



Necrotic Ring Spot (*Leptosphaeria korrae*)

Necrotic Ring Spot is one of several patch diseases that are caused by fungus attacking the roots of the grass as opposed to the leaves or crowns. The affected grass itself resembles drought stressed turf, as the rest of the plant is no longer getting the water it needs because of the diminished roots. When the apparent drought stress occurs in circular patterns within otherwise healthy grass, it very well could be Necrotic Ring Spot.

This disease occurs most frequently in lawns where thatch buildup has become excessive. In order to combat it, regular core aerations are needed to keep the thatch under control. If this is not done, the disease will get progressively worse each year, eventually killing off large segments of the lawn. When thatch is proactively controlled, we rarely if ever see any signs of Necrotic Ring Spot.

Fungicides do not control Necrotic Ring Spot effectively, and are not recommended.

