Pink Patch

Hosts: bentgrasses, bluegrasses, bermudagrass, fescues, ryegrasses, zoysiagrass

Environmental Conditions: Pink patch is most common in slow growing turf when there is a nitrogen, phosphorus, or potassium deficiency. The disease develops during high humidity and prolonged leaf wetness in temperatures of 60 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

Symptoms: Pink patch spreads very slowly and is not a severe disease. Plants usually retain their green color, but are covered with pink, cottony mycelium.

Text: Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases by Richard Smiley, Peter Dernoeden, and Bruce Clarke; Dr. Wakar Uddin, Penn State University

For more information and control options:

University of Illinois – Red Thread and Pink Patch of Turfgrasses
http://www.ipm.uiuc.edu/diseases/series400/rpd413/index.html

University of Maryland – Red Thread and Pink Patch Diseases of Turfgrasses
http://iaa.umd.edu/umturf/Diseases/redpink.html

Pink Snow Mold / Microdochium Patch / Fusarium Patch

Hosts: most turfgrasses, especially annual bluegrass and creeping bentgrass

Environmental Conditions: Pink snow mold is most active during periods of cool, wet weather when temperatures are between 32 and 46 degrees Fahrenheit. Although snow cover is not necessary for the development of pink snow mold, snow cover, heavy mulch, or tree leaves covering the unfrozen turf increases disease incidence. Freezing and thawing, frosts, cold fogs and drizzling rain can also cause the disease. Other desirable conditions for infestation include high nitrogen, poor drainage and higher mowing height.

Symptoms: Pink snow mold usually appears as circular patches with a tan to orange-brown color. A thin, fluffy covering of white mycelium may be present in wet conditions. As the turf dries, patches may appear bleached in color.

Picture: http://turfgrassmanagement.psu.edu/turfdis6.cfm
Text: Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases by Richard Smiley, Peter Dernoeden, and Bruce Clarke; Dr. Wakar Uddin, Penn State University

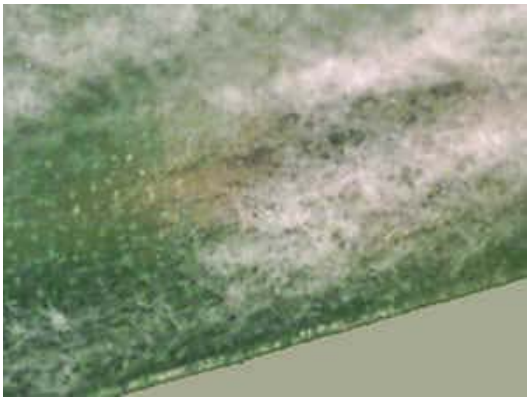
For more information and control options:

Purdue University – Pink Snow Mold and Microdochium Patch
http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/BP-102-W.pdf

North Carolina State University – Microdochium Patch (Pink Snow Mold)
http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/Diseases/Pink_Snow_Mold.aspx

University of California – Microdochium Patch (Fusarium Patch, Pink Snow Mold)
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/r785101811.html

Powdery Mildew

Hosts: all turfgrasses

Environmental Conditions: Powdery mildew is most prevalent in the spring and fall when weather is cool, humid and cloudy. Shaded areas with poor air circulation also favor disease development.

Symptoms: Powdery mildew first appears as a fine white mycelium on leaves and sheaths. The disease spreads rapidly and can cover the entire leaf with powdery white mycelium. Infected leaves can turn brown. While in this weakened state, plants are often killed by other stresses, such as drought.

Picture: http://www.colostate.edu/Dept/CoopExt/4dmg/Pests/Diseases/powmil.htm
Text: Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases by Richard Smiley, Peter Dernoeden, and Bruce Clarke; Dr. Wakar Uddin, Penn State University

For more information and control options:

Purdue University – Turfgrass Disease Profiles – Powdery Mildew
http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/BP-111-W.pdf

University of California – Powdery Mildew
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/r785101511.html

North Carolina State University – Powdery Mildew
http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/Diseases/Powdery_Mildew.aspx

Pythium Blight / Pythium Root Rot

Hosts: most grasses

Environmental Conditions: Pythium blight is most likely to develop in hot, humid, wet conditions. High amounts of nitrogen also contribute to disease development.

Symptoms: Areas affected by pythium blight have a light brown or gray color with matted turf and a fluffy, white mass of mycelium. Leaves appear dark and water soaked and may feel oily. As leaves dry, they become light brown, shriveled and matted. The disease is concentrated in wet areas and has a tendency to follow water drainage.

Pictures: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PP124
Text: Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases by Richard Smiley, Peter Dernoeden, and Bruce Clarke; Dr. Wakar Uddin, Penn State University

For more information and control options:

Purdue University – Turfgrass Disease Profiles: Pythium Blight
http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/BP-109-W.pdf

North Carolina State University – Pythium Blight
http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/Diseases/Pythium_Blight.aspx

University of California – Pythium Blight (Grease Spot)
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/r785100711.html

University of Florida – Pythium Blight on Overseeded Turfgrass
http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PP124