

# Nature Safe<sup>®</sup> research

## University research data

R-12

## Evaluation of fungicides and Nature Safe for control of fairy ring and localized dry spots

### Test conducted by:

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### Introduction and procedures

This study was conducted to evaluate the efficiency of fungicides, biological control products and Nature Safe when applied curatively for the management of fairy ring and localized dry spots. Plots measuring 5 ft. by 10 ft. were replicated when symptoms first appeared on 6/8. Evaluations were made every two weeks, from 6/8 through 9/9. Percent dry spot damage was calculated visually, while *Agrocybe pediades* and *Bovista plumbea* were determined by counting actual mushrooms and smooth puffball shaped bodies.

### Test results

Nature Safe resulted in high quality turf that significantly reduced dry spot symptoms as compared to the non-treated check. Nature Safe may mask the symptoms of fairy ring/LDS by promoting the growth of healthy turf. Alternatively, it is possible that Nature Safe stimulated the growth of beneficial microorganisms that helped reduce pathogenic microbe populations responsible for fairy ring/LDS symptoms.

Table 1: Soil Amendments

| PERCENT DRY SPOT DAMAGE  |            |
|--|------------|
| Product (N-P205-K20)   | Rate (T/A) |
| Fertrell 3-4-3 Bainbridge, PA  | 4.0        |
| Nature Safe 8-5-5 Cold Spring, KY                                    | 1.5        |
| Verdanta EcoVita 7-5-10 Bioworks, Victor, NY<br>Vermicompost 1.2-0-1 | 1.7        |
| Nature's Way, Seymour, IN + Fertrell 3-4-3                           | 5 + 2      |

| DRY SPOT DAMAGE       |                                  |                                    |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                       | Mean % Dry Spot Damage (4 dates) | Mean # Bovista Puffballs (2 dates) |
| Nature Safe           | 3.3                              | 0.4                                |
| Nature Safe + Compete | 2.8                              | 2.0                                |
| Control Plot          | 9.6                              | 1.4                                |

### Conclusion

Nature Safe can successfully be used as a management tool in controlling localized dry spots and fungal invasion.