1997 Field Crops IPM in Orange County

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Background:
In 1992, a Water Quality Incentive Program provided reimbursement for participation in such programs as IPM. In 1994, alfalfa was added to the list of commodities to be scouted in Orange County. One SP53 and three WQIP plans were written in 1994 for dairy farms in the county. In total, participating dairies enrolled 170 acres of alfalfa. In 1995, field corn was added and acreage enrolled in the Orange County field crops program has steadily increased since then. A total of twelve farms participated in the program in 1997. Eleven WQIP contracts were written for dairy farms in the county. One farmer whose WQIP contract ran out in 1996 re-enrolled in the 1997 scouting program. Ten farmers enrolled twenty-seven alfalfa fields totaling two hundred forty-two acres. Ten farmers enrolled thirty-two fields of field corn totaling three hundred eighty-six acres.