

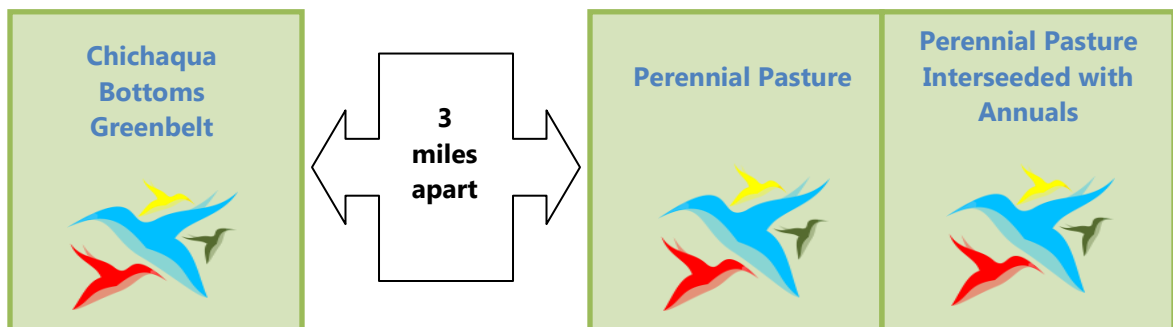
## Monitoring Birds in Rotationally Grazed Pasture

**Objective:** To determine how wildlife populations are supported by a working landscape;

1. Does well managed pasture land replicate a natural conservation area?
2. Does pasture with perennial and/or annual plant species effect bird populations?

**Farmer-cooperator will:**

- Set up a farm visit for spring 2016 with student researchers from Drake University.
- Arrange for two student researchers to conduct birds counts in three treatment areas; Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt, on-farm perennial pastures, and on-farm perennial pastures with interseeded annual species.
  - Bird counts will be conducted each week between May 1 and August 15. Nine counts will be conducted each day (three in each treatment area), three days per week, for a total of 27 counts per week. The counts will be conducted over 14 consecutive weeks, for a total of 378 counts during the study.
  - Counts will record bird sightings and bird calls of the species of interest during 10 minute intervals that take place between 7 am to 10 am. The species of interest are birds included in the Sparrow and Finch groups, which have conservation implications.



**Practical Farmers of Iowa will:**

- Monitor progress of project and provide support when needed.
- Arrange for Drake University researchers to conduct statistical analysis on data collected to be used in a PFI research report.
- Compile analyzed data and publish results in a PFI research report, on the PFI website and potentially other outlets.
- Pay the Farmer Cooperator a payment of \$550 at the conclusion of the project in 2016.

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*The terms of this Research Protocols document are subject to the terms of the individual Research Cooperator's Memorandum of Understanding agreement with PFI. To the extent these terms may differ or conflict, the Memorandum of Understanding shall control.*