

Dollar spot pressure rising May 14, 2020

The weather forecast shows a big increase in high and low air temperatures with several chances of rain. This dramatically increases the risk of turfgrass diseases like dollar spot, especially in golf turf. The Smith-Kerns dollar spot model can be used to generate a predicted outbreak risk of dollar spot in turfgrass. It is based on the five-day moving average temperature and relative humidity. The below-average weather during the past few weeks has kept this perennial pest at bay, but sensitive areas may need to be treated as we enter summer weather conditions. You can read more about the [Smith-Kerns Dollar Spot model](#) from a 2018 Turf iNfo and look at fungicide options for control in the [2020 Chemical Control of Turf Diseases](#) document.

Current Dollar Spot Risk		Forecast	Smith-Kerns Model Info
Area	Daily		
Date	Predicted Risk	Interpretation	
5/14/2020	2%	Low	
5/15/2020	4%	Low	
5/16/2020	7%	Low	
5/17/2020	17%	Medium	
5/18/2020	30%	High	
5/19/2020	30%	High	
5/20/2020	28%	High	
5/21/2020	34%	High	

Figure 1. The Smith-Kerns Dollar Spot Model outbreak risk for Lincoln, NE during the next eight days. A risk of 20% is generally considered high enough to justify a fungicide application on high value turfgrass. This action threshold of 20% can be higher or lower depending on the grass species, cultivar, budget and your personal tolerance for dollar spot at your facility.

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