



What's UP?

Tartan 1-08

News from the Bayer Environmental Science Development Team

(Western Version)

Curing Snow Mold Problems

Snow mold problems are all too familiar to turf managers in areas with long winters and heavy snowfall. Snow molds come in two varieties:

Pink snow mold, caused by *Microdochium nivale*, occurs during the following conditions:

- Disease onset with cool, moist conditions (32-50 degrees F.)
- Common problem on *Poa annua* and bentgrass

Gray snow mold (Typula blight *Typhula incarnata* or *T. ishikariensis*) occurs under these conditions:

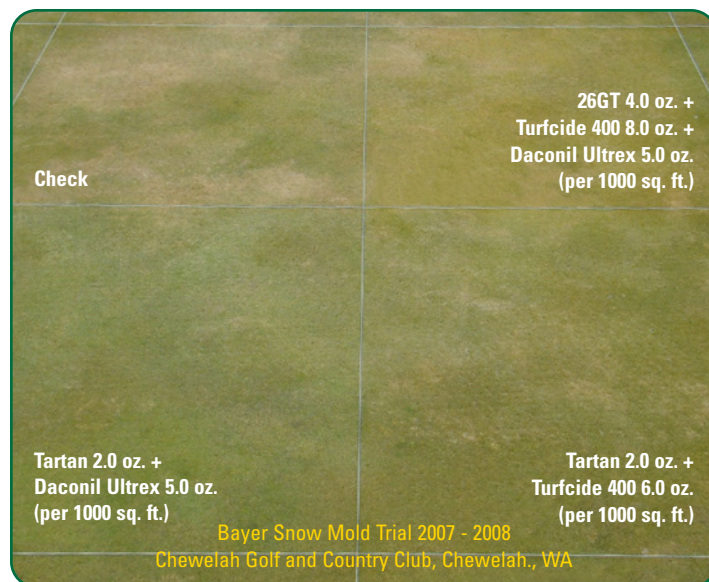
- Snow cover required for development: more than 90 days of snow cover leads to turf damage
- Deep snow cover on unfrozen turf - turf temperatures reach 40 degrees, creating a favorable disease environment

Cultural controls for snow mold include:

- Avoiding excessive thatch
- Fertilizing with a balanced N-P-K. Use slow-release nitrogen in the fall rather than water soluble nitrogen. Mow late into fall so snow will not mat turf
- Providing snow fences in critical areas
- Avoiding snow compaction in vulnerable areas
- Covers for greens

Chemical controls involve fungicides applied in the fall just prior to snow cover.

One effective new tool for snow mold control, Tartan® fungicide with *StressGard*™ technology, is a combination of two snow mold fungicides. The result is unsurpassed turf quality and excellent disease control.



A recent study from Washington State University compared control of snow mold with Tartan fungicide plus Daconil, a combination of 26GT, Turfcide and Daconil, and Tartan plus Turfcide. (Photo by Charles Golob, WSU.)

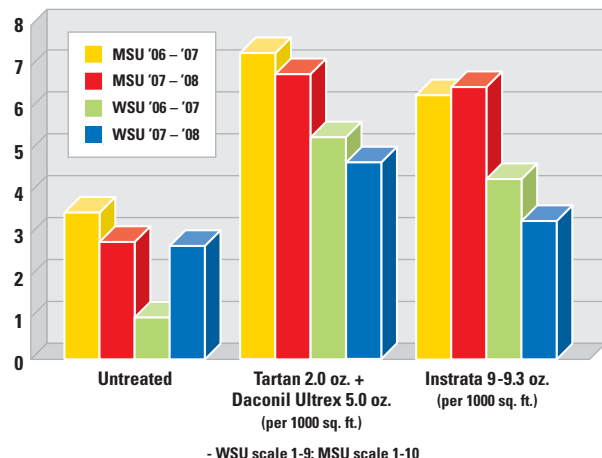


A 2007-2008 study by the Michigan State University shows dramatic contrast between an untreated check and a plot treated with Tartan plus Daconil. (Photo by Nancy Dykema)

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Turf Quality Ratings



This graph is a summary of turf quality ratings with various treatments at Washington State University and Michigan State University.

Tartan plus Daconil products

(Recommended rates are given in ounces of product per 1,000 sq. ft.)

For pink snow mold, Tartan at the 2 oz. rate or Tartan tank mixed with Daconil at the 5 – 5.5 oz. rate have provided top-level control in university trials.

For gray snow mold or a combination of pink/gray snow mold, apply Tartan at the 2 oz. rate plus high recommended rates of Daconil products (refer to maximum use rates on the product labels). These treatments have provided excellent disease control and unsurpassed turf quality in university trials over the last two years.

Author: Chris Olsen

Michigan State University Trials Dr. Vargas, Gaylord, MI, % Plot Area Infected

	2006-2007	2007-2008
Untreated	51.3	61.0
Tartan 2.0 oz. + Daconil Ultrex 5.0 oz. (per 1000 sq. ft.)	0.3	0.8
Instrata 9.3 oz. (per 1000 sq. ft.)	2.7	2.6
26GT 4.0 oz + Daconil 3.2 oz. + PCNB 6.0 oz. (per 1000 sq. ft.)	4.1	4.1

Results of a Michigan State University study show the difference in control among several product combinations. (Dr. Joe Vargas, cooperator)

Washington State University Trials Dr. Johnston, Chewelah, WA, 2006-2007

	Percent Infection	Turf Quality (1-9)
Untreated	81.7	1.0
Tartan 2.0 oz. + Daconil Ultrex 5.0 oz. (per 1000 sq. ft.)	5.3	5.3
Instrata 9.3 oz. (per 1000 sq. ft.)	11.3	4.3

The difference in percentage of infection and turf quality between two different treatments is shown in this Washington State University study.



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