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## Integrated Crop Management NEWS

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## Agricultural Health Study Participants Encouraged to Respond

**By Betsy Buffington, Department of Entomology**

Be a part of important research about the health of farmers and their spouses by completing the Agricultural Health Study (AHS) survey. The health follow up will be mailed starting in June 2013 to all AHS participants. Over 40,000 people completed the last interview, and the study investigators would like even more to participate this time around.

The more people who complete it, the better the AHS can do at understanding the risks and benefits to all farming families. To have complete records on everyone, study investigators are trying to follow up on all participants, including those who have passed away. Study investigators want to hear from everyone, even if you are no longer farming. Keep an eye on your mailbox! When you receive your survey, please return it as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Health Follow up Survey Center by calling 1-855-443-2692 or visit the survey website [www.aghealthsurvey.org](http://www.aghealthsurvey.org).

The AHS is a large, long-term study of farm families and commercial pesticide applicators. The study includes 89,658 enrollees from Iowa and North Carolina. Enrollment began in 1993. Data is now being analyzed to assess links between agricultural practices including pesticide use and cancer risk. Many other health effects are also being studied including respiratory and reproductive health and diseases of the nervous system. To learn more about the AHS and its findings, please visit [www.aghealth.org](http://www.aghealth.org).

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