

Must have turf pest resources**August 2, 2018**

When a turf pest appears, the first questions include what was the cause, why did it occur, and what can be done now? It is essential to accurately identify the cause. Was it caused by another organism (fungi, insect, oomycete, etc.) and an environmental stress or nutrient deficiency? If it's a weed, what weed is it, why is it thriving at that location, and how can management be changed to discourage that pest?

Figuring out what and why is an essential part of integrated turf management. The next step is to develop a plan to fix the situation. Sometimes, small management adjustments can help improve the situation. But sometimes, pesticides are needed to help correct a problem. There are a few resources that I use nearly every day for turf weed and disease control. These are my *Must Have* resources that I'd highly recommend.

For turf diseases, *Chemical Control of Turfgrass Diseases* is great. The current edition (2017) was written by Paul Vincelli, PhD and Gregg Munshaw, PhD at the University of Kentucky and Bruce Clarke, PhD from Rutgers University. This free resource covers fungicide activity, environmental conditions that favor disease, and rankings of different fungicides to control that disease when cultural practices aren't cutting it. Download a copy here: <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ppa/ppa1/ppa1.PDF>.

For weed identification and control, Aaron Patton, PhD at Purdue University has partnered with turf scientists from around the upper Midwest to develop a great resource book, *Turfgrass Weed Control for Professionals*. Like the disease publication, this turf weed book has a comprehensive description of weeds of the region (including Nebraska), great color images, tips to enhance control, and rankings of different herbicides over dozens of different weeds. I also added a section on PGRs in the 2018 edition. I have a few dozen copies for sale in my office. Email me for a copy (\$20 plus shipping) or buy it from the Purdue Extension store: <https://turf.purdue.edu/weed.html>.

Bill Kreuser, Assistant Professor and Turfgrass Extension Specialist, wkreuser2@unl.edu