

Problem: Moss and Algae



Description: Algae and moss often invade lawns that have poor conditions for a healthy, vigorous turf. Compacted and waterlogged soils, humid conditions, low fertility and shade tend to favor algae and moss over lawn grasses.

Recommendations: In certain situations, it may be wise to create a moss garden rather than continue to try to establish turf. Moss returns unless conditions change that led to the invasion of the moss or algae. Therefore, relieve compaction, avoid overwatering, increase air movement and decrease shade before trying to control the moss.

Labeled products include Quicksilver (carfentrazone-ethyl), Junction (mancozeb + copper hydroxide), Terracyte (sodium carbonate peroxyhydrate) and MossBuster. Not all products work under all conditions and may discolor turf. Research at Kansas State University showed a significant reduction in silvery-thread moss coverage with core aeration and Quicksilver application management program over several years on creeping bentgrass putting greens.

References:

1. [Moss Management in Turfgrass](#), Kansas State University, Plant Pathology Department

Last Update: 10/2/2023

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