

# **Integrated Pest Management**

## **Description**

Crops are scouted to determine the type of pests (insects, weeds or diseases), stage of development, and extent of the problem. The potential damage from the pest is then weighed against the costs of control. All alternatives are evaluated based on costs, results, and environmental impact. Precautions are taken to keep pesticides from leaving the field by leaching, runoff or drift.

## **Benefits**

- Scouting and spot treatment for pests that threaten crop health or yields can save money.
- Using less pesticides protects water quality.
- Treatment for specific pests on targeted areas prevents over-use of pesticides.