





**Search** Is there a natural way to protect crops? 

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**Search Results** Wasps to the rescue. 

U of M student Jeremy Chacón and his adviser, entomology professor George Heimpel, are researching natural ways to control the soybean aphid, a pest accidentally introduced from China. The aphid costs farmers an estimated \$200 million per year and has greatly increased insecticide use in U.S. soybean fields. Chacón and Heimpel are trying to replace chemicals with biological control. Specifically, they have introduced a tiny, stingless parasitic wasp from China that specializes in attacking soybean aphids. Chacón and Heimpel believe the wasps will control the aphids naturally. So the search continues. [Learn more at umn.edu](http://umn.edu).