

Dollar Spot Control from Fungicides and Adjuvants on Creeping Bentgrass Putting Greens

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Dollar spot continues to challenge turfgrass managers across the nation, particularly in golf course settings. In order for a putting green to meet a golfer's standards, the ball must be able to roll smoothly across any surface. Outbreaks of dollar spot reduce playability from the sunken infection centers caused by the pathogen *Clariireedia jacksonii*. This pathogen has had many reports of fungicide resistance leading researchers to explore new management practices. One such method of control includes a fungicide tank-mixed with an additive labeled for absorptive properties to better reach the target site and control the pathogen. A study was conducted at the Milo J Schult Agricultural Research & Extension Center at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville to test the influence of adjuvants on fungicide efficacy against dollar spot. The treatments tested are listed in Table 1. All treatments were applied at 21-day intervals with a total of three applications. Dollar spot infection centers were counted weekly and percentage of plot covered with dollar spot was also assessed weekly. Plot photos were taken weekly including before application A as seen in Image 1.

Table 1. Treatment list for fungicide + adjuvant trial conducted in Fayetteville, AR in summer 2025.

Treatment Name	Product	Rate
Nontreated Control	n/a	n/a
Secure	Secure	0.5 fl.oz./1000 ft ²
Secure + Adjuvant A	Secure	0.5 fl.oz./1000 ft ²
	Adjuvant A	0.25 % v/v
Secure + Adjuvant B	Secure	0.5 fl.oz./1000 ft ²
	Adjuvant B	0.25 % v/v
26GT	26GT	4 fl.oz./1000 ft ²
26GT + Adjuvant A	26GT	4 fl.oz./1000 ft ²
	Adjuvant A	0.25 % v/v
26GT + Adjuvant B	26GT	4 fl.oz./1000 ft ²
	Adjuvant B	0.25 % v/v
Tourney	Tourney	0.37 oz. wt./1000 ft ²
Tourney + Adjuvant A	Tourney	0.37 oz. wt./1000 ft ²
	Adjuvant A	0.25 % v/v
Tourney + Adjuvant B	Tourney	0.37 oz. wt./1000 ft ²
	Adjuvant B	0.25 % v/v

Image 1. Taken on May 30, 2025 (four days prior to the first application).

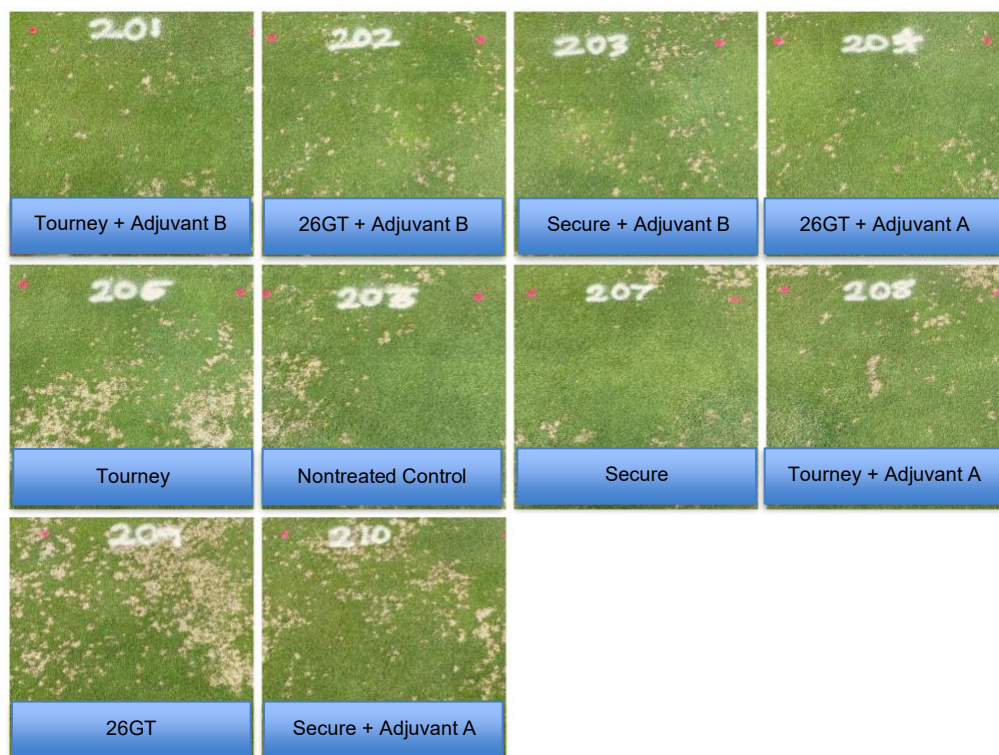


Image 2. Taken on July 3, 2025 nine days after the second application.



Dollar spot was the predominant disease in this trial. Since curative, rather than preventative, applications were made, all data are presented as “percent change in dollar spot relative to the initial rating date.” Treatment differences did not occur until 6/20 (Table 1). There was no clear positive effect of either Adjuvant A or Adjuvant B on fungicide efficacy. Treatments containing the fungicide Tourney generally reduced dollar spot relative to the nontreated control. Further research is warranted to determine if these experimental adjuvants may enhance fungicide efficacy against dollar spot and other problematic turfgrass diseases.

Table 2. Means comparisons between treatments for percent change in dollar spot counts relative to the initial rating date (5/30/2025). Means are compared within columns between treatments. Means within the same column followed by the same letter are not statistically different (P = 0.05). Dates with no connecting letters did not have statistical differences between treatments.

Treatment	6/6	6/12	6/20	6/27	7/3	7/11	7/18
Nontreated Control	92.2	181.7	187.4ab	159.8ab	138.2	103.5ab	18.2ab
Secure	189.3	32.2	62.1bc	39.6bc	-0.9	78.2bc	19.6ab
Secure + Adjuvant A	429.5	202.3	340.8a	225.3a	281.7	229.0a	95.8a
Secure + Adjuvant B	90.8	0.6	6.7c	12.0c	-19.0	18.7bcd	-26.4bc
26GT	138.7	33.0	52.8bc	16.1c	-16.4	-	-56.6bc
26GT + Adjuvant A	56.4	4.3	-10.6c	-20.5c	-33.3	23.5bcd	-29.6bc
26 GT + Adjuvant B	115.7	56.3	18.8bc	10.8c	-37.7	-	-50.4bc
Tourney	104.2	19.0	91.9bc	26.4bc	-20.4	-47.3cd	-71.9c
Tourney + Adjuvant A	77.7	-6.5	8.6c	-28.7c	-41.3	-75.9d	-91.8c
Tourney + Adjuvant B	171.8	29.0	63.2bc	28.5bc	-14.2	-	-64.2c

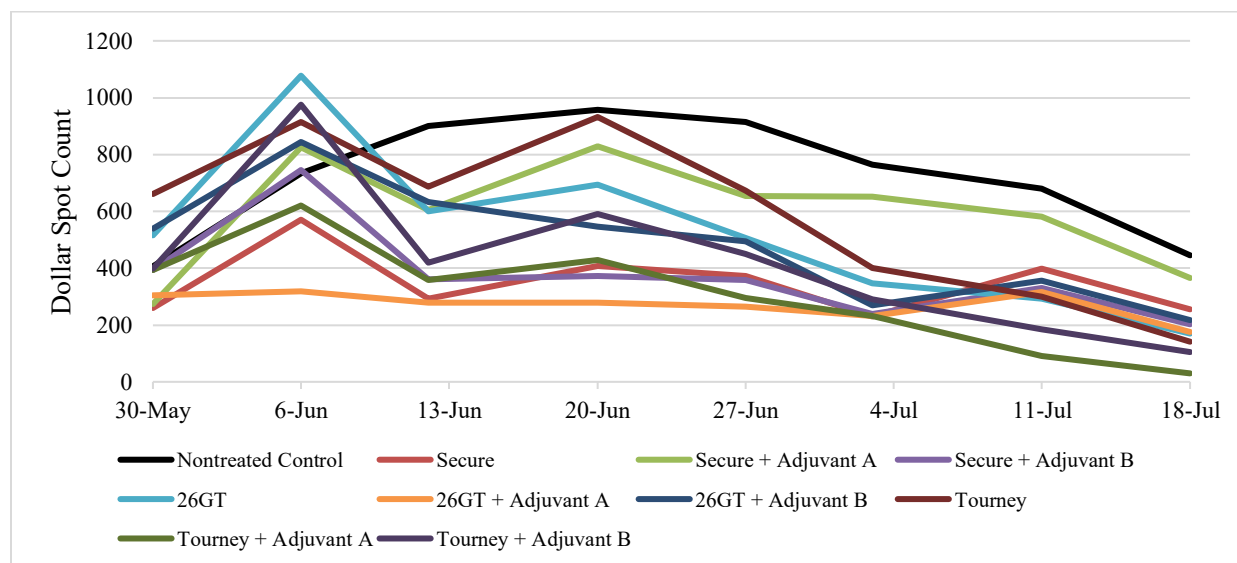
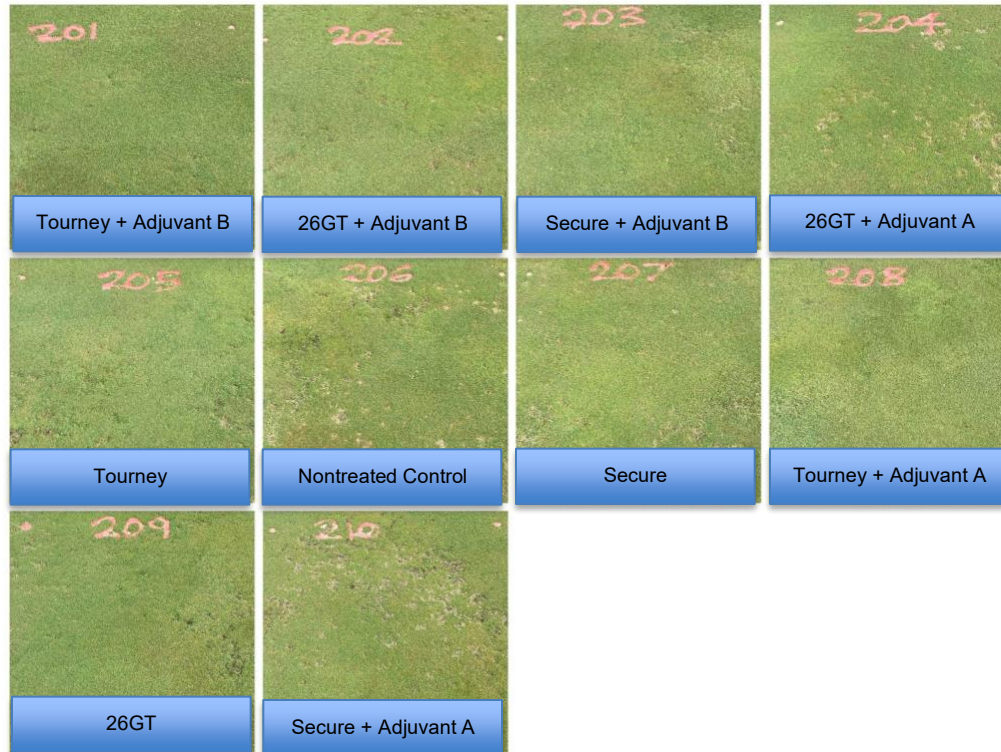


Figure 1. Dollar spot progression throughout the trial period.

Image 3. Taken on July 29, 2025 fourteen days after the third application.



Treatments for this replication are from left to right; 201: Tourney with Adjuvant B, 202: 26GT with Adjuvant B, 203: Secure with Adjuvant B, 204: 26GT with Adjuvant A, 205: Tourney, 206: Nontreated Control, 207: Secure, 208: Tourney with Adjuvant A, 209: 26GT, and 210: Secure with Adjuvant A.