

Nematodes and the Grasses Most Affected by Each

Turfgrass	Sting ¹	Ring ²	Stubby-Root ³	Lance ⁴	Root-Knot ⁵	Spiral ⁶
Warm-season						
Centipedegrass	✓	✓	✓			✓
St. Augustinegrass	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Bermudagrass	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓
Zoysiagrass	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cool-season						
Creeping bentgrass	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Tall fescue	✓		✓			✓
Ryegrasses	✓		✓			✓
Bluegrasses	✓		✓			✓

¹Sting nematodes damage all grasses although bahiagrass is somewhat tolerant; generally found only in very sandy soils.

²Ring nematodes are widely distributed. Found on all turfgrasses but are considered a major pest only on centipedegrass. If populations are high enough, they can damage bermudagrass and zoysiagrass; populations may become high on bentgrass, but damage is usually minor.

³Stubby-root nematodes in the genus *Paratrichodorus* occur in most soil types in South Carolina and cause damage similar to sting nematodes; however they are particularly encountered in bentgrass greens, but populations capable of causing severe damage are much higher than sting nematode populations. Recently *Trichodorus obtusus* was found in limited sites, and research has shown this nematode to be much more virulent to bermudagrass and St. Augustinegrass than *Paratrichodorus*.

⁴Lance nematodes are widely distributed. They attack all turfgrasses in South Carolina, but are especially damaging to and frequently associated with St. Augustinegrass. Lance nematodes also attack bermudagrass and bentgrass and may become a predominant nematode in old greens where sting nematode has been controlled with nematicides.

⁵Root-knot nematodes are widely distributed. Found frequently in St. Augustinegrass, zoysiagrass, and bermudagrass, but can occur in all turfgrasses. The effects of these nematodes on turf are not well known, but they are believed to be injurious at high population densities. *Soil assays for larvae may not accurately reflect true infestations on perennial turfgrasses.*

⁶Spiral nematodes are frequently found on all turfgrasses, but are not believed to cause serious damage in most circumstances.