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## **No-till and Conserving Beneficial Species**

Jonathan Lundgren is an ecologist with USDA-ARS who studies the beneficial insects in cropland that attack insect pests and weeds. He believes that we can use ecological principles that are agronomically sound to adjust our farm production practices in ways that reduce our reliance on costly chemical inputs for pest management. Increasing biodiversity and reducing disturbance on farms are central themes to his research program.

Links to pertinent reading materials:

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/nov10/predators1110.pdf>

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/oct09/insect1009.pdf>

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2008/081124.htm>

Jonathan writes a monthly 500-word column titled “The Insect Spotlight” that goes out to regional newspapers (circulation of up to 300,000 monthly) and highlights insect-human interactions and how insects shape our culture. A quick Google on “Lundgren and Insect Spotlight” would pull up a sample of these if you are interested.