

Slime Mold

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Pathogen

Physarum and *Fuligo* spp.

Refer to “Turfgrass Disease Management” PPP-64 for explanations of chemical and cultural controls.

Turfgrasses Affected

All warm-season turfgrasses.

Occurrence

Slime molds will appear suddenly during wet weather.

Symptoms/Signs

These fungi do not harm the turf, so they are not really pathogens. However, their sudden appearance alarms homeowners. Leaves will be covered with a white, gray or darker colored slime (spore mass) or soot (**Figure 1**).

Cultural Controls

Remove the slime mold by mowing or washing off with a strong stream of water. Again, they do not harm the turfgrass.

Chemical Controls

None are required.



Figure 1. Slime mold on St. Augustinegrass.