

**Turf Scouting Notes: BRANDT nutrition and select plant protectants to manage anthracnose (*Colletotricum cereale*) on an annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*) putting green.**

Golf course superintendents are required to develop a solid nutrition and crop protection program to best manage plant stress and reduce disease severity. The recent hot day/night time temperatures coupled with high dew points has led to breakouts of anthracnose. Infestations can dramatically worsen when plants are under mechanical and/or environmental stress. A complete and balanced nutrient input approach works best, with a focus on routine soluble nitrogen (N) and phosphite ( $H_2PO_3^-$ ) applications.

Nitrogen (N) represents the nutrient required in the greatest quantities by turfgrasses, ranging from 2%-5% in dry leaf tissue. However, soil tests can only be used to determine the level of available (soluble) N at a given time, rather than predict its long-range availability. Frequent and low dose soluble N applications were not always a common turfgrass management cultural practice, but is now routine and an important step to reduce anthracnose severity.

2018 Trial – Rutgers University. BRANDT nutrition program (**BRANDT<sup>®</sup> Manni-Plex<sup>®</sup> Grow** and **NutriGrow<sup>®</sup> Magnum**) combined with contact fungicide chlorothalonil (on left) showing benefits of the program under moderate disease pressure compared to untreated control (on right).

