

May 26, 2016

### **'Grass Roots' Turf Tips- Red Thread Disease**

The Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the country have been pretty wet over the last few weeks, and because of that folks in those areas are seeing more lawn diseases than usual. Even when it's not been raining, the cloudy, damp conditions have been just right for some spring-season diseases like red thread. Usually red thread is most prevalent in underfertilized lawns, and this year it's been cropping up more than normal in this part of the country. This year, near-record consecutive rainy days in some places have been ideal for it and, if you live in this part of the country, you may have seen these symptoms of the reddish-tan leaf blades and red fungal "mycelium."

With warmer summer weather on the way, your lawn should soon grow out of any red thread damage, so fungicides aren't usually recommended for this disease in home lawns. A light rate fertilizer application (about ¼ lb. nitrogen/1000 ft<sup>2</sup>) can also help with recovery.



Red thread disease symptoms have been prevalent on many lawns in the mid-Atlantic and Northeast in recent weeks.