

PRACTICAL FARMERS OF IOWA


2020

FIELD DAY

Guide

VIRTUAL EVENTS



  
PRACTICAL  
**FARMERS**  
*of Iowa*

[practicalfarmers.org](http://practicalfarmers.org)

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## LOOKING FOR MORE EVENTS OR INFORMATION?

In addition to the events listed in this guide, Practical Farmers organizes events and workshops all year long. Be sure to check our website often ([practicalfarmers.org](https://practicalfarmers.org)) for the most up-to-date schedule, visit us on social media or become a PFI member to get notified about upcoming events.



# WELCOME!

## WELCOME TO PRACTICAL FARMERS' 2020 VIRTUAL FIELD DAY SEASON!

Welcome to Practical Farmers of Iowa's 2020 field day season. As we enjoy the beauty of summer and fall in Iowa, and look forward to the abundance of food, feed and fiber the land bestows, we are reminded that some things in the world are not cancelled or delayed by a pandemic. The land continues its seasonal cycles, and farmers continue their work to plant, tend and care for their crops and livestock.

As we all observe restrictions this summer to protect our families and communities from COVID-19, we at Practical Farmers remain committed to connecting farmers with one another to share knowledge and build resilient farms and communities. As this pandemic has revealed, this knowledge and spirit of cooperation are needed now more than ever as we work to ensure all farms can withstand the unexpected, and all communities have strong local food systems they can rely on.

Field days remain a foundation of PFI. Even in this time of precaution and social distancing, they provide an opportunity for us all to connect with one another: for farmers to learn from their peers; for non-farmers to deepen their connections to local food and farmers; and for us all to share in PFI's vision of an Iowa with healthy soil, healthy food, clean air, clean water, resilient farms and vibrant communities.

While our field days will look different this year, we are confident these events will help you stay connected as you learn from one another about production, business and conservation strategies.

## FARMER-LED EVENTS

At Practical Farmers of Iowa, we have a unique learning model. Our field days (and other events!) are led by our farmer members. We know that farmers are the experts on their farming systems, decisions, challenges and solutions, and we are thankful that so many farmer-leaders believe that sharing their knowledge, discoveries, mistakes and successes benefits everyone. Be prepared to explore topics that span the agricultural spectrum. We offer field day topics on production, land stewardship, conservation, local foods and more.

## OPEN TO EVERYONE

Our 2020 field days are free, and you don't need to be a member to attend! At Practical Farmers, we take pride in our big tent that includes farmers of all sizes and production practices, as well as many non-farmers who support our work, values and the sense of community that membership brings. We welcome and invite anyone to attend and learn from our field days.

## CIVILITY COMMITMENT

Our commitment is to learn from each other. We acknowledge differences in beliefs, values, politics, culture, interests and experiences.

### WE COMMIT TO:

- Listen respectfully to each other
- Refrain from personal insults and other disrespectful actions
- Recognize and respect different levels of understanding
- Actively seek common ground

## QUESTIONS?

Contact the PFI office at [info@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:info@practicalfarmers.org) or (515) 232-5661.

# ATTENDING VIRTUAL PFI EVENTS

## ATTENDING VIRTUAL PFI EVENTS

We have planned our whole field day season as virtual events. If we are able to safely hold in-person events this season, we will transition those events back to in-person gatherings.

All but one of our virtual field days will take place using either Facebook Live or Zoom, depending on the planned content for each event. The other event type is a shared learning call, which you access by calling in and entering a passcode. Each listing in the guide specifies which platform you will need to use.

We encourage you to register for field days on our website at [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days). By registering through our website, you'll receive email reminders leading up to the event with instructions on how to join, and a link to participate, if applicable.

To participate in our virtual events, follow these simple steps for each platform.

## VIRTUAL FIELD DAYS – FACEBOOK LIVE:

You can find the link to tune into a Facebook Live virtual field day in one of several places:

- **Email:** If you registered for the event, we will send the link to the email address you used to register.
- **PFI website:** On the field day page on our website, [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days), click on the event you want to attend and find the link to join listed on that event's page.
- **Facebook:** Visit the Facebook event listing on our Facebook page – located on the events tab – or use the link [facebook.com/practicalfarmers/events](https://facebook.com/practicalfarmers/events).

Once in the Facebook Live event, you'll be able to chat with fellow attendees and ask questions in the comment box using your Facebook account.

When the Facebook Live field day has concluded, it will immediately be available to watch on our Facebook page.

**Note:** You are still able to watch a Facebook Live event even if you do not have a Facebook account, but you will not be able to comment or ask questions.

## VIRTUAL FIELD DAYS – SHARED LEARNING CALLS:

To participate in these events, you simply need to dial a call-in number and enter a passcode. These are provided in the field day guide and on the shared learning call webpage at [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).

1. Call the number provided for the call
2. When prompted, enter the passcode for the call
3. Please put your phone on mute to avoid background noise

## VIRTUAL FIELD DAYS – ZOOM:

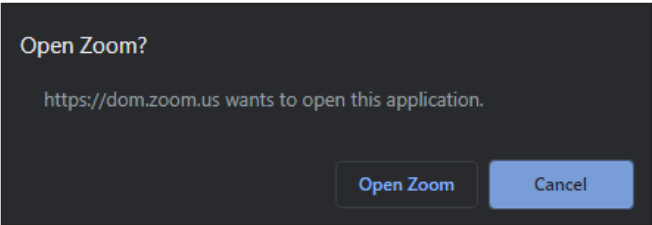
You can find the link to tune into a Zoom virtual field day in one of several places:

- **Email:** If you registered for the event, we will send the Zoom link to the email address you used to register.
- **PFI website:** On the field day page on our website, [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days), click on the event you want to attend and find the link to join listed on that event's page.
- **Facebook:** On our Facebook page ([facebook.com/practicalfarmers](https://facebook.com/practicalfarmers)), click on the events tab and click on the event you want to join. The Zoom link will be listed in the event description.

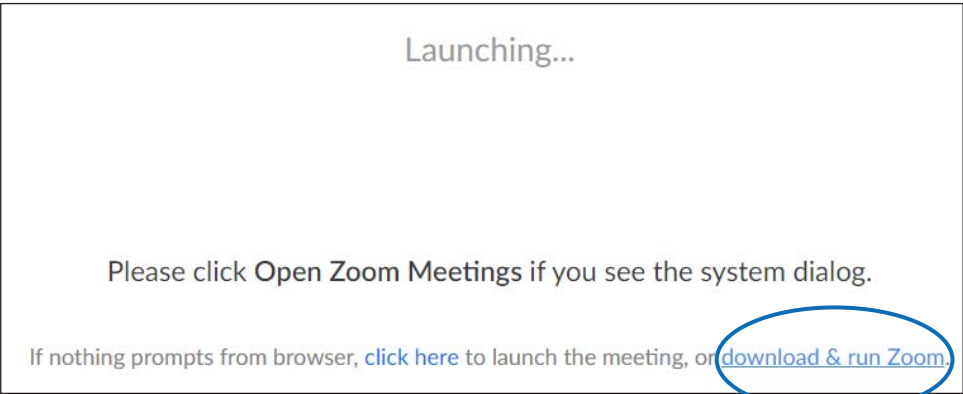
To join a virtual field day on Zoom, click the link associated with the event you want to attend. This will open Zoom in a new tab on your web browser.

Unlike with Facebook Live, where you are only able to type questions in the chat box, our Zoom events allow you to ask questions in the chat box or via audio.

If you have downloaded Zoom previously, a pop-up message will open prompting you to open Zoom. Click “open Zoom.”



If you haven't downloaded Zoom previously, click the link (circled below) to attend a PFI Zoom event. You will see a pop-up message prompting you to download the free Zoom application. Do this by clicking the link that says “download & run Zoom.” Once downloaded, click on the .exe file you downloaded. It will automatically begin the meeting.





# VIRTUAL FIELD DAY SERIES

## NEW THIS YEAR – VIRTUAL FIELD DAY SERIES

New this year, we have planned several event series that will let participants check in with certain farmer hosts throughout the season to learn about different facets of farm management. All of these events are free and offered a la carte: guests are welcome to attend all events in the series or pick the ones they're most interested in.

### Keeping Up With the Johnsons at Buffalo Ridge Orchard

1. **Tuesday, June 2:** Food Safety & Packhouse Sanitation ([Page 13](#))
2. **Tuesday, July 28:** High Tunnel Cherry Tomatoes ([Page 32](#))
3. **Tuesday, Sept. 22:** Testing Apple Varieties for Readiness ([Page 43](#))

### Impact of Roller-Crimping Cereal Rye

1. **Tuesday, June 2:** A Live Demonstration ([Page 14](#))
2. **Thursday, July 2:** Live Weed Zapper Demonstration ([Page 25](#))

### Garlic Production at Grade A Garden

1. **Wednesday, June 3:** Weed Management & Varieties ([Page 14](#))
2. **Thursday, June 25:** Scape Harvest, Bundling & Marketing ([Page 20](#))
3. **Friday, July 10:** Harvest, Bunching, Hanging & Curing ([Page 28](#))

### Integrating Sheep and Vegetables at Sundog Farm

1. **Friday, June 5:** Pest & Disease Management ([Page 15](#))
2. **Friday, July 3:** Celebrating 25 Years of Local Harvest CSA ([Page 25](#))
3. **Friday, Aug. 7:** Grazing Cover Crops & Field Cleaning ([Page 37](#))

### Botany Beginners: Exploring Iowa's Native Plants

1. **Monday, June 8:** Part 1 ([Page 15](#))
2. **Thursday, June 11:** Part 2 ([Page 16](#))
3. **Wednesday, June 17:** Part 3 ([Page 17](#))
4. **Wednesday, June 24:** Part 4 ([Page 20](#))
5. **Wednesday, July 1:** Part 5 ([Page 24](#))

### Prairie Strips and Conservation on Rented Ground

1. **Thursday, June 18:** Management & Prescribed Fire ([Page 18](#))
2. **Friday, July 31:** Working With Tenants + Environmental Benefits ([Page 33](#))

### Harvesting Fruit and Nut Crops at Red Fern Farm

1. **Wednesday, June 24:** Honeyberry ([Page 19](#))
2. **Wednesday, Sept. 16:** Cornelian Cherries & Asian Pears ([Page 42](#))
3. **Wednesday, Oct. 7:** Chestnut, Pawpaw & American Persimmon ([Page 44](#))

### Using Conservation to Improve Farm Profitability

1. **Saturday, June 27:** 60-Inch-Row Corn + Interseeded Cover Crops ([Page 22](#))
2. **Saturday, Aug. 29:** Edge-of-Field Conservation ([Page 40](#))

### Rotational Pasture Series

1. **Monday, July 13:** Watering Systems ([Page 28](#))
2. **Monday, July 20:** Laying Hens ([Page 30](#))
3. **Monday, July 27:** Goat Paddock Moves ([Page 31](#))

### Integrating Cover Crops on a Vegetable and Poultry Farm

1. **Monday, July 20:** Termination & Turnaround to Planting ([Page 30](#))
2. **Monday, Aug. 10:** Interseeded & Quick-Turnaround Covers ([Page 37](#))
3. **Monday, Aug. 24:** Covers for Poultry ([Page 39](#))

### Restoring Rare Habitats for Wildlife and Water Quality

1. **Tuesday, July 28:** Oxbows ([Page 32](#))
2. **Tuesday, Aug. 4:** Beaver Habitat ([Page 36](#))
3. **Tuesday, Aug. 11:** Long-Term Habitat Management ([Page 38](#))

### Raising Sheep for Wool

1. **Tuesday, Sept. 1:** Sheep Facilities ([Page 40](#))
2. **Thursday, Oct. 22:** Building Community Around Wool ([Page 44](#))
3. **Tuesday, Dec. 15:** Shearing & Processing ([Page 45](#))

### Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day

1. **Friday, Sept. 11:** Episode 1: Drone Wars (An Exploration of Camera-Guided Cultivation in Row Crops) ([Page 41](#))
2. **Friday, Sept. 18:** Episode 2: The Awakening (A Demonstration of Tool Set-Up and In-Shop Adjustments) ([Page 42](#))
3. **Friday, Sept. 25:** Episode 3: The First Encounter (Precision Cultivation in Direct-Seeded Vegetables) ([Page 43](#))



# POP-UP VIRTUAL FIELD DAYS

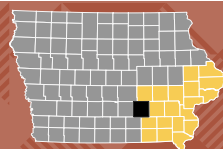
## NEW THIS YEAR – POP-UP FIELD DAYS

Because farmers can't predict field, crop, livestock or weather conditions, some events can't be scheduled far in advance – especially if the field day depends on the status of those conditions. Sometimes, farmers just can't be sure of their schedule months out. Pop-up field days let us accommodate these variables.

To get the most up-to-date information, be sure to register for these field days at [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).

## Fall Lambing: Management and Marketing Opportunities

In partnership with Iowa Sheep Industry Association



Southeast Region  
Mahaska County

### Fall 2020 | Time TBA

Host: Randall Vos

Tune in to see lambing in full swing during a unique time of the year – October. Randall practices accelerated lambing, and lambs during non-traditional times of the year. Randall will discuss the marketing opportunities fall lambing provides and the management considerations for this type of system.

#### The Farm

Randall Vos runs a 100-ewe commercial flock in New Sharon, Iowa, and serves on the board of directors of the Iowa Sheep Industry Association.

#### Topics

- Fall lambing
- Commercial lamb production
- Marketing opportunities



Adam Ledvina talks about his goats at a 2019 field day.



Wayne Wangsness shows crowds a flame weeder at a 2019 field day.



Jenny Quiner demonstrates a paper pot transplanter at her 2019 field day.



# Virtual Meet-Ups for Beginning Farmers

**Every Third Thursday of the Month  
1-2 p.m.**

Thursday, May 21

Thursday, June 18

Thursday, July 16

Thursday, Aug. 20

Thursday, Sept. 17

Take a quick break from farm work and join other beginning and aspiring farmers for a virtual get-together. Our purpose is to create a supportive, upbeat space for farmers to connect with one another and share concerns, ideas, successes and challenges. Build your farming network and learn from others who have similar (or different!) farm ventures than you. We will also feature a different host every month to cover and facilitate various topics.

To register: Sign up online at [practicalfarmers.org/beginning-farmer-socials](https://practicalfarmers.org/beginning-farmer-socials).

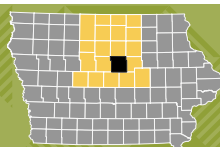


## Event Questions:

Celize Christy: (515) 232-5661  
celize@practicalfarmers.org

# Equipment and Automation Tools for Mechanical Weed Control

In partnership with University of Northern Iowa's Center for Energy & Environmental Education



North Central Region  
Hardin County

**Saturday, May 30 | 9-10 a.m.**

**Hosts: Roger & Mary Knutson & Jacob Bolson**

Sliding hitches for cultivators, basic GPS guidance, autosteering, etc. What do all these terms mean? Join Roger, Mary and Jacob to learn more about these tools and how they can be put to work on an organic farm. The trio will share a broad enough perspective to provide value to any farmer interested in mechanical weed control, from a 20-acre vegetable farmer with a four-row cultivator to a 2,500-acre farmer with a 12-row cultivator.

**The Farm** Roger and Mary Knutson operate a diverse organic farm in Iowa's Hardin county. Jacob Bolson, their son-in-law, Jacob lives with his wife and four children on an acreage outside of Hubbard in Hardin County, helping on the Knutson farm and working in the farm equipment industry.

**Topics**

- Mechanical weed control and equipment discussion
- Automation tools to support operations
- Live cultivation demonstration in organic corn

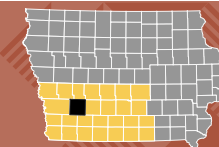


From left to right: Jacob Bolson, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig and Roger Knutson, Jacob's father-in-law

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**Pipeline Foods  
Reichhardt Electronic Innovations Inc.**

# Multiple Benefits of Rye: Calving, Grazing, Harvesting



Southwest Region  
Cass County

**Tuesday, June 2 | 10-11 a.m.**

**Host: Alan Zellmer**

Alan will take us to his rye fields that provide spring calving pastures and forage for grazing where we'll try to spot calves in the tall rye. We'll also learn about harvesting rye to make stored feed and see a demo of Alan making rylage.

**The Farm** Alan and Brenda Zellmer, along with their six children, are the fifth and sixth generation of Zellmers farming a century farm in Atlantic, Iowa. Along with crop farming, the Zellmers operate a cattle feedlot and specialize in producing Wagyu breeding stock.

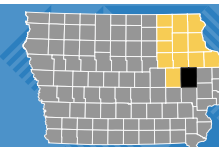
**Topics**

- Spring calving in rye
- Rye as forage
- Harvesting rylage



*Sponsored by:*  
**KWS Cereals**

# Keeping Up With the Johnsons at Buffalo Ridge Orchard



Northeast Region  
Linn County

**Food Safety & Packhouse Sanitation (#1 of Series\*)**

**Tuesday, June 2 | 12:30-1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Emma & Marcus Johnson**

When your farm raises an array of vegetables in the field and high tunnels, has a full production apple orchard and is gearing up to open a farm store, there is plenty to show and learn! In this three-part series, Emma will show Buffalo Ridge Orchard's new packhouse procedures for food and employee safety with vegetable crops. Later, we'll join Emma on a virtual tour of the farm's cherry tomatoes growing in the high tunnel. Finally, we'll see how the Johnsons test and determine when different apple varieties are ready to be picked.

**The Farm** Marcus and Emma Johnson operate Buffalo Ridge Orchard near Central City, Iowa, with Emma's parents, Mary and Vernon Zahradnik. The 80-acre farm has 5 acres of diversified vegetables in the field and high tunnels, and 13 acres of orchard, including 3,600 apple trees consisting of 50 new and classic varieties. Their packhouse, completed in 2019, includes a farm store (open in 2020) and a processing and packaging area for dried apples.



**Topics**

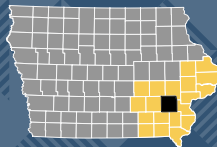
- Enhanced practices for COVID-19
- Employee health
- Food safety
- Sanitizing
- Collaborative box packing and distribution

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 32); #3 (pg. 43)*



# Impact of Roller-Crimping Cereal Rye

In partnership with Iowa State University



Southeast Region  
Washington County

A Live Demonstration (#1 of Series\*)

**Tuesday, June 2 | 1:30–2:30 p.m.**

**Host: Levi Lyle**

Watch Levi roll-crimp a cereal rye cover crop with two goals in mind: 1). terminating the cover crop without herbicide or tillage and 2). laying down the cover crop as a mulch for weed control. Levi is a partner on a project headed by Kathleen Delate of Iowa State University investigating reduced tillage in organic crop production systems. After a few weeks, we'll take another look at the field with Levi and he'll also demonstrate an electric Weed Zapper.

**The Farm** | Levi operates Levi's Indigenous Fruit Enterprises (LIFE) near Keota, through which he seeks to facilitate the profitability and sustainability of small farms. Levi and his wife Jill also distribute fresh aronia berries to local markets. Levi formerly worked as an organic inspector for the Iowa Department of Agriculture and now consults on topics related to organic agriculture.

- Topics** |
- Roller-crimping cover crops
  - Reduced tillage for organic



Levi's Indigenous Fruit Enterprises  
aronialife.com

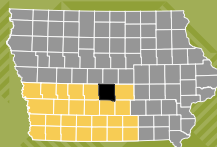
*Sponsored by:*

Iowa Organic Association  
Pipeline Foods

Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service  
Rodale Institute Midwest Organic Center

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 25)*

# Garlic Production at Grade A Gardens



Southwest Region  
Polk County

Weed Management & Varieties (#1 of Series\*)

**Wednesday, June 3 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Jordan & Whitney Clasen**

Join Jordan and Whitney in the field to see how they manage various aspects of garlic production during the 2020 season. During this three-part series, they will show how they manage weeds; harvest and bundle scapes; and harvest, clean and cure garlic. Each virtual field day will be 25 minutes long, featuring demo and some time for Q&A.

**The Farm** | Jordan Clasen started Grade A Gardens in 2009 in Johnston, Iowa. Whitney joined the farm in 2016 after working on farms all around the world. Today, Grade A Gardens includes 8 acres of certified organic fruits and vegetables; 300 egg-laying chickens; and bees. Gourmet garlic remains a farm specialty – 2 acres of the farm are devoted to the crop. Jordan and Whitney market through a CSA, the Downtown Farmers' Market in Des Moines and via Des Moines restaurants and specialty grocers.

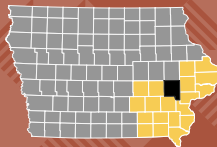


Grade A Gardens  
gradeagardens.com  
facebook.com/gradeAgardens

- Topics** |
- Weed management
  - Crop condition
  - Varieties

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 20); #3 (pg. 28)*

# Integrating Sheep and Vegetables at Sundog Farm



Southeast Region  
Johnson County

Pest & Disease Management (#1 of Series\*)

**Friday, June 5 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Carmen & Maja Black**

Join Carmen, Maja and the rest of the crew at Sundog Farm to learn how they are addressing challenges on their farm. In this three-part series, Carmen and Maja will share how they scout for disease and manage black rot. You'll find out how they fill CSA orders for 200 families, as Local Harvest CSA has done for 25 years. You will also see how the team manages sheep grazing through their vegetable fields.

**The Farm** | Carmen Black owns and operates Sundog Farm & Local Harvest CSA near Solon, Iowa, with her sister, Maja. They raise vegetables for 200 families and graze a small flock of sheep. 2020 is the 25th anniversary of Local Harvest CSA, and Carmen, Maja and the team are looking forward to celebrating the milestone with former owner and farmer-mentor, Susan Jutz, who launched the CSA in 1996.

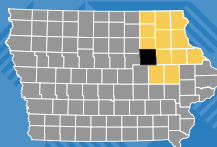


Sundog Farm & Local Harvest CSA  
solonsundogfarm.com

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 25); #3 (pg. 37)*

# Botany Beginners: Exploring Iowa's Native Plants

In partnership with Tallgrass Prairie Center



Northeast Region  
Black Hawk County

Part 1 (#1 of Series\*)

**Monday, June 8 | 6–7 p.m.**

**Host: Laura Jackson**

Have you ever wondered what all those plants growing in the road ditches are? Have you wished you could identify the plants in your prairie strips, pollinator plantings or local nature areas? If you're curious about what's growing on your farm, join the Tallgrass Prairie Center and Practical Farmers of Iowa for a native plant identification online course this summer.

This course is designed for anyone who wants to improve their ability to identify native plants of the tallgrass prairie region through guided practice, with a special focus on common farmland prairie plants.

To learn more about this course, or to register, please visit [tallgrassprairiecenter.org/botany-beginners](https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/botany-beginners).



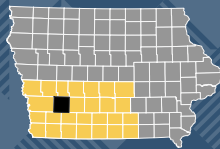
Tallgrass Prairie Center  
tallgrassprairiecenter.org

*\*Other Sessions in This Course:  
#2 (pg. 16); #3 (pg. 17); #4 (pg. 20); #5 (pg. 24)*

For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).



# Working With Neighbors to Integrate Livestock and Improve Soil



Southwest Region  
Guthrie County

Thursday, June 11 | 2:15–3:15 p.m.

Host: Tom Wind

Tom's goal is to improve the soil on his family's century farm. To do this, he has been working with neighbors Jim Funke, Jon Merrill and Conner Allender to integrate cattle, sheep and poultry into his cropping system in a variety of ways. They've been practicing management-intensive grazing for four years on selected areas.

We'll see areas where unrolled hay bales were fed prior to cash crop planting and where stockpiled grazing took place. We'll also see how chickens follow cows, along with pictures showing where soils that were once poor have become productive again. Not only is Tom seeing life come back to the soil and farm, he is building community in rural Iowa in the process.

**The Farm** | Tom and Sue Wind steward their family's century farm in Jamaica, Iowa. Tom has declared his life goal is to manage his soils in order to increase soil organic matter by 4%. To do this, he has partnered with nearby farmers to integrate diverse crops and pastured livestock.



- Topics**
- Integrating livestock with cattle and sheep
  - Management-intensive grazing (MIG)
  - Diverse cropping systems
  - Soil health

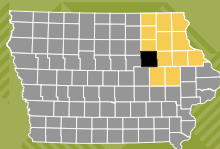
*Sponsored by:*  
Premier 1 Supplies

ZOOM MEETING

# Botany Beginners: Exploring Iowa's Native Plants

In partnership with Tallgrass Prairie Center

Part 2 (#2 of Series\*)



Northeast Region  
Black Hawk County

Thursday, June 11 | 6–7 p.m.

Host: Laura Jackson

Have you ever wondered what all those plants growing in the road ditches are? Have you wished you could identify the plants in your prairie strips, pollinator plantings or local nature areas? If you're curious about what's growing on your farm, join the Tallgrass Prairie Center and Practical Farmers of Iowa for a native plant identification online course this summer.

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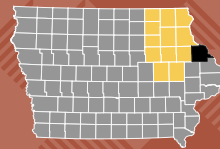


Tallgrass Prairie Center  
[tallgrassprairiecenter.org](http://tallgrassprairiecenter.org)

*\*Other Sessions in This Course:*  
#1 (pg. 15); #3 (pg. 17); #4 (pg. 20); #5 (pg. 24)

For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).

# Pasture Farrowing: Infrastructure, Scheduling and Seeding



Northeast Region  
Dubuque County

Friday, June 12 | 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Host: Jude Becker

For experienced producers and newcomers alike, scaling up a swine enterprise to include farrowing can be challenging. Jude will share how he manages his organic farrow-to-finish operation and we will see how his waterline and fencing on pasture are set up. Jude will also highlight sow scheduling, controlling herd size and establishing a steady production flow, and provide tips on farrowing.

**The Farm** | Jude Becker raises organic pork on his sixth-generation family farm, Becker Lane Organic Farm, near Dyersville, Iowa. He directly markets his pork to restaurants and retail locations in the U.S. and Asia. Jude continues to learn innovative ways to retain product value and boost farm income.

- Topics**
- Pasture-farrowing
  - Watering and fencing systems in pastures
  - Production flow
  - Seeding pastures



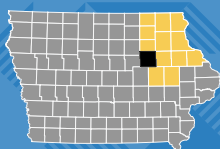
Becker Lane Organic Farm  
[beckerlaneorganic.com](http://beckerlaneorganic.com)

ZOOM MEETING

# Botany Beginners: Exploring Iowa's Native Plants

In partnership with Tallgrass Prairie Center

Part 3 (#3 of Series\*)



Northeast Region  
Black Hawk County

Wednesday, June 17 | 6–7 p.m.

Host: Laura Jackson

Have you ever wondered what all those plants growing in the road ditches are? Have you wished you could identify the plants in your prairie strips, pollinator plantings or local nature areas? If you're curious about what's growing on your farm, join the Tallgrass Prairie Center and Practical Farmers of Iowa for a native plant identification online course this summer.

This course is designed for anyone who wants to improve their ability to identify native plants of the tallgrass prairie region through guided practice, with a special focus on common farmland prairie plants.

To learn more about this course, or to register, please visit [tallgrassprairiecenter.org/botany-beginners](http://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/botany-beginners).



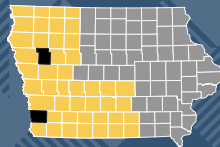
Tallgrass Prairie Center  
[tallgrassprairiecenter.org](http://tallgrassprairiecenter.org)

*\*Other Sessions in This Course:*  
#1 (pg. 15); #2 (pg. 16); #4 (pg. 20); #5 (pg. 24)

For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).



# Termination Dates for Cereal Rye In Soybeans



Ida and Mills counties

**Wednesday, June 17 | 7:30–8:30 p.m.**

**Hosts: Sam Bennett & Jon Bakehouse**

Join hosts Sam and Jon to discuss their experiences and findings from trials investigating delayed termination of cereal rye in soybeans. They'll give some background about their motivations to conduct on-farm research and explain how their original research questions evolved into an on-going trial looking at the impacts of not terminating cereal rye and leaving it to re-seed itself.

## The Farms

**Sam Bennett** and his wife Danielle raise corn, soybeans and small grains on a third of the Bennett family's 2,000-acre operation near Galva. They use cover crops, no-till and strip-till to work toward their goals of improving soil health, conservation, nutrient management, water quality and creating habitat.

**Jon Bakehouse** is a lifetime member of PFI who farms with his wife Tina, son Anderson and parents near Hastings, Iowa. The Bakehouses raise corn and soybeans and are integrating goats for grazing with their small cow-calf herd. As the fifth generation farming his family's land, Jon has conducted PFI on-farm research for over five years and unofficial field trials his entire farming career.

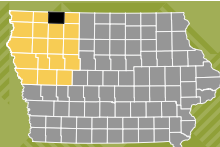


## Topics

- Delayed termination of cereal rye in soybeans
- Leaving a cereal rye cover crop to re-seed itself before corn
- Conducting on-farm research: evolving questions and motivations

# Prairie Strips and Conservation on Rented Ground

In partnership with Iowa State University STRIPS



Northwest Region  
Dickinson County

**Management & Prescribed Fire (#1 of Series\*)**

**Thursday, June 18 | 3–3:30 p.m.**

**Host: Eric Hoen | Speaker: Tim Youngquist, ISU STRIPS**

Prairie strips are a practice that more farmers and landowners are using to reintegrate prairie into Iowa's agricultural landscape, providing numerous water quality and wildlife benefits in the process. Join landowner Eric Hoen, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and the ISU STRIPS team to learn more about designing, establishing and managing prairie strips and how to work with land tenants to achieve conservation goals.

In part 1 of this virtual event, landowner Eric and Tim Youngquist, ISU STRIPS farmer liaison, will discuss prairie strip management and prescribed fire. See pictures and videos from Eric's recent prairie burn and learn more about how fire can be used by landowners to manage prairie strips.

## The Farm

Landowners Eric and Kelly Hoen purchased their 129-acre farm, located in Spirit Lake, Iowa, in 2008 from the estate of family friend Lyle Poyzer. With an eye towards conservation, education, outdoor recreation and improving water quality in the Iowa Great Lakes watershed, Eric and Kelly installed 23 acres of prairie strips.



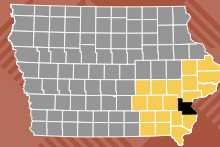
## Topics

- New versus established prairie strips
- Updates on science, research and cost-share programs from the STRIPS team
- Working with farmland tenants to implement conservation

**\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 33)**

**For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).**

# Harvesting Fruit and Nut Crops at Red Fern Farm



Southeast Region  
Louisa County

**Honeyberry (#1 of Series\*)**

**Wednesday, June 24 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Tom Wahl & Kathy Dice**

Check in throughout the season with Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice of Red Fern Farm to see what fruit and nut crops are on for harvest, how they are grown and harvested and how they taste. During these virtual visits, you will also learn a bit about each crop's growing method and profitability.

## The Farm

Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice are lifetime members of PFI who own and operate Red Fern Farm near Wapello, Iowa. Established in 1986, they now grow over 75 species of common and not-so-common fruits and nuts. The farm is the site of ongoing research on a variety of tree crops and forest farming systems, a pick-your-own chestnut (and other fruit and nuts!) operation and container-grown tree seedlings well-suited to the Midwest. Tom and Kathy also raise hair sheep, which they rotate throughout their farm, and are past recipients of PFI's Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award.

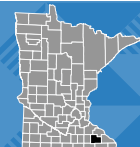


Red Fern Farm  
[redfernfarm.com](http://redfernfarm.com)

**\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 42); #3 (pg. 44)**

# No-Till Oat and Rye Production

In partnership with Land Stewardship Project



Minnesota  
Olmsted County

**Wednesday, June 24 | 1:30–2:30 p.m.**

**Host: Martin Larsen**

Martin has been a long-time user of no-till and cover crops. It was his cover crop that got him into growing rye for his own cover crop seed. He then decided to further diversify his farm with an oat crop. This virtual farm tour will showcase both rye and oats in the field, and Martin will share the lessons he's learned about producing both crops, from no-till planting in soybean residue to harvesting and cleaning the product.

## The Farm

Martin Larsen is a fifth-generation farmer using no-till and cover cropping practices to grow conventional corn, soybeans, oats and rye near Byron, Minnesota. Martin also works for the Olmsted County Soil and Water Conservation District, where he has done research on cover crops and nitrate reduction in local waterways, and he serves as president of the Minnesota Caving Club.

## Topics

- Growing oats and rye
- Cover crop seed production
- No-till and extended rotations
- Small-grain cost-share opportunities



*Sponsored by:*  
**Bio Till**



# Botany Beginners: Exploring Iowa's Native Plants

In partnership with Tallgrass Prairie Center

Part 4 (#4 of Series\*)

**Wednesday, June 24 | 6-7 p.m.**

**Host: Laura Jackson**

Have you ever wondered what all those plants growing in the road ditches are? Have you wished you could identify the plants in your prairie strips, pollinator plantings or local nature areas? If you're curious about what's growing on your farm, join the Tallgrass Prairie Center and Practical Farmers of Iowa for a native plant identification online course this summer.

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Northeast Region  
Black Hawk County



**\*Other Sessions in This Course:**  
#1 (pg. 15); #2 (pg. 16); #3 (pg. 17); #5 (pg. 24)

For details including speaker bios and more,  
visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).

# Garlic Production at Grade A Gardens

Scape Harvest, Bundling & Marketing (#2 of Series\*)

**Thursday, June 25 | 12:30-1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Jordan & Whitney Clasen**

Join Jordan and Whitney in the field to see how they manage various aspects of garlic production during the 2020 season. During this three-part series, they will show how they manage weeds; harvest and bundle scapes; and harvest, clean and cure garlic. Each virtual field day will be 25 minutes long, featuring demo and some time for Q&A.

**The Farm** | Jordan Clasen started Grade A Gardens in 2009 in Johnston, Iowa. Whitney joined the farm in 2016 after working on farms all around the world. Today, Grade A Gardens includes 8 acres of certified organic fruits and vegetables; 300 egg-laying chickens; and bees. Gourmet garlic remains a farm specialty – 2 acres of the farm are devoted to the crop. Jordan and Whitney market through a CSA, the Downtown Farmers' Market in Des Moines and via Des Moines restaurants and specialty grocers.

Southwest Region  
Polk County



- Topics**
- Scape harvest
  - Scape bundling
  - Scape marketing and sales
  - Crop condition

**\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 14); #3 (pg. 28)**

# Early-Season Organic Weed Control

In partnership with Iowa Organic Association

**Thursday, June 25 | 7:30-8:30 p.m.**

**Host: Matt Miller**

In this virtual field day, Matt will show video of various passes of tine harrows and rotary hoes he made through the field earlier in June, and then we'll take a live look at the field. He'll also go over why and when he uses particular pieces of equipment, as well as the adjustments he makes. Learn about a European tine harrow Matt says is uncommon in Iowa but is starting to gain more attention.

**The Farm** | Matt Miller farms near Bristow, Iowa, and has been certified organic since 2000. His current operation is around 1,000 acres, which are split between organic and conventional crops. His organic crop rotation consists of corn, oats and clover, corn and soybeans.

North Central Region  
Butler County



*Sponsored by:*

Pipeline Foods  
Rodale Institute Midwest Organic Center

# Early Interseeding of Cover Crops for Grazing

In partnership with University of Northern Iowa's Center for Energy & Environmental Education

**Friday, June 26 | 12:15-12:45 p.m.**

**Host: Seth Smith**

Seth will show videos of a cover crop he interseeded in early June, and we'll check in on how it's growing. He will discuss his corn planting population, row width and hybrid selection. We'll see how he has rigged up his cultivator to interseed multi-species cover crops and discuss how he does this in both organic and conventional crop fields. Seth's goal is to get several weeks of fall grazing out of the cover crop in order to save money on feed.

**The Farm** | Seth and Etta Smith, with Seth's father, Lynn Smith, operate Coon River Farms in Sac County, Iowa. The integrated crop-livestock operation comprises 1,900 acres, primarily in organic row crops with a feed yard, cow-calf herd and hogs.

- Topics**
- Cover crop interseeding during June cultivation
  - Grazing cover crops

Northwest Region  
Sac County

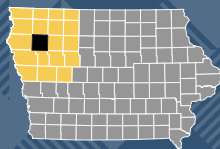


*Sponsored by:*

OCIA Chapter 1 of Iowa  
Prairie Creek Seed



# Using Conservation to Improve Farm Profitability



Northwest Region  
Cherokee County

60-Inch-Row Corn + Interseeded Cover Crops (#1 of Series\*)

**Saturday, June 27 | 5-5:30 p.m.**

**Host: Nathan Anderson**

Nathan and Sarah farm using in-field conservation practices that reduce soil loss, increase soil health, reduce inputs and provide forage for livestock. They also target edge-of-field conservation on marginal lands to provide water quality and wildlife benefits while improving return on investment on farmed acres. We'll chat with Nathan twice over the course of the season to learn about conservation he's using on his farm to increase profitability.

In part 1, Nathan will discuss planting corn in 60-inch rows with interseeded cover crops, and he'll share the environmental and agronomic benefits he sees – or hopes to see – from the practice.

**The Farm** | Nathan and Sarah Anderson are lifetime members of PFI who own and operate Bobolink Prairie Farms near Aurelia, Iowa. Nathan, Sarah and family have worked to grow their cattle herd while improving grazing management and incorporating cover crops through on-farm research. Nathan is also a PFI board member.



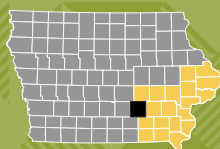
**Bobolink Prairie Farms**  
bobolinkprairiefarms.yolasite.com

- Topics** |
- 60-inch-row corn
  - Using cover crops to extend forage chains
  - Soil health and water quality

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 40)*

# Cover Crops and Grazing in Mahaska County

In partnership with South Skunk Watershed Project



Southeast Region  
Mahaska County

**Monday, June 29 | 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Hosts: Doug De Bruin & Jake De Bruin**

Get a first-hand view of how the De Bruin family farm integrates cover crops with their operation. This virtual field day includes a video tour of the farm in which Jake and Doug will discuss their journey with cover crops and how they use cover crops to benefit their cattle operation. After the video tour, Jake and Doug will host a live facilitated discussion and Q&A session.

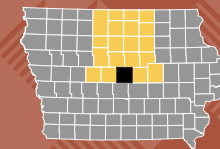
**The Farm** | The De Bruin family farms near Oskaloosa, Iowa. They believe farming and family are interconnected, and that regenerative farming is necessary to provide security to future generations. Jake and his uncle Doug De Bruin believe that improving soil health can help solve financial challenges of farming and have a positive environmental impact on land and water.



- Topics** |
- Custom grazing of cover crops
  - Seeding date and methods
  - Cover crops with no-till
  - Soil health

# Flame-Weeding and Crop Rotation for Weed Control

In partnership with University of Northern Iowa's Center for Energy & Environmental Education



North Central Region  
Story County

**Tuesday, June 30 | 10-11 a.m.**

**Hosts: Noah Wendt & Caleb Akin**

Learn how Noah and Caleb use a flame-weeder as one of many tools for weed management on their organic farm. We'll check out a field that was previously flame-weeded, and Noah and Caleb will show video from a few weeks prior of the flame-weeder in action. They'll also discuss the importance of including a small-grain crop in the rotation for their weed management strategy.

**The Farm** | Caleb Akin started A & W Farms with Noah Wendt near Cambridge, Iowa, in 2006. A & W Farms feeds cattle, produces conventional corn and soybeans and grows a variety of organic grain.

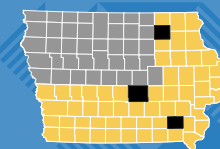
- Topics** |
- Flame-weeding
  - Crop rotation with small grains



**A & W Farms**

*Sponsored by:*  
**Iowa Organic Association**  
**Pipeline Foods**  
**Scoular**  
**Wyffels Hybrids**

# Working Towards Farm Succession



Chickasaw, Jasper  
and Jefferson counties

**Tuesday, June 30 | 7-8:30 p.m.**

**Hosts:**

**Martha McFarland, Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch**

**Kim Anderson, Zihlman Family Farms & Blueberry Bottom**

**Regina Frahm, Esther Purl Fibers**

Creating a farm succession plan takes time, moves slowly and involves many different people. Understanding and sharing your goals is an important step in putting together a plan. During this event, Martha, Regina and Kim will share some of their farm succession goals. We will hear what has worked from them so far and what has been a challenge.



**Martha McFarland**

**Kim Anderson**

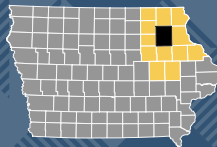
**Regina Frahm**

*For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).*



## Approaching Oats as a Cash Crop

In partnership with Iowa Organic Association and University of Northern Iowa's Center for Energy & Environmental Education



Northeast Region  
Fayette County

**Wednesday, July 1 | 1-2:30 p.m.**

**Hosts: Scott & Catherine Wedemeier**

Oats are becoming a hot commodity as more grocery shoppers reach for oat-based products – but in the field, we're still treating them like a second-class crop. This virtual field day will showcase the steps Scott has taken to step up oat production on his organic crop and livestock farm, including his participation in a trial aimed at better oat variety selection. The field day will also explore how the Wedemeiers use interseeding cover crops and relay cropping with small grains to manage nutrients, erosion and weeds on their farm, from underseeding clover with oats to relay cropping spring wheat and soybeans.

**The Farm** Scott and Catherine Wedemeier own and operate a 911-acre family farm near Maynard, Iowa. Scott is the third generation to farm this land. The Wedemeiers raise organic corn, soybeans, oats and hay and have dairy cow, goat, pig and beef livestock enterprises. In 2019, Scott began growing oats for Seven Sundays as part of a supply chain pilot project with PFI.

- Topics**
- Oat production
  - Oat selector tool trial
  - Transition to organic
  - Cover crops and green manure
  - Interseeding and relay cropping



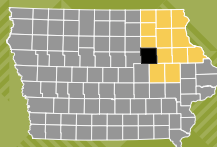
*Sponsored by:*

**Fayette SWCD  
Pipeline Foods  
Prairie Creek Seed**

**Organic Valley – CROPP Cooperative – Organic Prairie  
Rodale Institute Midwest Organic Center**

## Botany Beginners: Exploring Iowa's Native Plants

In partnership with Tallgrass Prairie Center



Northeast Region  
Black Hawk County

**Part 5 (#5 of Series\*)**

**Wednesday, July 1 | 6-7 p.m.**

**Host: Laura Jackson**

Have you ever wondered what all those plants growing in the road ditches are? Have you wished you could identify the plants in your prairie strips, pollinator plantings or local nature areas? If you're curious about what's growing on your farm, join the Tallgrass Prairie Center and Practical Farmers of Iowa for a native plant identification online course this summer.

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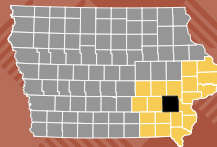


*\*Other Sessions in This Course:  
#1 (pg. 15); #2 (pg. 16); #3 (pg. 17); #4 (pg. 20)*

*For details including speaker bios and more,  
visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).*

## Impact of Roller-Crimping Cereal Rye

In partnership with Iowa State University



Southeast Region  
Washington County

**Live Weed Zapper Demonstration (#2 of Series\*)**

**Thursday, July 2 | 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Host: Levi Lyle**

Levi will show us the field where he previously roller-cripped a cereal rye cover crop and planted soybeans. He will also demonstrate the Weed Zapper, which uses electricity to kill weed escapes that have grown taller than the soybean canopy. In lieu of traditional cultivation, both roller-cripping cover crops and zapping weeds are part of Levi's strategy for reducing tillage in his organic row crop system.

**The Farm** Levi operates Levi's Indigenous Fruit Enterprises (LIFE) near Keota, through which he seeks to facilitate the profitability and sustainability of small farms. Levi and his wife Jill also distribute fresh aronia berries to local markets. Levi formerly worked as an organic inspector for the Iowa Department of Agriculture and now consults on topics related to organic agriculture.

- Topics**
- Roller-cripping cover crops
  - Using a Weed Zapper to control weeds



*Sponsored by:*

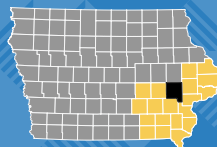
**Iowa Organic Association  
Pipeline Foods**

**Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service  
Rodale Institute Midwest Organic Center**

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 14)*

## Integrating Sheep and Vegetables at Sundog Farm

**Celebrating 25 Years of Local Harvest CSA (#2 of Series\*)**



Southeast Region  
Johnson County

**Friday, July 3 | 12:30-1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Carmen & Maja Black**

Join Carmen, Maja and the rest of the crew at Sundog Farm to learn how they are addressing challenges on their farm. In this three-part series, Carmen and Maja will share how they scout for disease and manage black rot. You'll find out how they fill CSA orders for 200 families, as Local Harvest CSA has done for 25 years. You will also see how the team manages sheep grazing through their vegetable fields.

**The Farm** Carmen Black owns and operates Sundog Farm & Local Harvest CSA near Solon, Iowa, with her sister, Maja. They raise vegetables for 200 families and graze a small flock of sheep. 2020 is the 25th anniversary of Local Harvest CSA, and Carmen, Maja and the team are looking forward to celebrating the milestone with former owner and farmer-mentor, Susan Jutz, who launched the CSA in 1996.



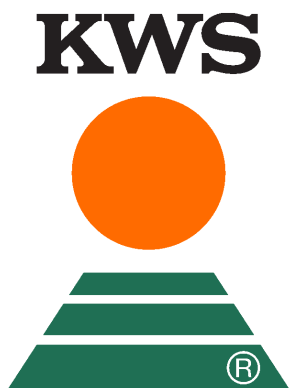
*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 15); #3 (pg. 37)*



# THANK YOU TO OUR



# LEVEL B SPONSORS!



## Garlic Production at Grade A Gardens

Harvest, Bunching, Hanging & Curing (#3 of Series\*)

Friday, July 10 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.

Hosts: Jordan & Whitney Clasen

Join Jordan and Whitney in the field to see how they manage various aspects of garlic production during the 2020 season. During this three-part series, they will show how they manage weeds; harvest and bundle scapes; and harvest, clean and cure garlic. Each virtual field day will be 25 minutes long, featuring demo and some time for Q&A.

The Farm

Jordan Clasen started Grade A Gardens in 2009 in Johnston, Iowa. Whitney joined the farm in 2016 after working on farms all around the world. Today, Grade A Gardens includes 8 acres of certified organic fruits and vegetables; 300 egg-laying chickens; and bees. Gourmet garlic remains a farm specialty – 2 acres of the farm are devoted to the crop. Jordan and Whitney market through a CSA, the Downtown Farmers' Market in Des Moines and via Des Moines restaurants and specialty grocers.

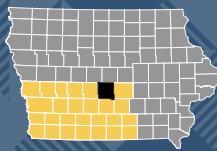


Topics

- Weed management
- Crop condition
- Varieties

\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 14); #2 (pg. 20)

Southwest Region  
Polk County



## Making the Land Affordable for the Next Generation of Farmers

Tuesday, July 14 | 4–5:30 p.m.

Host: Dale Nimrod

Speakers:

Karl Knudson, Decorah-based lawyer

Matt Roberts, Syverson Strege

Dale Nimrod and his siblings, Faith Sherman and Vance Nimrod, sold their southwest Iowa farmland to a local farm family at below market value in 2005. Currently, Dale is working with lawyer Karl Knudson to value land he and his wife Sunny own in northeast Iowa at production value as they set up plans for transferring their farm to their heirs. Dale, Karl and Matt Roberts, a certified financial planner with Syverson Strege, will discuss farm transfer strategies with affordability for the next generation in mind.

The Landowner

Dale Nimrod grew up on a farm near Stanton in southwestern Iowa. He and his siblings sold their 240-acre farm to a local couple as a way to give back to the community that had supported his family and helped them farm after the untimely death of their father. Dale and his wife Sunny now live and own farmland near Decorah, Iowa. In 2015, Dale and his siblings received Practical Farmers' Farmland Owner Legacy Award.

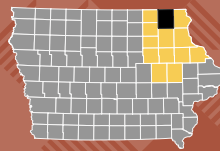


Topics

- How to value land at production versus market value
- Legal tools for facilitating farm transfer, including wills and sale contracts
- Tax implications of potential farm transfer strategies

For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).

Northeast Region  
Winnebago County



## Rotational Pasture Series

Watering Systems (#1 of Series\*)

Monday, July 13 | 2–2:30 p.m.

Host: Bill Borrenpohl

Starting a pasture rotational system can be challenging. In this three-part series, you will meet three farmers who have spent their beginning farming years creating processes to make a regenerative pasture system work for their farms.

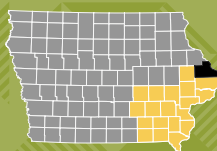
In part 1, we'll learn about creating an efficient watering system – which is helpful when planning rotational grazing. Bill and Stacey have added water lines and developed a portable water tank system to improve the way they water their Lowline cattle on their diverse livestock farm. Join us as Bill shows us what they have done and improved in designing this system.

The Farm

William and Stacey Borrenpohl started Woven Strong Farm, just south of Dubuque, Iowa, in 2010. The family raises Lowline cattle, hogs, chickens and meat goats on pasture.



Southeast Region  
Jackson County



Sponsored by:  
Premier 1 Supplies

\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 30); #3 (pg. 31)

## Farm Manager Panel

Friday, July 17 | 3–4 p.m.

Hosts:

Mollie Aronowitz, Peoples Company

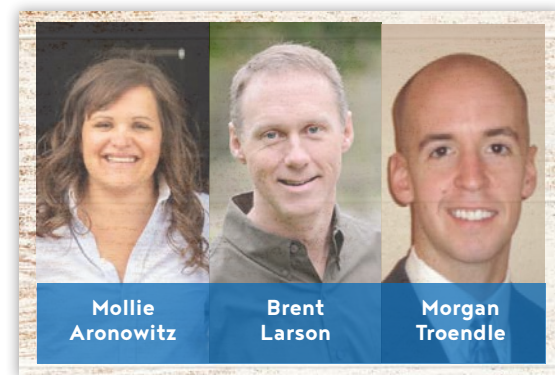
Brent Larson, Sunderman Farm Management

Morgan Troendle, Hertz Farm Management

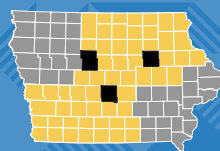
Professional farm management services can provide landowners with valuable tools and expertise for managing farmland. Hear from farm managers Mollie Aronowitz of Peoples Company, Brent Larson of Sundermans Farm Management and Morgan Troendle of Hertz Farm Management about how they work with landowners, tenants and conservation professionals to implement conservation on working lands. Bring your farm management questions -- this event will include substantial time for Q&A.

Topics

- Farm management
- Landowners and tenants
- Farmland ownership
- Conservation
- Stewardship
- Renting farmland
- Conservation leasing



Polk, Webster and  
Black Hawk counties



For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).



# Integrating Cover Crops on a Vegetable and Poultry Farm

Termination & Turnaround to Planting (#1 of Series\*)

**Monday, July 20 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Rob & Tammy Faux**

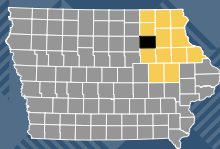
In this three-part series, join Rob to learn about the different ways he integrates cover crops throughout his vegetable and poultry farm. From spring-seeded and fall-seeded cover crops to interseeded, quick-turnaround covers in the summer and fallow beds for running poultry, Rob has tried almost everything and will show a good mix (and single-species stand!) during these virtual field days.

**The Farm** | Rob Faux and his wife, Tammy, operate Genuine Faux Farm, a CSA, produce and poultry operation near Tripoli, Iowa. Since launching the farm in 2005, Rob has been an inquisitive farmer, testing products and concepts on his own and through PFI's Cooperators' Program.



*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 37); #3 (pg. 39)*

Northeast Region  
Bremer County



# Producción Avícola en un Sistema Perenne con Main Street Project

**Thursday, July 23 | 12:15–1 p.m.**

**Host: Wilber De La Rosa**

Chickens are versatile and serve as powerhouses in regenerating a farming system. Wilber will share his experience managing a biodiverse system of symbiotically connected livestock and perennials (hazelnuts and elderberries) at Main Street Project in Northfield, Minnesota. Join Wilber as he covers tips and tricks for managing poultry, and the challenges and benefits poultry bring to perennial crops.

**Note: This field day will be hosted primarily in Spanish.**

Las gallinas son versátiles y eficaces en la regeneración de un sistema de cultivo. Wilber De La Rosa compartirá su experiencia manejando un sistema biodiverso de ganado y plantas perennes simbióticamente conectados (avellanas y bayas de saúco) en el Proyecto Main Street en Northfield, Minnesota. Únase a Wilber mientras cubre consejos y trucos para el manejo de aves de corral, y los desafíos y beneficios que las aves de corral aportan a los cultivos perennes.

**Nota: Este evento será presentado principalmente en español.**



*For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).*

Minnesota  
Rice County



# Rotational Pasture Series

Laying Hens (#2 of Series\*)

**Monday, July 20 | 2–2:30 p.m.**

**Host: Susan Young**

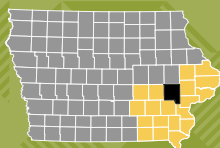
Starting a pasture rotational system can be challenging. In this three-part series, you will meet three farmers who have spent their beginning farming years creating processes to make a regenerative pasture system work for their farms.

In part 2, we'll learn how Susan is raising laying hens on pasture as part of her silvopasture system. With the help of a movable chicken coop and temporary fencing, she is able to rotate her laying hens across the pasture. Susan will lead a virtual tour of her chicken coop set-up and share tips for raising poultry rotationally on pasture.

**The Farm** | Susan Young owns and operates Lucky Star Farm, located on a 20-acre stretch of land on the outskirts of Iowa City, Iowa. The farm is home to about 100 chickens, a small flock of turkeys, a dozen Nigerian dwarf goats and a trio of dogs and llamas. Susan is dedicated to organic practices and currently offers pasture-raised eggs year-round, along with turkeys for the holidays.



Southeast Region  
Johnson County



*Sponsored by:*  
**Premier 1 Supplies**

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 28); #3 (pg. 31)*

# Rotational Pasture Series

Goat Paddock Moves (#3 of Series\*)

**Monday, July 27 | 2–2:30 p.m.**

**Host: Adam Ledvina**

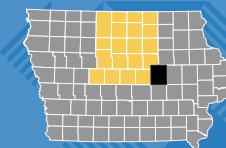
Starting a pasture rotational system can be challenging. In this three-part series, you will meet three farmers who have spent their beginning farming years creating processes to make a regenerative pasture system work for their farms.

In part 3, we'll learn about fencing – which is a key part of developing a rotational grazing system. Adam will show us how he uses temporary electric netting to rotate his Kiko goats through new pastures. He will also demonstrate how he plans a paddock move and show some easy steps to setting up temporary fencing.

**The Farm** | Adam Ledvina started raising goats six years ago and has since started two businesses, Iowa Kiko Goats and Blue Collar Goatscaping. Adam also works for Red Earth Gardens, the Meskwaki Nation farm located in Tama, Iowa.



North Central Region  
Tama County

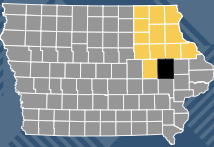


*Sponsored by:*  
**Premier 1 Supplies**

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 28); #2 (pg. 30)*



# Keeping Up With the Johnsons at Buffalo Ridge Orchard



Northeast Region  
Linn County

High Tunnel Cherry Tomatoes (#2 of Series\*)

Tuesday, July 28 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.

Hosts: Emma & Marcus Johnson

When your farm raises an array of vegetables in the field and high tunnels, has a full production apple orchard and is gearing up to open a farm store, there is plenty to show and learn! In this three-part series, Emma will show Buffalo Ridge Orchard's new packhouse procedures for food and employee safety with vegetable crops. Later, we'll join Emma on a virtual tour of the farm's cherry tomatoes growing in the high tunnel. Finally, we'll see how the Johnsons test and determine when different apple varieties are ready to be picked.

**The Farm** | Marcus and Emma Johnson operate Buffalo Ridge Orchard near Central City, Iowa, with Emma's parents, Mary and Vernon Zahradnik. The 80-acre farm has 5 acres of diversified vegetables in the field and high tunnels, and 13 acres of orchard, including 3,600 apple trees consisting of 50 new and classic varieties. Their packhouse, completed in 2019, includes a farm store (open in 2020) and a processing and packaging area for dried apples.

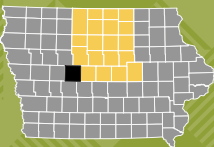


- Topics**
- Transplanting
  - Trellising and Pruning
  - Harvest
  - Variety tour

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 13); #3 (pg. 43)*

# Restoring Rare Habitats for Wildlife and Water Quality

In partnership with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



North Central Region  
Greene County

Oxbows (#1 of Series\*)

Tuesday, July 28 | 5–5:30 p.m.

Host: Jeff Pudenz

Speaker: Darrick Weissenfluh, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Iowa once boasted an incredibly diverse landscape. In this three-part series, landowners Jeff and Nancy will share their vision for their land and discuss the work they are doing on their property to restore rare and declining habitats, including fens, oxbows, beaver habitat, oak savanna and more. Also hear about Jeff's ongoing partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and learn about financial and technical assistance opportunities from USFWS biologist Darrick Weissenfluh.

In part 1 of this series, we'll discuss oxbow restorations. Jeff and Darrick will discuss the what, where and why of a critical wetland restoration strategy.

- Topics**
- Habitat establishment and management
  - Rare habitats
  - Oxbows
  - Oak savanna
  - Financial and technical assistance



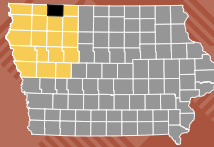
*Sponsored by:*  
**Iowa Environmental Council**

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 36); #3 (pg. 38)*

*For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).*

# Prairie Strips and Conservation on Rented Ground

In partnership with Iowa State University STRIPS



Northwest Region  
Dickinson County

Working With Tenants + Environmental Benefits (#2 of Series\*)

Friday, July 31 | 3–4 p.m.

Host: Eric Hoiem

Speaker: Ryan Schmidt, INHF

Prairie strips are a practice that more farmers and landowners are using to reintegrate prairie into Iowa's agricultural landscape, providing numerous water quality and wildlife benefits in the process. Join landowner Eric Hoiem, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and the ISU STRIPS team to learn more about designing establishing and managing prairie strips and how to work with land tenants to achieve conservation goals.

In part 2 of this virtual event, we'll discuss prairie strips generally, as well as how landowners like Eric and Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation are working with farmland tenants to design, install and manage prairie strips for water quality and wildlife. Ryan Schmidt, with INHF, will discuss how prairie strips are being used at the 160-acre Wallace & Bowers Nature Area, located along the northeast shore of Big Spirit Lake, which is owned and managed by INHF.

**The Farm** | Landowners Eric and Kelly Hoiem purchased their 129-acre farm, located in Spirit Lake, Iowa, in 2008 from the estate of family friend Lyle Poyzer. With an eye towards conservation, education, outdoor recreation and improving water quality in the Iowa Great Lakes watershed, Eric and Kelly installed 23 acres of prairie strips.



- Topics**
- New versus established prairie strips
  - Updates on science, research and cost-share programs from the STRIPS team
  - Working with farmland tenants to implement conservation

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 18)*

*For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](https://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).*



# Next Generation SUMMIT

## Virtual Conference Aug. 4, 5 and 7

This virtual event will bring together aspiring farmers and farmland owners in a way that allows for education and networking help to overcome the challenge of farmland access.

**Cost is free, but pre-registration is required by Aug. 3 at [practicalfarmers.org/next-generation-summit](https://practicalfarmers.org/next-generation-summit).**  
*You are welcome to attend the whole summit, or only the workshops that most interest you.*

### Event Contact:

**Greg Padget**, next generation director at PFI  
(515) 232-5661 | [greg@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:greg@practicalfarmers.org)

Beginning farmers are urgently needed in Iowa! We are experiencing a monumental transfer in farmland ownership. According to a 2017 Farmland Ownership and Tenure Survey, 60 percent of Iowa farmland is owned by people over the age of 65, and 35 percent is owned by people over the age of 75. Over half of Iowa farmland is owned by someone who does not currently farm. Many farmers and landowners are considering their plans to transition their land, while aspiring and beginning farmers are seeking land.

Are you one of these people? Are you a farmland owner thinking about the next steps for your land and the legacy you would like to leave? Or are you an aspiring farmer looking for land to begin your farming dream? Then we invite you to join Practical Farmers' Next Generation Summit.

This year we will be offering the summit virtually in three parts, spread over three days.

## Farm Succession Workshop

**Tuesday, Aug. 4 | 2-4 p.m.**

### Speaker: Diana Tourney

Farmland owners will work on setting goals that can help them in the process of creating a farmland legacy that reflects their values. They will also learn about how to take the next steps to begin the transition period when the time is right.



*Diana Tourney is an accountant and operations professional with the Clackamas Small Business Development Center in the Portland suburb of Clackamas, Oregon. She is a rancher and farmer who works extensively with agricultural enterprises as they plan transitions to both family and non-family members. Diana also has experience helping a wide range of other small businesses with all stages of growth, from inception to transition.*

## Getting Ready for Land Workshop

**Wednesday, Aug. 5 | 5-7 p.m.**

**Speakers: Greg Padget, Hannah Breckbill, Kate Edwards & Amber Mohr**

Aspiring and beginning farmers will walk through the process of setting goals and determining their farming purpose, as well as planning the next steps to acquiring farmland.



*Greg Padget joined Practical Farmers of Iowa's staff in 2016. He oversees the next generation programming, ensuring resources, events and learning opportunities are available for beginning farmers and farmers looking to transition their farm and land.*



*Kate Edwards began Wild Woods Farm in 2010. On her farm near Iowa City, Iowa, she raises vegetables for a 200-family CSA, delivering to Iowa City, Coralville and Solon.*



*Hannah Breckbill has been farming since 2009 and started Humble Hands Harvest in Decorah, Iowa, in 2013. In 2018, Emily Fagan joined as a partner. The farm sells primarily at farmers markets and through a CSA. Hannah and Emily are developing a perennial polyculture system and incorporating livestock.*



*Amber Mohr farms with her family at Fork Tail Farm, a vegetable, fruit and poultry farm near Avoca, Iowa. Amber also serves as project director of Avoca Main Street, whose mission is to promote, preserve and enhance the town's downtown district as an economic, cultural and social center of the community.*

## Farmland Access Connections

**Friday, Aug. 7 | 5-6 p.m.**

This session will be filled with networking opportunities to meet aspiring farmers and landowners. Farming takes a community of many individuals. All are invited to come and learn about the issues facing transitioning farmers and land. Let's connect all the generations that make farming possible and support those coming into the next generation.





# Restoring Rare Habitats for Wildlife and Water Quality

In partnership with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Beaver Habitat (#2 of Series\*)

**Tuesday, Aug. 4 | 5-5:30 p.m.**

**Host: Jeff Pudenz**

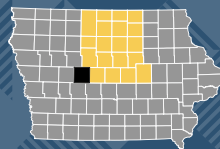
**Speaker: Darrick Weissenfluh, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

Iowa once boasted an incredibly diverse landscape. In this three-part series, landowners Jeff and Nancy will share their vision for their land and discuss the work they are doing on their property to restore rare and declining habitats, including fens, oxbows, beaver habitat, oak savanna and more. Also hear about Jeff's ongoing partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and learn about financial and technical assistance opportunities from USFWS biologist Darrick Weissenfluh.

Part 2 of this series will explore the work that Jeff, Nancy and Darrick have done to return beavers to the landscape and improve water quality in the North Raccoon River watershed.

**Topics**

- Habitat establishment and management
- Rare habitats
- Beavers
- Financial and technical assistance
- Water quality



North Central Region  
Greene County



Jeff  
Pudenz

Darrick  
Weissenfluh

*Sponsored by:*

**Iowa Environmental Council**

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 32); #3 (pg. 38)*

*For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).*

# Bison 101: Raising and Selling Bison

**Thursday, Aug. 6 | 2:15-3:15 p.m.**

**Host: Martha McFarland**

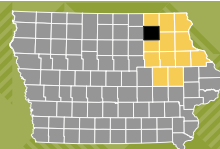
Martha, of Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch in Fredericksburg, will share the benefits of and considerations for raising and selling bison. She'll discuss bison behavior (they are not cattle!), her fencing infrastructure and handling facilities, markets selling bison products and state regulations related to bison. Martha will also walk us through on-farm videos as part of a live Q&A session.

**The Farm**

Martha McFarland farms with her father Dan near Fredericksburg, Iowa. They operate Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch on 250 acres of pasture and timber where bison and cattle graze. Martha gives educational tours to provide historical information about bison, the prairie and the history of their homesteading family who settled in Iowa over 150 years ago.

**Topics**

- Bison behavior and bison handling
- Fence infrastructure
- Markets and regulations for selling bison



Northeast Region  
Chickasaw County



**Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch**  
[hawkeyebuffalo.com](http://hawkeyebuffalo.com)

# Integrating Sheep and Vegetables at Sundog Farm

Grazing Cover Crops & Field Cleaning (#3 of Series\*)

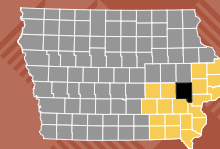
**Friday, Aug. 7 | 12:30-1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Carmen & Maja Black**

Join Carmen, Maja and the rest of the crew at Sundog Farm to learn how they are addressing challenges on their farm. In this three-part series, Carmen and Maja will share how they scout for disease and manage black rot. You'll find out how they fill CSA orders for 200 families, as Local Harvest CSA has done for 25 years. You will also see how the team manages sheep grazing through their vegetable fields.

**The Farm**

Carmen Black owns and operates Sundog Farm & Local Harvest CSA near Solon, Iowa, with her sister, Maja. They raise vegetables for 200 families and graze a small flock of sheep. 2020 is the 25th anniversary of Local Harvest CSA, and Carmen, Maja and the team are looking forward to celebrating the milestone with former owner and farmer-mentor, Susan Jutz, who launched the CSA in 1996.



Southeast Region  
Johnson County



**Sundog Farm & Local Harvest CSA**  
[solonsundogfarm.com](http://solonsundogfarm.com)

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 15); #2 (pg. 25)*

# Integrating Cover Crops on a Vegetable and Poultry Farm

Interseeded & Quick-Turnaround Covers (#2 of Series\*)

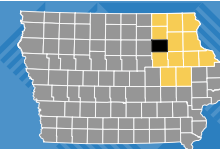
**Monday, Aug. 10 | 12:30-1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Rob & Tammy Faux**

In this three-part series, join Rob to learn about the different ways he integrates cover crops throughout his vegetable and poultry farm. From spring-seeded and fall-seeded cover crops to interseeded, quick-turnaround covers in the summer and fallow beds for running poultry, Rob has tried almost everything and will show a good mix (and single-species stand!) during these virtual field days.

**The Farm**

Rob Faux and his wife, Tammy, operate Genuine Faux Farm, a CSA, produce and poultry operation near Tripoli, Iowa. Since launching the farm in 2005, Rob has been an inquisitive farmer, testing products and concepts on his own and through PFI's Cooperators' Program.



Northeast Region  
Bremer County

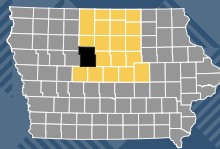


**Genuine Faux Farm**  
[genuinefauxfarm.com](http://genuinefauxfarm.com)

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 30); #3 (pg. 39)*



# Growing High-Quality Food-Grade Oats



North Central Region  
Webster County

**Tuesday, Aug. 11 | 1-2 p.m.**

**Hosts: A.J. & Kellie Blair**

A.J. will share insights from two years of adding food-grade oats to a corn-soy rotation. He'll discuss variety selection and seeding; cover crops; making decisions about herbicides and fungicides; harvest and storage of grain and straw; and benefits and challenges he's experienced. A.J. will also discuss on-farm research he has conducted aimed at optimizing fertilizer rates in corn following oats and a green manure, and in oats to maximize oat yield and minimize lodging.

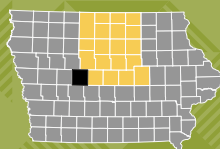
**The Farm** | Fourth-generation farmers A.J. and Kellie Blair are lifetime members of PFI who farm full-time near Dayton, Iowa, with their two children. As part of their mission to be good stewards of the land, the Blairs operate a diversified farm consisting of soybeans, corn, rye, alfalfa, oats, cattle and pigs.

- Topics**
- Oat seeding and variety selection
  - Herbicide and fungicide decision-making
  - Cover crops
  - Grain harvest and straw baling: equipment, scouting, reaching test weight, storage
  - On-farm research: optimizing N rates in oats and corn



# Restoring Rare Habitats for Wildlife and Water Quality

In partnership with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



North Central Region  
Greene County

**Long-Term Habitat Management (#3 of Series\*)**

**Tuesday, Aug. 11 | 5-5:30 p.m.**

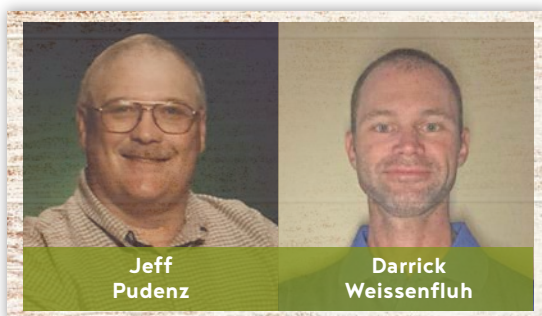
**Host: Jeff Pudenz**

**Speaker: Darrick Weissenfluh, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

Iowa once boasted an incredibly diverse landscape. In this three-part series, landowners Jeff and Nancy will share their vision for their land and discuss the work they are doing on their property to restore rare and declining habitats, including fens, oxbows, beaver habitat, oak savanna and more. Also hear about Jeff's ongoing partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and learn about financial and technical assistance opportunities from USFWS biologist Darrick Weissenfluh.

Part 3 of this series will include discussion of what comes after habitat restoration. Learn more about long-term habitat management as well as land protection strategies.

- Topics**
- Habitat establishment and management
  - Financial and technical assistance
  - Conservation programs
  - Land protection



*Sponsored by:*

**Iowa Environmental Council**

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 32); #2 (pg. 36)*

*For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).*

# Wheat: A Gateway Crop to Soil Health, Resilience and More

In partnership with Purdue Extension Organic Agriculture and Indiana Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative



Indiana  
Tippecanoe County

**Thursday, Aug. 13 | 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m CDT**

**Hosts: Jim & Kathy Moseley**

Adding wheat (or other small grains) into crop rotations opens the door to possibility. Not only do these crops invite you to plant a diverse cover crop and graze it, adding a small-grain crop can lay the foundation for a transition to organic. Managed properly, these possibilities can result in net profit. While some think of wheat as "poverty grass," it's time to reframe this versatile crop and rediscover its profit potential. In this virtual event, we'll explore the farm management and economic implications of wheat and all its opportunities.

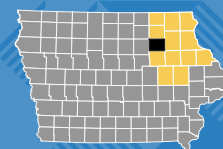
**The Farm** | Jim Moseley has farmed near Clarks Hill, Indiana, since 1970. Driven by a passion for soil health, he transitioned fully to no-till by 1983. In 2005, following four years of public service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jim and his wife, Kathy, again returned to the farm to help establish their next generation in production agriculture.

- Topics**
- Wheat production
  - Cover crops
  - Grazing cover crops
  - Economics of extended rotations
  - Small-grain markets
  - Soil health



*Sponsored by:*  
**Pipeline Foods**

# Integrating Cover Crops on a Vegetable and Poultry Farm



Northeast Region  
Bremer County

**Covers for Poultry (#3 of Series\*)**

**Monday, Aug. 24 | 12:30-1:05 p.m.**

**Hosts: Rob & Tammy Faux**

In this three-part series, join Rob to learn about the different ways he integrates cover crops throughout his vegetable and poultry farm. From spring-seeded and fall-seeded cover crops to interseeded, quick-turnaround covers in the summer and fallow beds for running poultry, Rob has tried almost everything and will show a good mix (and single-species stand!) during these virtual field days.

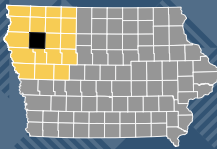
**The Farm** | Rob Faux and his wife, Tammy, operate Genuine Faux Farm, a CSA, produce and poultry operation near Tripoli, Iowa. Since launching the farm in 2005, Rob has been an inquisitive farmer, testing products and concepts on his own and through PFI's Cooperators' Program.



*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 30); #2 (pg. 37)*



# Using Conservation to Improve Farm Profitability



Northwest Region  
Cherokee County

Edge-of-Field Conservation (#2 of Series\*)

**Saturday, Aug. 29 | 5-5:30 p.m.**

**Host: Nathan Anderson**

Nathan and Sarah farm using in-field conservation practices that reduce soil loss, increase soil health, reduce inputs and provide forage for livestock. They also target edge-of-field conservation on marginal lands to provide water quality and wildlife benefits while improving return on investment on farmed acres. We'll chat with Nathan twice over the course of the season to learn about conservation he's using on his farm to increase profitability.

In part 2, Nathan will discuss edge-of-field conservation and how his family has created wildlife habitat on the farm while increasing overall farm profitability.

**The Farm** | Nathan and Sarah Anderson are lifetime members of PFI who own and operate Bobolink Prairie Farms near Aurelia, Iowa. Nathan, Sarah and family have worked to grow their cattle herd while improving grazing management and incorporating cover crops through on-farm research. Nathan is also a PFI board member.



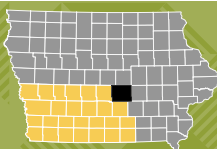
**Bobolink Prairie Farms**  
bobolinkprairiefarms.yolasite.com

- Topics**
- Precision conservation – removing marginal ground from production
  - CRP and other conservation programs to offset costs
  - Habitat on the farm

*\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 22)*

# Raising Sheep for Wool

In partnership with Iowa Sheep Association



Southwest Region  
Jasper County

Sheep Facilities (#1 of Series\*)

**Tuesday, Sept. 1 | 2-3 p.m.**

**Host: Regina Frahm**

Wool production can be a profitable enterprise with certain niche markets. In this three-part series, Regina will lead us on three tours showing different aspect of her wool operation.

Part 1 explores the facilities needed to raise sheep for wool. Building the right fencing and infrastructure for your sheep farm can feel like it's always evolving. Everything from fencing materials to feed bunk placements can impact your efficiency. Regina will show us how she and her family have adapted their farm to fit their needs. Over the years, they have learned what has and hasn't worked – and each year they find new ways to improve. (Note: The date may move based on weather).

**The Farm** | Regina Frahm owns and operates Esther Purl Fibers, raising registered white Cormo breeding stock and colored Cormo sheep. She recently opened Esther & Company, her modern-day mercantile featuring local fibers and foods. With her family, she runs Frahm Farms in Newton, Iowa, raising sheep, beef cattle, corn, soybeans and hay.

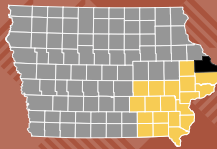


**Esther Purl Fibers**

- Topics**
- Sheep fencing
  - Sheep buildings
  - Raising wool sheep breeds

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 44); #3 (pg. 45)*

# The Art of Grass-Finishing Cattle



Southeast Region  
Jackson County

**Saturday, Sept. 5 | 2:15-3:15 p.m.**

**Host: Jamie Hostetler**

Jamie Hostetler, of Rolling Meadows Farm in Bellevue, is a local expert in grass-finishing beef. On this call, Jamie will walk through the dos and don'ts of finishing; discuss how to optimize cattle gain; and explain the key visuals to look for on a grass-finished animal. Jamie will also discuss grass-finished markets and economic opportunities, sharing how he profited \$500 per acre from selling his cattle to an out-of-state market.

**The Farm** | Jamie Hostetler and family operate Rolling Meadows Farm in Bellevue, Iowa, raising Red Devon cattle for grass-finishing and as seed stock. Jamie pays close attention to cattle genetics and is trained in linear measurement, which helps to produce tender, high-quality beef. He uses regenerative grazing practices to benefit both the livestock and the land.

- Topics**
- Grass-finishing beef
  - Market opportunities

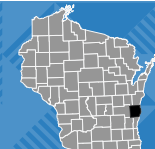


**Rolling Meadows Farm**

*Sponsored by:*  
**Prairie Creek Seed**  
**Welter Seed and Honey Company**

# Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day

In partnership with Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day and The Land Connection



Wisconsin  
Sheboygan County

**Episode 1: Drone Wars**  
(An Exploration of Camera-Guided Cultivation in Row Crops) (#1 of Series\*)

**Friday, Sept. 11 | 12:30-1:10 p.m.**

**Hosts: Hans Bishop & Sam Hitchcock Tilton**

The Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day is the nation's largest event devoted to weeding tools. This year, due to COVID-19, the field day will be held online. In this three-part series, MMWC field day organizer Sam Hitchcock Tilton and farmer-friend Hans Bishop will host a series of virtual mechanical weed control field days at Hans' farm. Join the pair to see and discuss new and old weed control equipment, including set-up and use in both row crops and vegetables. We will resume the in-person field day in 2021 – save the date for Sept. 15, 2021, at Pheasant Run Farm in Belle Plaine, Iowa.

- Topics**
- Setting up a camera-guided cultivator with finger weeders in corn and beans
  - Field conditions that need to be entered into the computer for a camera-guided cultivator
  - Calibrating tools for field conditions and run in crops
  - Conventional front-mount cultivation



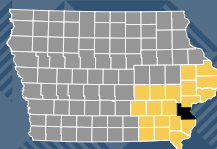
**Optional registration here:**  
[thelandconnection.org/event/mwc-2020](http://thelandconnection.org/event/mwc-2020)

*\*Other Events in This Series: #2 (pg. 42); #3 (pg. 43)*

**For details including speaker bios and more, visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).**



# Harvesting Fruit and Nut Crops at Red Fern Farm



Southeast Region  
Louisa County

Cornelian Cherries & Asian Pears (#2 of Series\*)

Wednesday, Sept. 16 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.

Hosts: Tom Wahl & Kathy Dice

Check in throughout the season with Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice of Red Fern Farm to see what fruit and nut crops are on for harvest, how they are grown and harvested and how they taste. During these virtual visits, you will also learn a bit about each crop's growing method and profitability.

The Farm

Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice are lifetime members of PFI who own and operate Red Fern Farm near Wapello, Iowa. Established in 1986, they now grow over 75 species of common and not-so-common fruits and nuts. The farm is the site of ongoing research on a variety of tree crops and forest farming systems, a pick-your-own chestnut (and other fruit and nuts!) operation and container-grown tree seedlings well-suited to the Midwest. Tom and Kathy also raise hair sheep, which they rotate throughout their farm, and are past recipients of PFI's Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award.



Red Fern Farm  
redfernfarm.com

\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 19); #3 (pg. 44)

# Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day

In partnership with Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day and The Land Connection

Episode 2: The Awakening  
(A Demonstration of Tool Set-Up and In-Shop Adjustments) (#2 of Series\*)



Wisconsin  
Sheboygan County

Friday, Sept. 18 | 12:30–1:10 p.m.

Hosts: Hans Bishop & Sam Hitchcock Tilton

The Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day is the nation's largest event devoted to weeding tools. This year, due to COVID-19, the field day will be held online. In this three-part series, MMWC field day organizer Sam Hitchcock Tilton and farmer-friend Hans Bishop will host a series of virtual mechanical weed control field days at Hans' farm. Join the pair to see and discuss new and old weed control equipment, including set-up and use in both row crops and vegetables. We will resume the in-person field day in 2021 – save the date for Sept. 15, 2021, at Pheasant Run Farm in Belle Plaine, Iowa.

Topics

- Adding parallelogram units and tools to exactly match a crop spacing, starting with a bare toolbar: measurements and progression
- Preliminary adjustments that can be made more accurately in the shop so your machine only needs slight adjustment by the time you arrive at the field

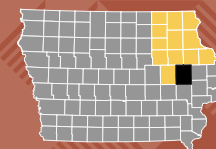


Optional registration here:  
[thelandconnection.org/event/mwc-2020](http://thelandconnection.org/event/mwc-2020)

\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 41); #3 (pg. 43)

For details including speaker bios and more,  
visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).

# Keeping Up With the Johnsons at Buffalo Ridge Orchard



Northeast Region  
Linn County

Testing Apple Varieties for Readiness (#3 of Series\*)

Tuesday, Sept. 22 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.

Hosts: Emma & Marcus Johnson

When your farm raises an array of vegetables in the field and high tunnels, has a full production apple orchard and is gearing up to open a farm store, there is plenty to show and learn! In this three-part series, Emma will show Buffalo Ridge Orchard's new packhouse procedures for food and employee safety with vegetable crops. Later, we'll join Emma on a virtual tour of the farm's cherry tomatoes growing in the high tunnel. Finally, we'll see how the Johnsons test and determine when different apple varieties are ready to be picked.

The Farm

Marcus and Emma Johnson operate Buffalo Ridge Orchard near Central City, Iowa, with Emma's parents, Mary and Vernon Zahradnik. The 80-acre farm has 5 acres of diversified vegetables in the field and high tunnels, and 13 acres of orchard, including 3,600 apple trees consisting of 50 new and classic varieties. Their packhouse, completed in 2019, includes a farm store (open in 2020) and a processing and packaging area for dried apples.



Buffalo Ridge Orchard  
buffaloridgeorchard.com

Topics

- Apple varieties
- Iodine test
- Brix test
- Pressure test

\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 13); #2 (pg. 32)

# Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day

In partnership with Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day and The Land Connection

Episode 3: The First Encounter  
(Precision Cultivation in Direct-Seeded Vegetables) (#3 of Series\*)



Wisconsin  
Sheboygan County

Friday, Sept. 25 | 12:30–1:10 p.m.

Hosts: Hans Bishop & Sam Hitchcock Tilton

The Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day is the nation's largest event devoted to weeding tools. This year, due to COVID-19, the field day will be held online. In this three-part series, MMWC field day organizer Sam Hitchcock Tilton and farmer-friend Hans Bishop will host a series of virtual mechanical weed control field days at Hans' farm. Join the pair to see and discuss new and old weed control equipment, including set-up and use in both row crops and vegetables. We will resume the in-person field day in 2021 – save the date for Sept. 15, 2021, at Pheasant Run Farm in Belle Plaine, Iowa.

Topics

- Once the weeding tool has been mounted and adjusted in the shop, watch the first run in the field.
- See how results are judged and adjustments are made to correct issues to quickly achieve accurate weeding in direct-seeded crops.



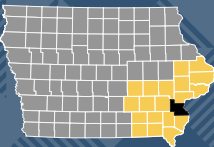
Optional registration here:  
[thelandconnection.org/event/mwc-2020](http://thelandconnection.org/event/mwc-2020)

\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 41); #2 (pg. 42)

For details including speaker bios and more,  
visit [practicalfarmers.org/field-days](http://practicalfarmers.org/field-days).



# Harvesting Fruit and Nut Crops at Red Fern Farm



Chestnut, Pawpaw & American Persimmon (#3 of Series\*)

Southeast Region  
Louisa County

Wednesday, Oct. 7 | 12:30–1:05 p.m.

Hosts: Tom Wahl & Kathy Dice

Check in throughout the season with Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice of Red Fern Farm to see what fruit and nut crops are on for harvest, how they are grown and harvested and how they taste. During these virtual visits, you will also learn a bit about each crop's growing method and profitability.

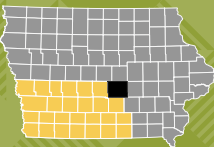
**The Farm** | Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice are lifetime members of PFI who own and operate Red Fern Farm near Wapello, Iowa. Established in 1986, they now grow over 75 species of common and not-so-common fruits and nuts. The farm is the site of ongoing research on a variety of tree crops and forest farming systems, a pick-your-own chestnut (and other fruit and nuts!) operation and container-grown tree seedlings well-suited to the Midwest. Tom and Kathy also raise hair sheep, which they rotate throughout their farm, and are past recipients of PFI's Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award.



\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 19); #2 (pg. 42)

# Raising Sheep for Wool

In partnership with Iowa Sheep Association



Building Community Around Wool (#2 of Series\*)

Southwest Region  
Jasper County

Thursday, Oct. 22 | 2–3 p.m.

Host: Regina Frahm

Wool production can be a profitable enterprise with certain niche markets. In this three-part series, Regina will lead us on three tours showing different aspect of her wool operation.

In part 2, we'll learn how Regina markets her wool – and builds community in the process. When she owned Ester & Company, it wasn't just to sell wool from her farm: it was also a place she could find community. While raising sheep and selling their wool, Regina found joy in processing and dyeing these fibers to share with others. We will tour this modern-day mercantile and hear how Regina has found community in connecting her farm to consumers.

**The Farm** | Regina Frahm owns and operates Esther Purl Fibers, raising registered white Cormo breeding stock and colored Cormo sheep. She recently opened Esther & Company, her modern-day mercantile featuring local fibers and foods. With her family, she runs Frahm Farms in Newton, Iowa, raising sheep, beef cattle, corn, soybeans and hay.

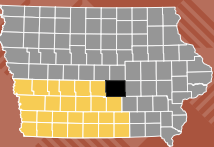


- Topics**
- Wool marketing
  - Building community

\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 40); #3 (pg. 45)

# Raising Sheep for Wool

In partnership with Iowa Sheep Association



Shearing & Processing (#3 of Series\*)

Southwest Region  
Jasper County

Tuesday, Dec. 15 | 2–3 p.m.

Host: Regina Frahm

Wool production can be a profitable enterprise with certain niche markets. In this three-part series, Regina will lead us on three tours showing different aspect of her wool operation.

In part 3, we'll learn what happens to wool fleece before it's turned into yarn. Join Regina and shearer Emily Chamelin-Hickman on shearing day. They will show us how they prepare for shearing to create a smooth and safe process for everyone involved. We will see how a fleece is skirted and prepared before moving to the next step. (Note: The date may move based on weather)

**The Farm** | Regina Frahm owns and operates Esther Purl Fibers, raising registered white Cormo breeding stock and colored Cormo sheep. She recently opened Esther & Company, her modern-day mercantile featuring local fibers and foods. With her family, she runs Frahm Farms in Newton, Iowa, raising sheep, beef cattle, corn, soybeans and hay.



- Topics**
- Wool production
  - Sheep shearing

\*Other Events in This Series: #1 (pg. 40); #2 (pg. 44)



# FRIEND-OF-PFI EVENTS

Friend-of-PFI events are non-PFI events organized by other groups or independently by farmers.  
(Please Note: Because friend-of-PFI events are run independently, we have no control over changes or cancellations.)

## JUNE

### Overcoming Barriers: An Online Panel Discussion With Two Direct-Sales Farmers

**June 8 • 6-7:30 p.m.**

#### Virtual Event

This event will feature Hannah Esch, of Oak Barn Beef near Unadilla, Nebraska, and Jay Wolff of Wolff Produce near Norfolk, Nebraska. These two beginning farmers will answer audience questions over the course of a 90-minute video conference. Prior to the event, you'll have a chance to view interviews with each farmer to familiarize yourselves with Hannah's and Jay's operations, challenges and approaches to overcoming their barriers. **Questions: Erin Schoenberg | (402) 499-2781 [erins@cfra.org](mailto:erins@cfra.org) | [cfra.org/events](https://cfra.org/events)**

### North Iowa Local Food Connection Field Day at Apples on the Avenue

**June 13 • 2-4 p.m.**

#### Virtual Event

**[facebook.com/healthyharvestni/events](https://facebook.com/healthyharvestni/events)**

Explore the orchard of Darin and Arlene Enderton in Nashua, Iowa, with this behind-the-scenes look at the numerous varieties of apples they grow and what goes into their U-pick operation. They will also highlight their ewes, who will likely be lambing during this time. To participate, visit the Healthy Harvest of North Iowa Facebook page. **Questions: Marie Boyd (515) 337-2445 | [info@healthyharvestni.com](mailto:info@healthyharvestni.com) | [healthyharvestni.com](https://healthyharvestni.com)**

### Implementing On-Farm Conservation Practices to Create Habitat for Pheasants, Reduce Soil Erosion and Increase Biodiversity

**June 16 • 3-5:30 p.m.**

#### Virtual Event

**[prairiestrips.org](https://prairiestrips.org)**

Integrating prairie strips into your farming operation can provide a variety of benefits to soil, water and wildlife. This virtual event will feature a series of videos posted to the ISU STRIPS program's social media platforms. You'll have a chance to see

prairie integrated into a row crop field and hear from speakers with ISU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The farm owner and operator will discuss his experience with integrating prairie strips into his farm. You'll also learn about USDA cost-share programs, using prairie to create habitat for pheasants and other birds, soil movement in fields with and without prairie strips, and the types of plants found within the prairie strips. **Questions: Tim Youngquist (712) 269-0592 | [timyoung@iastate.edu](mailto:timyoung@iastate.edu) | [prairiestrips.org](https://prairiestrips.org)**

### “Beefing” Up Your Soil

**June 23 • 3-6 p.m.**

**2587 130<sup>th</sup> St. | Traer, IA 50674**

**[facebook.com/events/748922025638976](https://facebook.com/events/748922025638976)**

Join Tama Soil & Water Conservation District for its 2020 soil health event! This free event will emphasize integrating cattle and soil health. Lance Gunderson will share his soil health expertise. We'll also hear from NRCS soil health specialist Doug Peterson and ISU Extension and Outreach beef specialist Denise Schwab. A complimentary meal will follow the event. RSVP by June 17 to (641) 484-2702, ext. 305 or [melody.bro@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:melody.bro@ia.nacdnet.net).

### Solving Soil Compaction on Your Farm

**June 25 • 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

#### PT Grillers Event Center

**24735 U Ave. | Reinbeck, IA 50669**

**[grundyaswcd.com](https://grundyaswcd.com)**

Are you tired of fighting compaction on your farm? Do the last few wet years have you fighting ruts and ripping more than you used to? Feeling like you need more and more horsepower to get the field work done on your farm? Join the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District and Jim Hoorman to learn about why your soil is compacted and how to fix it.

Jim Hoorman owns Hoorman Soil Health Services in Jenera, Ohio. He has worked as an extension educator and assistant professor for The Ohio State University, and as a national soil health specialist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Jim helped start the Putnam County Soil Health Agricultural Research Plots (SHARP) site on 9 acres growing corn, soybean and wheat on 20-by-200-foot plots using conventional tillage, no-till and no-till plus cover crops. Now he travels around the

Midwest and the globe to teach farmers and the public about soil and soil health.

The workshop will feature information on soil structure and how compaction forms; improving water quality with soil health; making cover crops economical; and how to successfully no-till corn. The afternoon will feature a field tour and in-field Q&A with local farmers. There is an optional late-afternoon session on using cover crops to adjust to adverse weather.

Funding for the Black Hawk Creek Watershed is provided by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship through Clean Water Iowa. Lunch is sponsored by the Iowa Ag Water Alliance and a grant from the National Wildlife Federation. This event is free and open to the public.

RSVP to the Grundy County SWCD at (319) 824-3634, ext. 3 or [denise.freeseaman@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:denise.freeseaman@ia.nacdnet.net) by June 19, 2020.

**Note: This event will be offered as a virtual webinar in the event social distancing requirements are in place. Visit [grundyaswcd.com](https://grundyaswcd.com) for details and updates.**

### SILT and Women, Land and Legacy Showcase Day

**June 26 • 5-7 p.m.**

**11150 New Liberty Road | Walcott, IA 52773**

**[silt.org/showcase-day-small-frye-farm](https://silt.org/showcase-day-small-frye-farm)**

This event is organized by the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT), and is for landowners interested in permanently protecting their land to grow table food. Farm host Susan Frye will lead a farm tour and provide a locally sourced supper. SILT representatives will then discuss ways to determine what table food can be grown on a particular farm, and how to make it last for generations. Lydia Whitman of NRCS and Woman Land and Legacy will describe government resources available to landowners, including the Women Land and Legacy Program. Handouts will be provided. Joe is available for free land consultations through the support of SILT and NRCS. RSVP by June 24 to Lydia. [Whitman@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:Whitman@ia.nacdnet.net). **Questions: (319) 800-8108, [joe@silt.org](mailto:joe@silt.org) and Lydia. [Whitman@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:Whitman@ia.nacdnet.net) | [silt.org](https://silt.org)**

### Indoor Grow Hemp Field Day

**June 30 • Time TBD**

**1608 Westwood Drive | Jefferson, IA 50129**

Come see a commercial greenhouse facility that has converted some production space to growing hemp. This is an opportunity to have an open discussion and exchange of ideas about hemp varieties and production techniques here in Iowa. Seed germination, clones and finished products will be shown. **Questions: Ross Krieger | (515) 298-1167 [rgkrieger@hotmail.com](mailto:rgkrieger@hotmail.com)**

### Women's Learning Circle: Focus on Prairie Restoration

**June 30 • 6-8 p.m.**

#### Virtual Event

This event is currently being planned as an online learning circle, taking place via Zoom. If things change, we may add an in-person option for local participants. Find more information at [cfra.org/events](https://cfra.org/events). Sarah Bailey, greenhouse manager and naturalist educator from Prairie Plains Resource Institute, will lead this learning circle. Women landowners, beekeepers, and pollinator and plant enthusiasts should consider attending! Please register at [cfra.org/events](https://cfra.org/events) and you will be sent the Zoom link to join the meeting. **Questions: Erin Schoenberg | (402) 499-2781 [erins@cfra.org](mailto:erins@cfra.org) | [cfra.org/events](https://cfra.org/events)**

## JULY

### North Iowa Local Food Connection Field Day at The Thomas Farmstead

**July 18 • 2-4 p.m.**

#### Virtual Event

**[facebook.com/healthyharvestni/events](https://facebook.com/healthyharvestni/events)**

Aaron and Dana Thomas will host a virtual field day showcasing chickens, turkeys and pigs raised on a 10-acre homestead in Kensett, Iowa. To participate, visit the Healthy Harvest of North Iowa Facebook page. **Questions: Marie Boyd | (515) 337-2445 | [info@healthyharvestni.com](mailto:info@healthyharvestni.com) | [healthyharvestni.com](https://healthyharvestni.com)**

### Economics in the Field

**July 22 • 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

#### Grundy County Fairgrounds

**1308 4<sup>th</sup> St. | Grundy Center, IA 50638**

Come learn about economics in the field at the Grundy County Fair. Northern Iowa farmer Wayne Fredericks and Jerry Hatfield, former director of the National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment, will discuss long-term data on Wayne's farm showing increases in soil organic matter due to cover crops and no-till. Farmers Dean Sponheim, also from northern Iowa, and Tom Cotter of Minnesota, will

also talk cover crops and economics. RSVP for the meal to Denise Freeseaman, conservation assistant with the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District, at [denise.freeseaman@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:denise.freeseaman@ia.nacdnet.net) or (319) 824-3634, ext. 3. **Questions: Denise Freeseaman or Fred Abels, (319) 640-2002 or [farmerfred1981@hotmail.com](mailto:farmerfred1981@hotmail.com) | [grundyaswcd.com](https://grundyaswcd.com)**

## AUGUST

### Pollinator Buzz: Field to Farmstead

**Aug. 4 • 6-9 p.m.**

**2551 300<sup>th</sup> St. | Toledo, IA 52342**

**[facebook.com/events/644294022815209](https://facebook.com/events/644294022815209)**

Join Tama County Women, Land & Legacy for this event on pollinator practices, both field-scale and farmstead. This field day will be hosted by Jan and Rob Wobeter, the 2019 recipients of Tama SWCD's inaugural Pollinator Award, part of the district's annual conservation awards program. Programming will include speakers from Pheasants Forever and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Master Gardeners.

Registration and dessert will begin at 6 p.m., and the event will start at 6:30 p.m. In the event of rain, the field day will take place Aug. 5. The Wobeters planted their 32-acre Conservation Reserve Program pollinator field four years ago and enjoy the wide variety of wildlife it attracts. On the farmstead scale, Jan has two large gardens and her pollinator-friendly flower beds are legendary. An RSVP is preferred by contacting (641) 484-2702, ext. 3, or [melody.bro@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:melody.bro@ia.nacdnet.net), by Aug. 3.

### North Iowa Local Food Connection Field Day at Honey & Ewe

**Aug. 8 • 2-4 p.m.**

#### Virtual Event

**[facebook.com/healthyharvestni/events](https://facebook.com/healthyharvestni/events)**

Tour of the Honey & Ewe farm owned by the Elsbernd family in Mason City, Iowa. Visit their animals, including bees, sheep and chickens; tour their high tunnel, where they garden; and see their pollinator garden, where they feed their bees. We'll spend most of the time exploring their honeybees. The Elsbernds will share an explanation – and hopefully a demonstration – of the process for extracting the honey supers. We hope you will BEE there! To participate, visit the Healthy Harvest of North Iowa Facebook page. **Questions: Marie Boyd (515) 337-2445 | [info@healthyharvestni.com](mailto:info@healthyharvestni.com) | [healthyharvestni.com](https://healthyharvestni.com)**

### Getting Started With Woody Ornamentals

**Aug. 9 • 2-4 p.m.**

**879 Echo Ave. | Mechanicsville, IA 52306**

**[facebook.com/iowavalleyrcd/events](https://facebook.com/iowavalleyrcd/events)**

Join Iowa Valley RC&D and Echollective Farm for this field day on establishing woody ornamental crops, like dogwoods and willows. These plants' branches are harvested as floral products. Echollective farmer Molly Schintler will cover the preparation, planning and first-year maintenance, as well as how these crops fit into their existing farm enterprises. Note: If social distancing is still in place, a virtual field day will be held. **Questions: Jake Kundert | (319) 622-3264 | [jake@ivrcd.org](mailto:jake@ivrcd.org) | [iowavalleyrcd.org](https://iowavalleyrcd.org)**

### AgArts Field Day

**Aug. 30 • 2-4 p.m.**

**1259 Rohret Road SW | Oxford, IA 52322**

**[agarts.org/events](https://agarts.org/events)**

Anna and Dave Geyer will treat us to a delicious meal of outdoor oven-baked pizza on their diverse farm, which is also the home of the Land Alliance Folk School near Oxford, Iowa. Enjoy an afternoon learning about folk schools with a talk by Jean Graham, public art coordinator for Austin, Texas. Jean will show excerpts from her graphic novel capturing her experiences from her AgArts Farm-to-Artist residency on the Geyer farm in the summer of 2019. **Questions: Anna Geyer | (319) 325-6609 [geyerfarm@gmail.com](mailto:geyerfarm@gmail.com) | [landalliancefolk.com](https://landalliancefolk.com) OR Mary Swander | (319) 683-2613 [swandermary@gmail.com](mailto:swandermary@gmail.com) | [agarts.org](https://agarts.org)**

### Top Bar Hives – Are They Top-Notch?

**Aug. 22 • 4-6 p.m.**

#### Virtual Event

**[cfra.org/events](https://cfra.org/events)**

What's sweeter than honey? How about an alternative to lifting a hundred pounds at a time? Two Nebraska beekeepers will share their experience with top bar hives. The beekeepers are keeping bees in a variety of hives as part of a research project funded by a Specialty Crop Block Grant. The research looks into the practicality of four different hives and how much weight is lifted. This virtual event is a perfect opportunity to learn about this specific hive style, and how alternative methods can help producers overcome barriers. **Questions: Kirstin Bailey | (402) 367-8989 [kirstinb@cfra.org](mailto:kirstinb@cfra.org) | [cfra.org/events](https://cfra.org/events)**

*Continued on next page*



**\$\$\$ in the Field**  
**Aug. 30 • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
**20902 J Ave. | Holland, IA 50642**  
Want to learn how to take cover crops to the next level? Learn from Keith Berns of Green Cover Seed and Lance Gunderson of Regen Ag Labs about cover crop mixes and soil health. Area farmers Paul Neher, Dale Launstein and Jack Boyer will show their different equipment for seeding cover crops at different times of the year. Host Fred Abels will have some of his cover crop equipment out and will lead attendees on a tour of his multi-species cover crop mix on a harvested rye field. He'll also show his research trial comparing 30-inch and 60-inch corn rows to facilitate early cover crop growth and establishment. This event is hosted by the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District.  
**Questions? Fred Abels | (319) 640-2002**  
**farmerfred1981@hotmail.com**

**North Iowa Local Food Connection Field Day at Steve's Sweet Corn**  
**Aug. 30 • 2–4 p.m.**  
**Virtual Event**  
**facebook.com/healthyharvestni/events**

Over 20 years ago, Steve Rachut started his sweet corn business as a youth project to keep him busy. Steve, along with his wife Beth, now raise approximately 11 acres of sweet corn each year near Osage, Iowa. Their season runs mid-July through mid-September when they run a roadside stand six days a week and sell at local farmers markets. Join us for a virtual tour of their farm and learn more about what goes into bringing you beloved Iowa sweet corn! To participate, visit the Healthy Harvest of North Iowa Facebook page.  
**Questions: Marie Boyd | (515) 337-2445**  
**info@healthyharvestni.com**  
**healthyharvestni.com**

**SEPTEMBER**  
**SILT Showcase Day: Protecting a Legacy**  
**Sept. 2 • 1–4 p.m.**  
**5025 120<sup>th</sup> S | Solon, IA 52333**

This event is organized by the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT), and is for landowners interested in permanently protecting their land to grow table food. Farm hosts Carmen and Maja Black of Sundog Farms in Solon, Iowa, will start with a farm tour. SILT representatives will then discuss ways to determine what table food can be grown on a particular farm. We'll learn about SILT's new "Landowner's Guide to Sustainable Food Crops," provided free to guests, and hear how to give the gift

of healthy, food-producing land to future generations. Refreshments and handouts with legal, tax and appraisal information will be provided. SILT farm specialist Joe Klingelhutz is available for free land consultations through the support of SILT and the NRCS. RSVP by Aug. 31 at [info@silt.org](mailto:info@silt.org).  
**Questions: (319) 800-8108**  
**info@silt.org | silt.org**

**Woody Ornamentals From Field to Market**  
**Sept. 13 • 2–4 p.m.**  
**6925 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. | Van Horne, IA 52346**  
**facebook.com/iowavalleyrcd/events**  
Join Iowa Valley RC&D and Pheasant Run Farm for this field day on harvesting, post-harvest handling and marketing of woody ornamental crops, like dogwoods and willows. These plants' branches are harvested as floral products. The Franzenburgs will be joined by a local florist, who will share best practices on getting the crops from field to market.  
Note: If social distancing is still in place, a virtual field day will be held. **Questions: Jake Kundert | (319) 622-3264**  
**jake@iowrcd.org | iowavalleyrcd.org**

**FALL TBD**  
**Installing Prairie Strips to Benefit Soil, Water and Wildlife**  
**Fall TBD • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
**The intersection of Missouri Route 129 and 127th Street (follow the signs) Unionville, MO 63565**  
Integrating prairie strips into your farming operation can provide a wide variety of benefits to soil, water and wildlife. Join us in beautiful Putnam County, Missouri to see prairie integrated into a farming operation and hear from a variety of speakers. Experts will be on hand from Iowa State University, Roeslein Alternative Energy, Smithfield Foods and Quail Forever. You'll hear about research results on prairie strips, wildlife habitat, soil health and prairie establishment. The event is free and open to the public and will include a complimentary meal. RSVP requested for meal planning. **Questions: Tim Youngquist (712) 269-0592 | timyoung@iastate.edu**  
**prairiestrips.org**

**OCTOBER**  
**Open House: Etzel Sugar Grove Farm and Rodale Institute Midwest Organic Center**  
**Oct. 5 • 9–11 a.m.**  
**3706 St. Peters Road | Marion, IA 52302**  
**rodaleinstitute.org/events/iowaopenhouse**  
Please join Indian Creek Nature Center, Rodale Institute and Frontier Co-op as we celebrate our innovative agricultural education and research partnership. Farm tours will highlight permaculture production, pasture-raised poultry and ongoing agricultural and specialty crop research. You will have the chance to visit with our farm manager and research scientists and hear their visions for the future of the farm. Light refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to join us!  
  
Note: We are monitoring the COVID-19 guidelines by local, state and federal officials and we will post event updates on our website. **Questions: Kristine Lang (319) 449-1970, ext. 324**  
**kristine.lang@rodaleinstitute.org**  
**rodaleinstitute.org/iowaopenhouse**

**NOVEMBER**  
**ISU STRIPS/Prairie On Farms Fall Field Day: Dormant Seeding**  
**Nov. 19 • 11 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
**2412 W 27<sup>th</sup> St. | Cedar Falls, IA 50614**  
Are you planning a native planting with a strong forb (wildflower) component? If you are planting pollinator habitat or your seed mix contains 50:50 forb-to-grass seed ratio, you should consider a fall installation. Join experts from ISU STRIPS and the Tallgrass Prairie Center Prairie On Farms program for practical advice and suggestions for a successful dormant seeding. This field day will include an indoor session, as well as a visit to a local farm that has established prairie strips and will be site-prepped for dormant seeding (weather permitting). A complimentary lunch will be provided. This event is free and open to the public. **Questions: Staci Mueller | (319) 273-3866**  
**staci.mueller@uni.edu**  
**tallgrassprairiecenter.org/prairie-farms/events**

# Join Practical Farmers of Iowa today!

## INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

|                  | MEMBERSHIP FOR  | ANNUAL FEE              |
|------------------|---|-------------------------|
| STUDENT          | Individuals enrolled in coursework  | \$20                    |
| INDIVIDUAL       | Individuals   | \$50                    |
| FARM / HOUSEHOLD | Whole farm families and any employees   | \$60                    |
| ORGANIZATION     | Businesses, agencies, departments   | \$110                   |
| LIFETIME         | Individuals or families that would like to make a lifetime commitment (Excludes businesses) | One-time fee of \$1,000 |

## ALL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- A subscription to “The Practical Farmer,” PFI’s quarterly magazine
- Access to the lively, members-only email discussion groups
- Eligibility for special Practical Farmers programs, such as the Cooperators’ Program, Savings Incentive Program, and Labor4Learning Program
- Receive steep discounts to all of PFI’s annual events, including the annual conference
- Opportunities to find new markets for your farm products
- **The chance to be part of a vibrant organization that has been making farmers a top priority for 35 years!**

**INTERESTED?**  
Visit [practicalfarmers.org/join-or-renew](https://practicalfarmers.org/join-or-renew) or fill out the following page and send it to our office.



GROW YOUR FARM WITH PRACTICAL FARMERS. JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

Want to join or renew online? Visit [practicalfarmers.org/join-or-renew](https://practicalfarmers.org/join-or-renew).

MEMBER INFORMATION

Contact Name(s)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm or Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Email 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\* For Farm or Household membership, please list names of all persons included. For Organization membership, please list one or two contact persons.

JOIN OR RENEW

**1. THIS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IS A:**

☐ New Membership

☐ Renewal

**2. I AM JOINING AT THE LEVEL OF:**

☐ Student – \$20

☐ Individual – \$50

☐ Farm or Household – \$60

☐ Organization – \$110

☐ Lifetime Member\* – \$1,000

\* See details at [bit.ly/PFI-lifetime](https://bit.ly/PFI-lifetime)

**3. I AM JOINING OR RENEWING AS:**

☐ An Aspiring Farmer

☐ A Farmer or Grower

☐ Non-Farmer

**4. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT PFI?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL DISCUSSION GROUP SIGN-UP

When you join our email discussion groups, you can network, build community and exchange ideas from anywhere, at any time. Sign up for as many groups as you'd like (and be sure to include your email address above)!

☐ Announcements    ☐ Perspectives    ☐ Horticulture    ☐ Livestock    ☐ Field Crops

SUSTAIN PRACTICAL FARMERS WITH AN ADDITIONAL DONATION

For the sake of the long-term health and vitality of Practical Farmers of Iowa, we ask you to consider making a donation above and beyond your membership fee. Practical Farmers of Iowa is a 501(c)3 organization. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

I would like to make a one-time, tax-deductible donation to PFI in the amount of:

☐ \$1,000    ☐ \$500    ☐ \$250    ☐ \$100    ☐ \$50    ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_

Or, make a recurring monthly or quarterly donation. This will be automatically charged to your credit card on the first day of each month or quarter.

☐ Yes, I would like to give \$\_\_\_\_\_    ☐ per month    OR    ☐ per quarter

PAYMENT

Membership Level .....\$\_\_\_\_\_ per year for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s) = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation ..... = \$\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ..... = \$\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check or money order is enclosed (Please make payable to "Practical Farmers of Iowa.")

☐ Credit card (Visa, MasterCard or Discover only)

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# (3 digits) \_\_\_\_\_    ☐ Please automatically charge this credit card annually for membership

Office Use Only: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Check date \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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