WEED REFERENCE

Silvery thread moss: Bryum argenteum

DAMAGE CAUSED

Symptoms of invasion:

Small dollar-sized velvety green patches that can coalesce if not managed.

Plants attacked:

Low mown bentgrass and poa.

Pests/conditions that cause similar damage

None

Geographic distribution:

Worldwide

PREDICTING INFESTATION

Threat temperature:

50 F (10C)

Conducive environmental conditions:

Wide range of conditions are suitable for invasion

MONITORING TECHNIQUES:

Monitor for very small patches of moss invasion (top photo above)

Start looking on slopes and contours that might be mowed slightly lower than desired.

THRESHOLDS:

Depending upon the desired quality of the green, up to several percent infestation can be tolerable. For high quality greens performance there is no tolerance for moss.





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MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES:

The products below have demonstrated good activity in research field trials on moss. Always consult the most recent version of all product labels before use.

TYPE OF CONTROL	PRACTICE		
Cultural	 Increase mowing height Adequate nitrogen (0.1 – 0.2 lb nitrogen / 1000 ft² / wk [0.5 – 1.0 g nitrogen/ m² / wk] during season), but do not exceed 20 ppm total nitrogen in soil 		
	 Aerify and regularly topdress to end turfgrass growth 	Aerify and regularly topdress to encourage robust urfgrass growth	
	Brush and groom regularly		
	Physically remove small patches of moss		
	Avoid wetting agents that hold water near the surface of the thatch		
	Manage irrigation wet spots – hand water as needed		
Biological	No effective products currently available		
Chemical Curative: Apply when moss infestation reaches the tolerance level for the facility.	Active Ingredient (Product)	Signal word	
	carfentrazone (Quicksilver) *	Caution	
	chlorothalonil (Daconil Weather Stik) use when average air temperature > 65	Caution	

^{*} Designated "reduced risk" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency