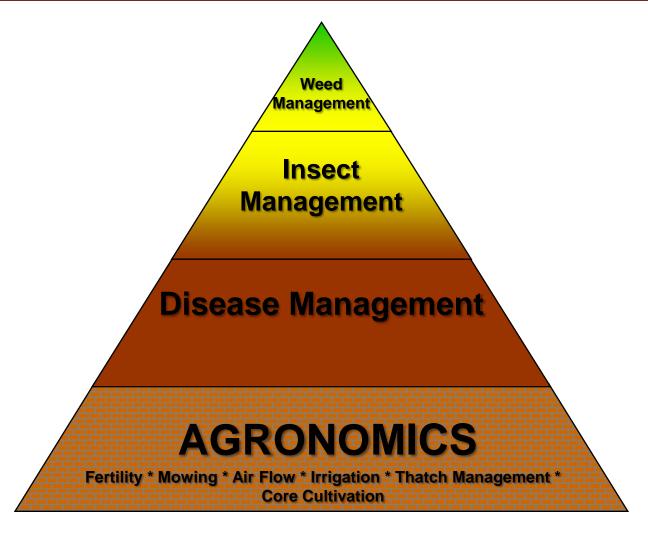
# Distinguishing landscape disease & insect problems from environmental stresses - Turfgrass

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IPM Update
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Harris County, Texas



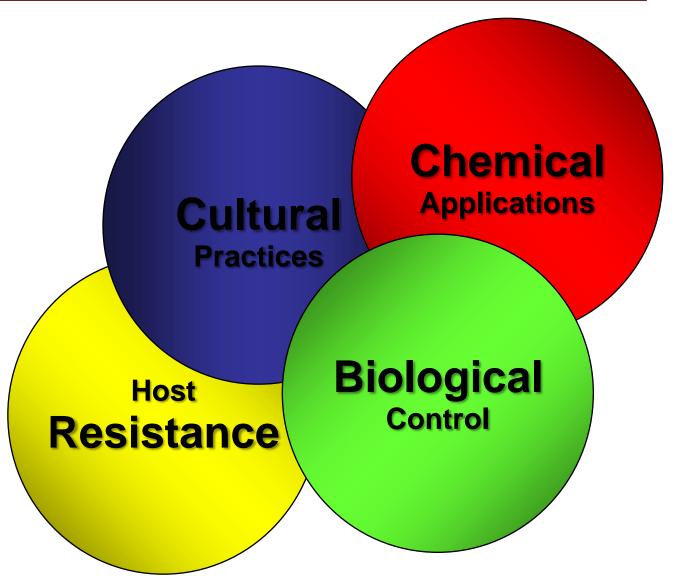
#### Integrated Turf Health Management



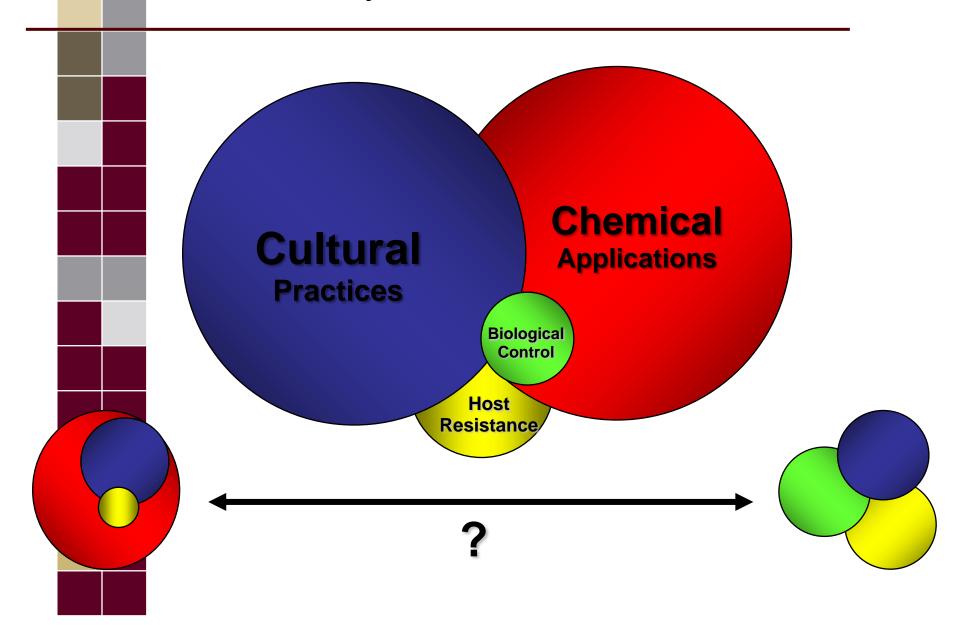








#### Reality



# Why does grass turn brown?



"The main reasons for brown grass are adverse weather conditions, excessive wear and improper maintenance"



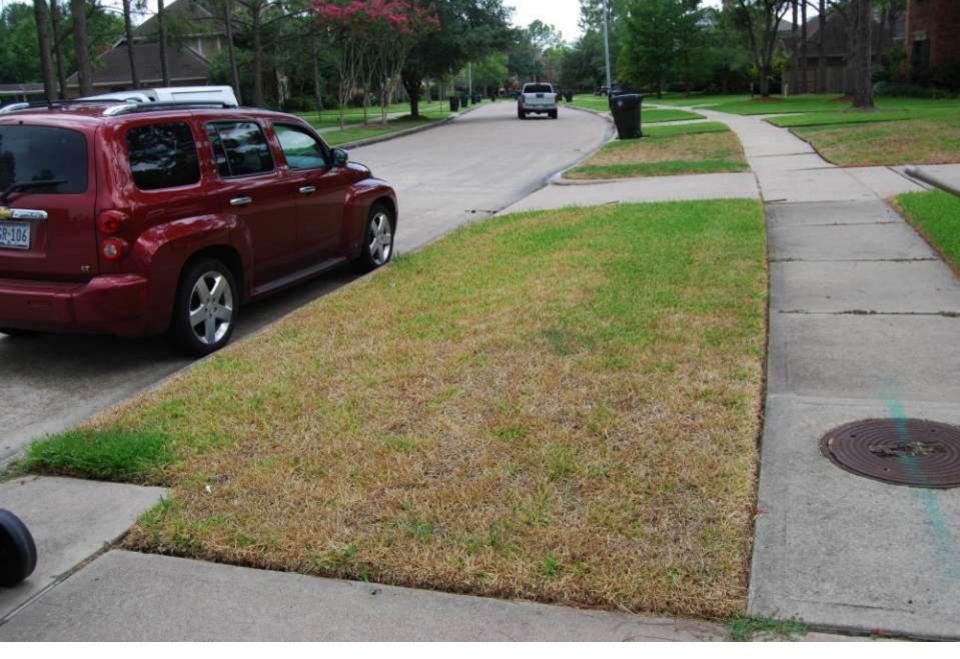




# Management of black layer

H<sub>2</sub>S

- Do not add sulfur in any forms
- Do not add organic matter
- Reduce irrigation input
- Soil aeration
- Increase drainage
- Maximize light and air movement
- Maintain soil lower pH



**Chinch bug damage** 

Houston, June 2008

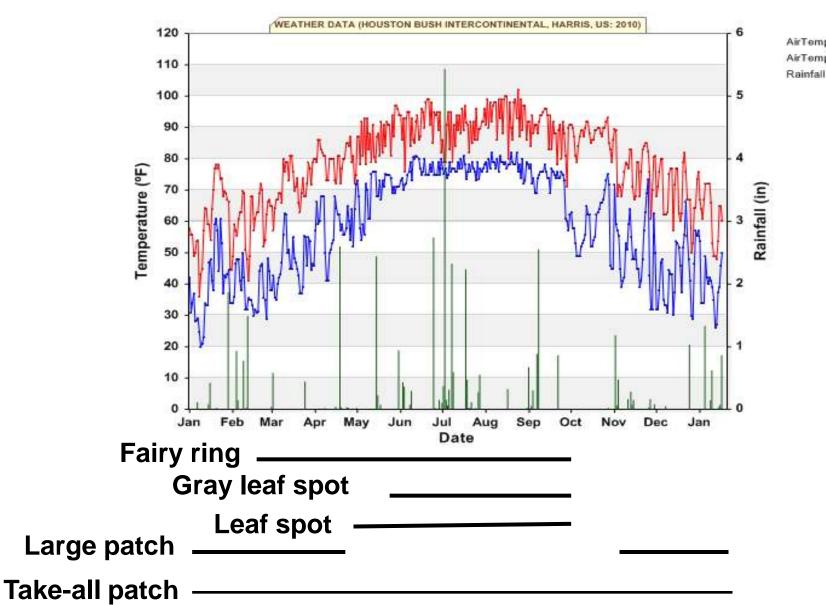
# Management of chinch bugs

- Resistant St. Augustine cultivars (Floratam)
- Avoid excess N
- Reduce thatch
- Adequate water
- Insecticide application before damage is too severe for best results



Blissus Insularis

### Diseases we need to know







#### Management of Fairy Ring

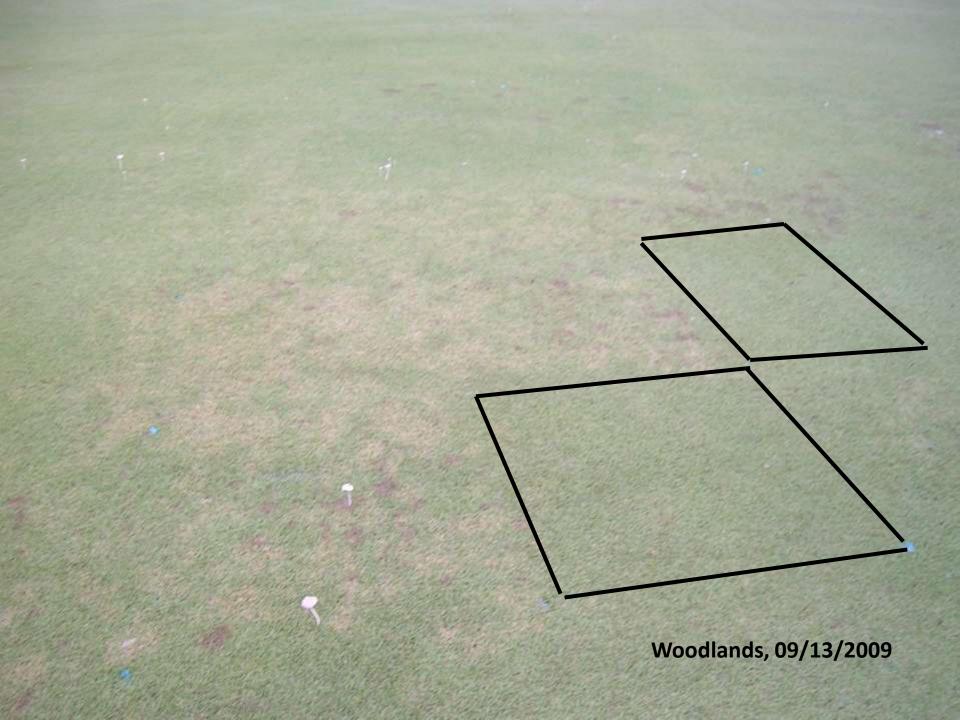
- Fertilize with nitrogen
- Spike or core aeration
- Soil surfactants
- Extra irrigation for dry areas
- Preventative/curative fungicide applications for susceptible cultivars
  - Heritage 2 oz
  - Insignia 0.9 oz
  - Prostar 2.2-4.5 oz
- DMI (triadimefon) provide excellent preventative control of puff-ball fungi in putting greens – in the spring (soil temp <55F)</li>







- Avoid fertility with quick-release nitrogen
- Reduce leaf wetness duration
- Curative fungicide applications
  - Strobilurin (Heritage, Compass)
  - Thiophanate-methyl (3336)
  - DMI + contact (chlorothalonil, mancozeb)



#### Fungicide efficacy for foliar leaf spot diseases

Best	Good
Prostar 3 oz	Heritage 2 oz
	Insignia 0.9 oz
Propiconazole 4 oz	Daconil Ultrex 2.5 oz
Banner MAXX 4 oz	
Eagle 2 oz	Triton 0.3 oz
	26GT 4 oz
Headway 3 oz	3336 5 oz
Tartan 2 oz	



- Curative fungicide applications
- -Reduce shade
- Reduce the leaf wetness period
- Increase fertility level
- -Reduce PGR







# Management of large patch cultural practices

- Remove clippings on infected areas
- Avoid excessive nitrogen applications (quick-release N) in cool weather
- Improve surface and subsurface drainage
- Increase light penetration, air circulation for drying of the grass surface
- Core aeration
  - To increase soil drainage
  - To improve soil oxygen
  - To reduce thatch buildup



# Fungicides for Large Patch

Good

Headway 3 oz Disarm 0.5 oz

Tartan 2 oz

Propiconazole 4 oz Banner MAXX 4 oz

Triton 0.3 oz

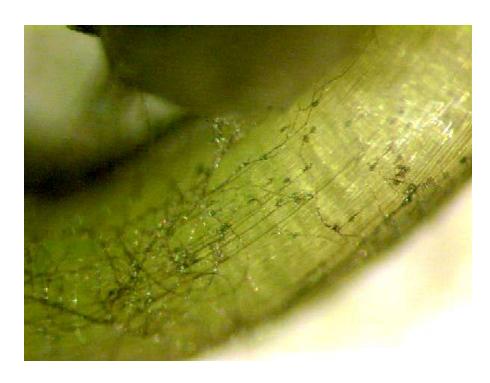
Insignia 0.9 oz Heritage 2 oz

Chlorothalonil 3.5 oz Daconil Ultrex 2.5 oz

Prostar 2.2-3 oz

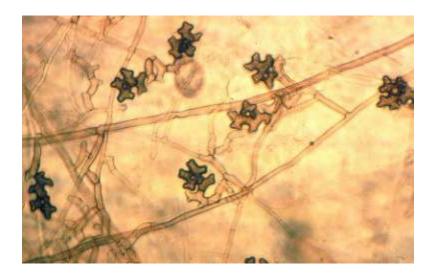
3336 5 oz

### Take-all patch



Hyphopodia:

Specialized, usually flattened hyphae of an epiphytic fungus for attachment to or penetration of a host



Lobed hyphopodia (Gaeumannomyces graminis var. graminis)



Unlobed hyphopodia (*G. graminis* var. *avenae*)

# Management of take-all patch cultural practices

- Fertilize with acidifying fertilizers
   (ammonium nitrate/sulfate) to maintain a soil pH below 7
- Control thatch accumulation by core aeration, topdressing, and verticutting
- Micronutrient amendment: Manganese (2 lb/acre) in fall and spring
- Avoid excessive irrigation and nitrogen

# Management of take-all patch chemical practices

- Preventative application: late fall or early spring
  - Azoxystrobin, pyraclostrobin, trifloxystrobin
  - DMIs (Banner Maxx, Eagle, Rubigan, Bayleton)
  - Benzimidazole (3336)
- High volume (>3 gal/M) of water or posttreatment irrigation (1/4 inch)

### <u>Disease Management</u>

- Cultural practices to reduce stress on turfgrass
  - Proper irrigation
  - Balanced fertility
  - Improve soil drainage
  - Thatch management
- Proper fungicide program
  - Correct diagnostics
  - Consult professionals

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