New disease of St. Augustinegrass identified

Since there is no effective treatment of the Mosaic Virus in St. Augustinegrass, the best management tool to inhibit the spread of this disease is the use of less susceptible cultivars. So far, only two St. Augustinegrass cultivars have been tested for their resistance to this disease. One of these cultivars, Floratam, appears to be more susceptible to Mosaic disease than the other cultivar, Florunner. However, it is important to note that Mosaic disease is just one of many viral diseases that can affect St. Augustinegrass. Over the years, researchers have identified several other viral diseases that can cause similar symptoms, such as Pseudocercospora leaf spot and Septoria leaf blight. These diseases are becoming more prevalent in Florida lawns, and it is important for homeowners to be aware of the symptoms and proper management practices to control their spread.